

KYSA Select Soccer Information

Our System in Washington State

Kent Youth Soccer Association is affiliated with **Washington State Youth Soccer Association**, of which we are in **District 3**. **WSYSA** is a charter member of the national organization, **US Youth Soccer**. These bodies sanction all of our Select level play.

KYSA is the only soccer program in Kent that is sanctioned by a national organization.

WSYSA administrates **statewide** leagues that provide the highest levels of competition for ages U13 and above.

District 3 administrates all league levels for U11-12, and the **non-state** level leagues for U13-U19.

What is Select Soccer?

Select soccer, also referred to as travel soccer, is teams comprised of the best players in a given location for a particular age group. The age group of the team is determined by the age of the oldest player. Players age is determined as of August 1st of their birth year, i.e. July 31, 1990 would be U-13 for the '02-'03 season and August 1, 1990 would be U-12 for the season.

What are the differences between Rec. and Select soccer?

The most important differences are given below and will be explained in greater detail. They include:

- Player selection/tryouts
- Competition Level
- Travel
- Cost
- Player Commitment
- Training Expectations
- Length of season

How are the players chosen in KYSA ?

Registration for Select players does not commence until after the tryout process has been completed (typically the last weeks of March). Registration forms and fees will be handled by the coach once the team has been selected and formed.

All players will be pooled in a database on the days of tryouts. These players are evaluated from a set of open tryouts open to all soccer players of the same age and gender. Evaluations of the players are completed both by neutral evaluators and the coach(es) of the particular team. The players are reviewed for technique, tactical sense, fitness, and soccer attitude. The head coach will then select his/her team based on the evaluations, and then notify those players. Players then have the option of accepting that position or declining to play with that team. KYSA endeavors to place all players

who tryout on a team. *Every reasonable effort will be made to form teams where there are still players un-selected after the tryout process.*

Where will the teams travel?

For District 3 play, the region of travel is the greater Puget Sound area, but primarily King and Pierce Counties. Added travel may be required for tournaments. For State League Level Play (U13 and up), travel could extend to the entire state of Washington.

What are the costs?

Basic costs – KYSA registration fees, state registration fees, etc – are currently \$145 for the 2008/09 season. Additional costs are accrued by individual teams for items such as uniforms, warm-ups, tournaments, equipment, field and lights rental, and outside training sessions. These fees range from \$200 per player to \$1000+ per player (for a team with a paid trainer or coach or a premier club). The typical range for a District 3 team would be \$300 - \$400 total for the year after the basic league fees. Much of this can be offset by fundraisers. Each team determines its own level of additional expenses and fundraising.

The Season

At the select level, soccer almost becomes a year-round endeavor. Tryouts begin in late March. The training for the fall season usually begins late-June unless a team chooses to start training in April in anticipation of early season tournaments.

In the case of U14+ age groups attempting to qualify for State league level play, **League Placement Tournaments** take place in early June and most teams begin preparation for this tournament as soon as the team is formed. Many teams also participate in 1 - 3 summer tournaments as fun warm ups for the season.

The official league seasons begin the first Saturday after Labor Day. Girls from U11 through U14 play games on Saturdays; Boys U11-13 and U14 state league teams also play on Saturdays. District 3 boys U14 and all other boys and girls U15-U19 play on Sundays.

The season is typically 14 weeks long with a week off for Thanksgiving.

Many teams opt to continue into “post-season” play in the one of the States’ two Tournaments. **The State Cup** is a round robin tourney that ultimately determines the State Champion in each age and gender. The State Champions at U13 and higher go on to represent WSYSA in the regional tournament. **The Commissioners Cup** is another tourney that allows less competitive teams a chance at a statewide title.

Coaching

All Select Coaches for KYSA are cleared with the Washington State Patrol as certified volunteers. KYSA interviews and chooses their Select level coaches on the basis of training, experience, Licensure, and reputation.

Player Commitment

Select players have to be committed players - both physically and mentally. The demands of the competition require it. All players are encouraged to play at the highest

level available in order to promote their best development. Most coaches require player attendance at 2- 90-minute training sessions per week throughout the season.