

Member Families,

As some of you may be aware, US Youth Soccer has updated the standards that govern youth soccer. The changes increase youth soccer's focus on small sided games and change the grouping of players back to a calendar year format. You can read in detail about the changes coming to youth soccer in 2016 at [http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/changes\\_coming\\_to\\_youth\\_soccer\\_in\\_2016](http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/changes_coming_to_youth_soccer_in_2016).

At our November board meeting, the PASC Board of Directors decided to implement the following changes to our Developmental Program (U6 to U8) in anticipation of these mandates for the Spring 2016 season.

1. U6 will have no changes implemented at this time.
2. U7 and U8 will be combined into one age group and play on gender specific (male or female) teams
3. U7 and U8 will play inhouse beginning this spring, making our entire Developmental Program an internally run program

Although the USYS mandate goes into effect August 2017, we are implementing these changes now to allow a gradual change over the next three seasons. The combination of U7 and U8 into one age group this spring is to eliminate players from "skipping" an age group. This standard, if implemented in a fall season, would cause the older players in an age group to skip an entire level. For example, if implemented for Fall 2016, 14 players (born in 2008) in U7 currently would skip U8 in it's entirety and have to tryout for U9 Travel this spring or be placed in U10 Recreation for the fall.

What to expect at U7/8 in Spring 2016:

- Gender specific teams
- Teams will be created to have an even mix of U7 and U8 age appropriate players.
- Same season format and structure as U7 followed in the fall

PASC will be sharing information as our plans are finalized and we move forward with adopting these mandates. Please note that the the items in this notice are specific to our Developmental Program. Guidance from our Recreation and Travel Programs will be provided separately and often will be determined by the league(s) our teams participate.

#### **PASC Implementation of USYS Mandates**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Spring 2016</b>	<b>Fall 2016</b>	<b>Spring 2017</b>
U6	No changes	Calendar Year Age Grouping Begin Implementing Small Sided Mandate	Calendar Year Age Grouping Final Stages of Implementing Small Sided Mandate
U7	Combined with U8 Gender Specific Teams	Calendar Year Age Grouping Gender Specific Teams Begin Implementing Small Sided Mandate	Calendar Year Age Grouping Gender Specific Teams Final Stages of Implementing Small Sided Mandate
U8	Combined with U7 Gender Specific Teams	Calendar Year Age Grouping Gender Specific Teams Begin Implementing Small Sided Mandate	Calendar Year Age Grouping Gender Specific Teams Final Stages of Implementing Small Sided Mandate