



GUEST PLAYER GUIDELINES

The Middleton Soccer Club recognizes that from time to time guest players may be needed to reduce the hardship on a team with few substitutes and/or excessive absences of rostered players. The following document explains the Club's position for utilizing guest players in any capacity and applies to any guest player(s) who participate in tournaments, friendlies, league play, non-league play, practices, trips, camps or any other activity that the MSC team is a participant. Please also refer to the event's guest player policies for additional guidelines.

1. Guest player participation in season league play and team practices is exclusively reserved for MSC players in good standing who are committed to the game and demonstrate strong soccer skill and ability. Therefore, priority for guest play must be given to other players within MSC.
2. For non-season league play, tournaments, games, activities, etc. coaches must consult with the Director of Coaching before pursuing guest players from outside of MSC. A coach requesting an outside guest player from another club must obtain documented approval from that club's head coach or Director of Coaching for the guest player(s) to participate in specific non season play, tournaments, etc. The MSC coach must then obtain approval from the MSC Director of Coaching to utilize the outside guest player(s).
3. Coaches are not allowed to invite guest players during season league play from outside of MSC for any reason. This would be a violation of Idaho Youth Soccer Association Policy and would warrant an investigation and possible release from coaching for MSC.
4. Guest players from inside or outside of the club should never be added for the sole purpose of gaining a competitive advantage in specific games or competitions.
5. Guest players should be utilized in situations of true hardship. Guest players may be used to replace existing rostered players that are unavailable to play in a game or tournament because they are out-of-town, injured, sick, or otherwise unavailable.
6. Guest players should not take unnecessary playing time away from existing rostered team members, and therefore, they should be utilized as substitute players and not starters. Exceptions to this might exist if a team does not have enough players to field a complete team without the guest player or if a team is using a goal keeper from another team and existing rostered team members are reluctant to fill this role.
7. A guest player's first obligation and priority is with his/her rostered team and must finish the full seasonal year with that team. All other team's games, activities, camps and practices, etc. are secondary.
8. A coach requesting a player within MSC to guest play must communicate the need with the head coach of the requested player's team. Specific guest players of strong skill and ability should be considered.
9. The coach of the requested player's team must do all they can to help fill the guest player(s) request and needs of the team in hardship which must include discussion with the requested player's parents.
10. Parents reserve the sole right to approve or deny any guest playing opportunities for their child and must ensure that their child's rostered coach is informed of any guest play activity prior to participation.
11. Playing time for guest player(s) must be discussed between coaches and allocated based on the following criteria: A) How close the games are between guest player's rostered team and guest playing team, B) How many subs the guest player's rostered team will have on the day of guest play, C) The anticipated competition level of the game, tournament, etc.
12. Coaches utilizing guest players must do all they can to manage and keep a close eye on their playing time and safety to ensure they are capable to play for their rostered team. Coaches of guest player's must keep in mind the player's guest playing responsibilities and allow recovery time as their rostered game allows.