



TO: 2019-2020 NL Team Representatives
US Youth Soccer State Association Representatives
FROM: Marley Wilson
DATE: August 4, 2019
RE: **Team Roster Rules Update and Action Required**

We are providing this memo to National League teams and US Youth Soccer State Associations outlining the Team Roster requirements for the 2019-2020 NL Season.

Filing a Team Roster with the NL by September 1

As you know, US Youth Soccer National League Rules require that a team participating in the league provide a preliminary team roster to the NL by no later than September 1 of each seasonal year

5.01 Filing of Team Rosters

Each team must file with the NL a copy of the team's current official stamped State Association roster no later than September 1 of each seasonal year. Failure to file the roster may result in the expulsion of the team from the NL. Only those players listed on the team's current official approved State Association roster may play in any NL matches. During the course of the NL seasonal year, a team is required to re-file with the NL any revisions to the team's Official State Association roster.

In addition, NL Rules require teams to show player continuity from the previous playing season. This is done by filing the NL's State Association form verifying roster continuity.

5.06 Player Continuity Requirement

All teams that are accepted for play in the NL for the 2019-2020 seasonal year must show player continuity from their 2018-2019 seasonal year team or club. At all times during the 2019-2020 seasonal year, a NL team must have on its National League roster, to be eligible to play during the 2019-2020 seasonal year, no less than 9 US Youth Soccer players that were on a roster of any properly registered US Youth Soccer team within such team's club during the 2018-2019 seasonal year. Since NL teams must compete in State Cup competitions in order to be eligible to apply, it will be incumbent upon, and the obligation of, State Associations to determine that teams have complied with this requirement since they alone have the documentation to verify compliance with minimum of this 9-returning players rule. Any movement of a team from one club to another during the course of the seasonal year, including but limited to the time period following acceptance into the National League, may result in the team being dropped from the league at the sole discretion of the NL Commissioner. In such cases, the team's Coach must file with the NL Commissioner a written document outlining the reason for such movement to another club, and all circumstances surround the movement. The NL Commissioner, at his sole discretion, may request additional supporting documentation regarding the movement of the team from one club to another.

The purpose of these filings is to preliminarily insure that a team is committed to participating in the NL and abide by the player composition rules prior to the league splitting teams into sub-divisions and assigning teams to their second events.

How do teams comply with the requirement and how can state associations assist?

Team Leadership ultimately has the responsibility to make sure that a stamped roster and verification form are filed with the NL Commissioner. It is highly suggested that the Team Leadership communicate with State Association representatives so that a Team Roster and verification form are forwarded to the NL.

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About the Team Roster:

In regards to the actual Team Roster, the NL will accept either a State Association generated roster or a roster on a NL roster form (available from the NL Commissioner), provided that the form used is stamped and signed off by a State Association representative (Executive Director/CEO, State President/Chair, State Registrar are examples of State Association representatives).

About the Team Roster Player Continuity Verification Form

The form is to be completed and approved by a representative of your State Association verifying that your team is in compliance with the NL's player continuity rule. This form should be re-filed with the NL any time a player is dropped from a team roster during the course of the NL season to insure that the NL team is in compliance with the NL player continuity rule. There is no need to re-file the form if players are simply added to a roster.

Other Notes about Team Rosters during the NL Season

There is no freeze date for team rosters.

Your team roster may be changed throughout the NL season subject to NL Rules. For example, for teams that are not participating in club soccer this Fall, you may opt to simply provide a team roster with a minimum number of players (i.e. 9) to comply with the September 1 deadline, and then resubmit a Team Roster with additional Players prior to our first event. Teams are permitted to update their team roster throughout the season provided that such changes are filed with the NL at the time of such change and approved with a revised stamped roster from your local State Association.

Further the NL permits the accepted US Youth Soccer concept of Club Passing that is used in the National Championship Series.

We are developing an additional document for Teams and State Associations to further clarify the procedures in regards to club passing for the 2019-2020 season that is still more than three months away.

Please contact me with any questions. Please know that NL Rules are subject to change by the NL Committee.