

Dear SCYSL & Bellport travel soccer family,

As we wind down another successful Spring season, we are forced to immediately look forward to reselecting current teams, as well as forming new travel teams for the Fall 2016 season. We wish to update you on three important topics:

- LIJSL rules on age eligibility – All of our current teams were formed based on an eligibility range that began on July 1 and ended on June 30. Teams were allowed an extra year of players giving each team a 2 year “window” of eligibility. (ie. 7/1/02 – 6/30/04). LIJSL has approved a move to calendar year eligibility for the upcoming Fall season. While this change will not affect new teams, existing teams may be forced to choose between years. In the case above, the team could play as a 2002-03 team (essentially “keeping” all its players) or a 2003-04 team and any 2002 players on the roster would be forced to try out for a new team. Many coaches have struggled with the decisions and we all have spent many hours trying to decide what is best for everyone. All 14 Head coaches are working together to try and offer our players a chance to play on one of our many teams. Due to this effort and the use of the LIJSL Guest Pass system, we feel that Bellport Soccer will come out from these changes stronger than ever. We appreciate your patience and understanding throughout this process.

- Tryouts & A/B teams – Every effort will be made this week to compose a tryout schedule for all 14 teams and post it to the website on Friday morning. We will post ALL tryouts to a soccer recruitment site and email the list to you as soon as possible. This is vital as there will be Bellport players switching teams as well as players from other clubs looking for spots on our teams. Players need to plan and are encouraged to try out for as many teams as possible. Due to the anticipated increased competition for spots, players are asked to REGISTER & make 50% payment within 48 hours of being selected to a team or risk losing their spot! As our travel program continues to grow, we find ourselves having 4 instances where we will have multiple teams in the same age bracket. (A/B teams) In these 4 instances, the two teams will be asked to tryout together as one group. The trainer who manages the tryout will give his evaluation of the talent. The “A” coach will use this evaluation as the primary basis for selecting his team. Once the “A” team forms, the “B” team may begin its registration process. The two teams are encouraged to work together all season long, use the player pass system to share players and re-evaluate players at periodic intervals. Every effort will be made by the Travel Board to ensure that players who have the ability to play at the travel level, find a spot on one of our Bellport travel teams.

- New Uniforms – All NEW teams that form in 2016 (and beyond) are required to purchase uniforms featuring our newly adopted LOGO. New players on new teams will have \$80 added to their registration fee to cover the cost of socks, shorts, home jersey, away jersey and backpack. The travel Board will order the items & the team parent will be asked to distribute them. This is a special rate based on a bulk purchase. Any player added at a later date will have to order all the above items online and will be charged \$100. Teams will be allowed to order a long sleeve jersey as an alternate jersey that can be worn at tournaments. Existing teams may continue to wear the existing “eagle” jersey OR order the new jersey. If any existing team opts for the new jersey, ALL players must wear the new jersey. In the case of the eagle jerseys, we will continue to stock sizes of those jerseys for any player who grows out of a size, loses a uniform piece or just wants a new item.

If you need anything, please email the league & someone will help you.

We hope that this answers any questions that you may have. If there's anything we missed or you need more clarification on a topic, please contact the league. See below for the age groups that your child is eligible for as well as min/max roster size and day of week that games are played:

U19 – 1/1/98 – 12/31/02

U18 – 1/1/99 – 12/31/02

U17 – 1/1/00 – 12/31/02

U16 – 1/1/01 – 12/31/03

U15 – 1/1/02 – 12/31/04

U14 – 1/1/03 – 12/31/05

U13 – 1/1/04 – 12/31/06

Note: U13 – U19 play their games on SUNDAY in a 11v11 format. Minimum roster is 13. Max is 22.

U12 – 1/1/05 – 12/31/07

U11 – 1/1/06 – 12/31/08

Note: U11 – U12 play their games on SATURDAY in a 9v9 format. Minimum roster is 11. Max is 16.

Sincerely,

SCYSL BOD & Bellport Travel BOD