



MOSCOW UNITED SOCCER CLUB PLAYER/PARENT HANDBOOK

Welcome:

Moscow United Soccer Club (MUSC) welcomes you as a member of our outstanding organization.

The purpose of this document is to help you become familiar with the MUSC program and to serve as a reference for you. If you have additional questions or needs for clarification please contact us.

This document will be updated as necessary by the board of directors, club directors, and/or administrators.

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A list of current MUSC Board Members can be found on the MUSC website.

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Mission Statement

Mission	<p>MUSC is a nonprofit organization (501C.3) whose mission is to assist in the physical, mental and character development of each player through the game of soccer. MUSC is dedicated to providing Moscow and surrounding area youth the opportunity to achieve and enjoy the highest attainable level of team soccer in both recreational and competitive formats.</p> <p>MUSC supports FIFA’s rules for fair play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play to win, but accept defeat with dignity. • Be fair always, no matter what the cost. • Obey the laws of the game. • Respect opponents, teammates, officials, and spectators. • Promote the game of soccer. Use the game to make the world better. • Honor those who defend the good reputation of the game. • Reject dangers to the game.
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MUSC Facts

Facts	<p>MUSC was founded in the late 1980s as Moscow Mirage; the club quickly moved to incorporate Pullman becoming U-Cities United. In 1998, the two towns’ players split, and MUSC as it is currently known was officially born.</p> <p>MUSC is governed by an elected Board of Directors with a membership comprised of parents, players, coaches, referees, and countless volunteers.</p> <p>The club consists of boys’ and girls’ teams ages U-10 through U-18.</p> <p>U-10 through U-12 teams are considered “developmental” with emphasis on skill building.</p> <p>U-13 through U-18 teams are considered “competitive” with emphasis on technical and tactical development.</p> <p>Colors: Cobalt Blue, White, Black.</p> <p>Affiliation: Idaho Youth Soccer Association (IYSA).</p> <p>Member of US Youth Soccer Association (USYSA).</p> <p>MUSC has contributed to three state champion soccer teams out of the city of Moscow: MHS Boys, 1988; U-Cities United U-19 Boys, 1996; MHS Boys, 1999</p>
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Club Structure

Board of Directors	<p>The Board of Directors consists of not less than seven (7) nor more than fifteen (15) persons elected by the Voting Members at the Annual General Meeting. Subject to the terms of MUSC Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, any person who is a resident of the State of Idaho or the State of Washington is eligible to serve as a member of the Board.</p>
Meetings	<p>All positions on the MUSC Board of Directors are elected volunteer positions. During</p>

	<p>soccer season board meetings are held once a month on the third Thursday of every month at a time and place announced on the MUSC website. All parents are welcome to attend the meetings. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the board prior to the meeting to arrange 15 minutes to address the issue.</p>
Duties	<p>The duties of the Board include, without limitation, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To elect and supervise the Officers of MUSC. • To establish and administer personnel policies relating to compensated staff, if any, and the DOC, technical advisor, coaches, assistant coaches, referees, and any other persons rendering services to MUSC in a paid or voluntary capacity. • To develop, establish, administer and maintain current the general policies governing the operations of MUSC. • To approve an annual budget and solicit, receive, manage and disburse the funds and resources of MUSC; and manage and maintain all property and other assets of MUSC.
Positions	<p>Other board positions include but are not limited to: field maintenance, fundraising, risk management, uniforms, and micro manager.</p>
Non-voting members	<p>The Director of Coaching, assistants, and administrators are <u>non</u>-voting members on the Board.</p>
Club President	<p>The President is the chief executive officer of MUSC and the Board. The President is responsible for the general administration of MUSC and the Board, setting the agenda for meetings of the Board and members, chairing such meetings, and preparation of the annual budget for approval by the Board, and managing the annual budget. The President works closely with the other officers of MUSC in the day-to-day operations of MUSC. The President manages any paid employees of MUSC. The President is also MUSC's representative to the IYSA and any league, organization, and tournament in or through which any MUSC team may compete.</p>
Club Registrar	<p>The Registrar is responsible for ensuring the registration of all active players with the appropriate Idaho and Washington youth soccer associations, developing and maintaining accurate (1) rosters of all active teams and (2) to the extent possible, records of other available players, and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to the Registrar by the President or Board. The Registrar maintains files for each team and its players, including the team roster, player's proof of age, and copies of medical waivers.</p>
Director of Coaching	<p>The Director of Coaching, or DOC, is in charge of all player and coaching development within MUSC. The DOC is a paid employee of MUSC and oversees the philosophy and direction of the teams, coaches, and club.</p> <p>Specifically, the DOC is tasked to coordinate each team for each season, including player/coach selection; to administer training sessions for ALL of the club's teams as needed at the DOC's discretion; to be available for team clinics by request; and to run off-season programs for both coach and player development.</p>

<p>Team Manager(s)</p>	<p>The job of team manager is one of the most important roles within the club. Individuals in this role have the following character traits: is organized, pays attention to detail, and communicates effectively. The manager is responsible for coordinating all ‘off field’ activities, supervising of the parents’ respective team jobs, and communication with the coach(es). The manager assists the Registrar ensuring that all paperwork is correct and accurate for rosters according to IYSA guidelines, and making player, coaches, and manager cards. The manager takes care of the paperwork in registering teams for tournaments, coordinates team uniform needs working with Uniform Coordinator, reports game results to IYSA and referee count for home games to the MUSC Treasurer, and generally keeps his or her team informed as to games, events, training, and tournaments.</p> <p>Increasingly, teams have gone to a two-manager system, a move supported by MUSC. The idea is to divide the duties of manger between a communicator and an organizer. The communicator is in charge of getting messages to parents regarding games, tournaments, practices, and works to communicate effectively with team coaches and MUSC Director as appropriate. Organizers are responsible for the paperwork aspect of the managerial position. They ensure teams are registered, that all paperwork/rosters/cards are present at games and practices, and other similar items as stated above.</p> <p>It is strongly recommended that team manager(s) organize a team meeting prior to the start of each season.</p>
<p>Team Coach</p>	<p>The team coach is responsible for all ‘on-field activities.’ This includes all training, practices, conditioning, and/or game situations. Coaches help improve individual players and the team as a whole. Their focus on the field is on their players and what is best for them and the team. Coaches typically do not deal with rosters, paperwork, or other issues not relating to players, the team, and the game.</p> <p>Although head coaches are provided a small stipend by MUSC, coaches are volunteers donating their time to help our young soccer players. Accordingly, MUSC encourages teams to organize end of season gifts for coaches as a thank you. Ideas include: cash, gift cards, soccer gear (cleats, balls, warm-ups), etc. For non-parent coaches, a contribution from team parents to travel costs is expected.</p> <p>At tournaments and long road trips, coaches are there to coach the team. MUSC encourages coaches to be involved with their teams off the field. MUSC does not expect our coaches to spend the entire weekend with the team, players, and parents.</p>
<p>Team Parent Volunteers</p>	<p>MUSC operates year-round and relies almost entirely on the time of volunteers. Every parent should be prepared and willing to help the team and/or the club in some small way. Each team needs its parents to assist the coach and manager by keeping the lines of</p>

communication open. Team tasks are delegated among ALL parents on the team. When this occurs, we ask that each parent attempt to give in any way they can and for other parents to step up in their absence. Ultimately, we are all about the kids playing soccer and we rely on each other to help it make it happen, for the kids.

Duties of parents within club and team structures:

Team needs (required by MUSC Board):

1. Palouse Cup Representative:

Acts as a liaison between the Palouse Cup Committee and the team. Each team, being assigned a job for Palouse Cup, needs an individual to organize the team with the committee. Team jobs include: Field maintenance, arranging concessions, tournament set up, tear down, garbage/recycling, awards, and others.

2. Program Representative:

Works at obtaining two “new” advertisements for the Palouse Cup Program. This person will work with the Palouse Cup Program Director on the Palouse Cup Committee in relaying any payments for advertisements, obtaining artwork from companies, etc.

3. Soccer Fest Representative (Spring):

Acts as a liaison between the Soccer Fest Committee, Moscow Elks, and their team. Each team is assigned a job, and this person helps organize their team for their functions. Representative also helps create a themed basket for a silent auction fundraiser.

4. Board Meeting Representative:

Attend board meetings and report the meeting minutes to the team keeping them informed of current events, decisions, and activities involving the club.

5. Field Representative:

Helps with any work done on the fields. This job involves three to four workdays each season plus possibly some additional work depending on the shape of the fields. Each workday usually runs about two hours. The first one is at the beginning of each season to help set up fields and the other is at the end of the season to take down the fields. There will be another two or three days this representative is asked to help with the lining of the fields and preparation of fields for our annual Hotshot Tournament we host in May. Anyone can do this job and the work is done during the week and early evenings.

6. Referee Representative:

Two adult representatives for each team must take the referee certification course and agree to be a part of the Club’s referee pool. This involves taking the 16-hour certification course and being available on the weekends to referee and assistant referee games. This is an extremely important position because without enough referees, we can’t have games.

We encourage trying to find as many people as possible to become involved. The people who volunteer for this position will begin by assistant-refereeing games (a.k.a lining) and will move to center refereeing as their ability and knowledge improves and when they are willing to do so. The referee representative communicates with the referee association as to when they are available and are expected to referee six games per season. Referees are paid by the North Idaho Referee Association for the games they referee.

7. Fundraising Coordinator:

This position should consist of a minimum of two parent volunteers. They are in charge of organizing their team's efforts in fundraising for the club. They would publicize any fundraising events to their team and assist the fundraising directors as needed with any events. The major fundraiser is in the spring season and summer. During the spring season, the club holds a Juggle-a-thon in conjunction with the Elks' Soccer Festival in May. If a team decides to do a team fundraiser, the fundraiser coordinator would seek approval from the Board Member who is the Director of Fundraising, **PRIOR** to planning the team fundraiser.

8. Public Relations Representative:

This person is in charge of getting the press release of their team's results to the local paper each week. It is convenient to assign a person who is proficient at e-mail. Photos and a short summary of each game/tournament are to be sent no later than noon on Monday to Mark Nelke at the Moscow Pullman Daily News. It is helpful to state "Youth Sports" in the subject area of the e-mail. Any notifications should appear the following Wednesday.

9. Registrar Representative:

This person is responsible for helping the manager and club registrar with collecting registration dues each season. This person may also be called upon to help run the registration process at tryouts each season. The manager on most teams does this job, but some managers may like to have the extra help.

10. Ice For Games:

Supply bags of ice for both home and away games in case of player injury.

11. Travel Coordinator:

Coordinate travel for teams during season to/from games and tournaments.

Team needs (optional, as assigned by the team manager):

1. Field Representative:

Help with general field lining and maintenance.

2. Team Financial Manager:

Oversee team finances.

	<p>3. Party Manager: Arrange for pre, during, tournament, and post season get together;</p> <p>4. Coaches Gift: Organize/arrange for coach's gift at the end of the season.</p> <p>5. Flag Control: Deliver flags to home games and return after games.</p> <p>6. Snack Patrol: Provide snacks for teams training right after school</p> <p>7. Team Building: Arrange for off field activities to build team camaraderie, such as: team bike rides, rock climbing, spaghetti dinners, movie nights, etc.</p> <p>8. Clean Up Crew: Ensure nothing is left behind on the sidelines</p> <p>9. Canopy/Bench Crew: Help set up/take down team benches/canopies</p>
Club Fees and Payment of Fees	
Fees	<p>Player registration is done via the MUSC website at www.moscowunited.org. The website section on registration provides registration information including: fees, age chart, registration periods, and instructions for the online registration process.</p> <p>Payment of registration fees may be made online via credit/debit card, or by check. Make checks payable to Moscow United Soccer Club, P.O. Box 9919, Moscow, ID 83843.</p>
Age Chart	<p>The Idaho Youth Soccer Association follows the US Youth Soccer Association age groups. A new age group starts on August 1 of each year. See the registration section of the club website for an age chart.</p>
Financial Assistance	<p>If a family wishes to request financial assistance with registration costs, an application is required and will be reviewed in a confidential manner that maintains confidentiality of the family's identity with the club registrar and treasurer. Any questions regarding the application may be directed to the MUSC treasurer. The financial application form can be found online.</p> <p>DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS THE EARLYBIRD REGISTRATION DATE. When financial assistance is granted, the requesting family will be notified.</p>

Travel

Expectations

MUSC teams are expected to travel in order to participate in both league and tournament play. Tournament and league discussions are held at the first parent-coach meeting prior to the season. Teams at the younger ages generally do not travel as far as older teams. Travel outside of the Pacific Northwest will be done only with consultation of the club DOC.

Fundraising

Palouse Cup

The Palouse Cup tournament is MUSC's major fundraising avenue. Started in 1996, it is an annual 5 v 5 tournament historically scheduled for the first week in August at the University of Idaho's Guy Wicks Field. Team divisions are U-8 through adult divisions, with teams playing a minimum of four games. The success of Palouse Cup depends on volunteers, which consist of parents from each registered team in the club. Each MUSC age group is responsible for a specific duty to assist with the tournament. Money is raised from donations in the form of sponsorships solicited from business owners to support the youth soccer in Moscow, tournament fees, concession proceeds, and t-shirt sales.

Soccerfest

Soccerfest is the Annual team and club fundraising event in May, in coordination with the Elks club. At Soccerfest, teams can raise funds by participating in the Juggle-a-thon, by setting up one or more team-baskets for the silent auction, and through other creative ways. The Elks club sets up a series of soccer related challenges such as the pass for points, and players can qualify for regional competitions in these challenges by participating. MUSC also creates the opportunity for player, team, and club pictures, so attending Soccerfest is a MUST. While a MUSC board member coordinates the event, one or more parents from each team needs to assist with the organization and management of Soccerfest.

Referees

Respect

Referees are an integral part of our game, and without them we would not be able to play our matches. Referees in the area are volunteers, many of them holding down fulltime jobs in addition to refereeing. Many are also young referees learning both about the game and how to referee. For many this could be their first 'employment' experience. Accordingly, MUSC expects its members to show referees the utmost respect towards referees on the pitch. The impact a parent can have by yelling at the referee can only result in negative consequences. Yelling at the referee will not change a call that has already been made and it sets a poor example for our players to follow.

Olympic Development Program

ODP

The ODP program is a state, regional, and national program ultimately serving as an identification program for U.S. youth soccer national and regional teams. The state ODP program gives players the opportunity to improve by playing at a higher level. Trainings

	<p>range from district trainings (which are open to all interested players) to state trainings (open to only those players selected to the state pool). Players and families interested in the ODP program should contact the DOC and their child's team coach for further discussion. For more information on the ODP program in Idaho, visit the IYSA website: www.idahoyouthsoccer.org</p>
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Parent Communication	
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Process	<p>The MUSC board recommends the following guidelines for communication when an issue or concern arises:</p> <p>Player is encouraged to communicate with team coach(es) directly regarding issue(s) of concern. If this is unsuccessful, it is encouraged that both player and parent arrange an appropriate time to discuss the issue with the coach. If the issue remains unresolved the player and parent should contact the Director of Coaching.</p> <p>There is an appropriate time and place to discuss issues with a coach. Parents should refrain from getting into discussions regarding team matters such as playing time, positions, formations, style, etc. immediately before, during, or after matches and practices.</p> <p>MUSC promotes a 24 hour rule to protect coaches. The 24 hour rule provides that if you have an issue of concern, parents should wait 24 hours before contacting the coach in order to arrange a meeting. This allows for better discussion regarding the welfare of the player.</p> <p>The MUSC president and the Board of Directors serve as the last line of communication within the club. They serve as the final sounding board to resolve a conflict between coach/player/parent/team. Parents intending to discuss issues with the board need to contact the president to arrange a time for discussion.</p> <p>At no point should any individual within the club contact the Idaho Youth Soccer Association. Communication with the Idaho Youth Soccer Association is done by Director of Coaching, President, and Board.</p>
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Academics	
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Policy	<p>MUSC expects all players to strive to perform their best on the field and in the classroom. MUSC has a strong tradition of academic excellence and we encourage all players to organize their schedules to ensure they have enough time to devote to their studies. In most circumstances, players are not to miss practice due to homework. If a student is to miss a practice due to school commitments they need to notify the coach ahead of time. If a player consistently misses practice due to homework or school commitments a possible reduction in playing time may occur. If a player is struggling in school it is expected they</p>
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	work out a solution with their coach, DOC, and parents to create an acceptable plan of action to prevent missing practices consistently.
Team Dynamics	
Team Responsibilities	MUSC players are continually encouraged to take responsibility for their commitment to excellence. Much of that commitment surrounds their decisions and how they interact and support their team and teammates. Our players have a responsibility to fully participate in all activities including training, games, meetings, travel, and team functions. Their decisions and actions directly affect the team and its ability to achieve a common goal.
Multi-sport Athletes	Recognizing that “variety is the spice of life” is important for many aspects of healthy living, including sport, and MUSC encourages its athletes to participate in other athletic endeavors. In a small community such as Moscow, it is understood that MUSC athletes contribute to the success of many different teams (both athletic and academic) throughout the year. As such MUSC supports its multi-sport athletes and is willing to arrange a course of action for those players who wish to pursue other sports and interests. However, outside of exceptional circumstances, players must have attended at least one practice in the previous 7 days to be eligible to play in a MUSC-related event.
Illegal Recruiting	
Rules	<p>Recruiting players for specific teams and/or clubs is a process subject to the rules of and restricted by the Idaho Youth Soccer Association. Contact with players, parents, or guardians are also subject to IYSA rule. Any member of our organization can be accused of illegal recruiting. Thus we need to be conscious of our actions when approaching opposing teams/players. We are all ambassadors for our club. Two major areas to focus on include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The act of recruiting or attempting to recruit any player, or player’s parents or guardians with offers of material goods or other benefits is considered illegal recruiting and is subject to punishment. 2. The act of recruiting or attempting to recruit a player, players parents, or guardians to leave a registered USYSA team for which the player is already registered in order to play with another USYSA team shall be considered illegal recruiting. Actions of this nature are subject to punishment by IYSA.
Pre-Season Team Organization	
Player Registration	<p>All players, including returning players, must register online through the MUSC online registration system and complete the necessary forms prior to the start of each season in order to play for MUSC. Registration information will be posted on the MUSC website.</p> <p>Online registration for the fall season is generally from June through July, and for the spring</p>

	<p>season from November through January. MUSC strives to organize its teams as early as possible to help create the most options for optimum player development. Please help out your manager, registrar, director, and team by registering as early as possible so teams can be formed in a timely manner. Please contact the club via the club e-mail address regarding any difficulties with registration. Players wanting to register after the deadline need to e-mail the DOC directly.</p> <p>Player registration is complete when the online registration is completed, the registration fee is paid in full, a signed copy of the medical insurance waiver is provided, and a photocopy of the player's birth certificate or passport as proof of age is on file with the Registrar (only required once). The <u>photocopy</u> of the birth certificate will be retained by MUSC and is not returned at the end of the season. Additional paperwork, such as player and parent codes of conduct will also be needed at this time. All forms for registration are available online.</p> <p>Until a player is officially registered and assigned to a team, he/she MAY NOT practice with a team, play in league games, or play in tournaments.</p>
Player, Parent & Coaches Code of Conduct	<p>Player, parent and coaches codes of conduct may be found in the Appendix to this manual and online. From the home page, scroll over Programs menu, scroll to Competitive, and Forms.</p> <p>Link: http://www.moscowunited.org/home.php?layout=1030</p>
Tryouts	<p>MUSC reserves the right to hold tryouts for teams U-13 and above as needed or deemed necessary by MUSC Director and/or Board. See Appendix.</p>
Club Commitment	<p>Players registering with any soccer club in the state are committed to that club for the entire soccer calendar year. The soccer year runs from August 1st through July 31st. Players registering for the fall season are committed to the club for the year. Players may leave/transfer clubs only with permission from MUSC.</p>
Team Roster	
Roster	<p>The team roster is an IYSA approved list of players for the fall and/or spring season. If a player does not appear on the team roster, she/he may not practice or play games with the team.</p>
Guest Player	<p>Guest players may be added to a team for tournament games, if they are registered elsewhere with a club. Contact the Registrar in a timely manner if you plan to include a guest player</p>

Leagues	
Options	MUSC teams may participate in a number of leagues in the area. Northwest League of Idaho, District 6 of Eastern Washington, or a US Club league based largely out of Seattle. League selection will be determined by Director of Coaching, with guidance from coaching staff and parents. Leagues throughout the area require travel in order to participate fully.
Uniforms / Costs	
Package	<p>For new players, a uniform package must be purchased for \$90. The uniform package includes 2 jerseys (one cobalt/white and an alternate white), shorts (cobalt/white) and a pair of socks (cobalt/white).</p> <p>Uniforms are a Climalite jersey for cool comfort during game play, and feature embroidered Adidas logo and 3 stripe design at shoulders. The Climalite shorts are for cool comfort with an elastic waist and inner drawstring. The uniforms have an extremely soft feel and are 100% Polyester with Advanced moisture wicking weave.</p>
Season Operations	
Season(s)	The U-10 through U-14 ages play for two club seasons, fall and spring. Fall season is from August 1 st to October 31 st . Spring season is from March 1 st through May 31 st . The U-15 and older ages play in the spring season only.
Team Formation	<p>In the event U-10 through U-12 teams have enough players to form two teams, MUSC intends to form balanced teams. The names of the younger teams as listed are either reflected by the coach's last name (Moscow United - Smith) or a professional team of choice (Moscow United - Ajax). Doing so provides the club and players the best opportunity to keep them playing through the older ages. Providing every player an equal opportunity to develop at his or her own pace is best for the kids and club. At the end of each season, teams will be reviewed to ensure a proper balance is maintained.</p> <p>In addition, MUSC intends to provide more for those players in the younger ages seeking more soccer experiences outside of a traditional season. At this point MUSC will help to combine interested groups and travel to appropriate tournaments. This could be combining two teams of like ages/genders. It could also mean an opportunity for a few players to play up an age level, i.e. taking 3 or 4 U-11 boys and having them join the U-12 boys at a tournament. Team combinations and tournament selections will be made by the Director of Coaching, with help from coaches and parents.</p> <p>If there are enough players at the older age groups, U-13 and above, MUSC will form an "A" or "Blue" team and a "B" or "White" team. The names of these teams will reflect their level, i.e. MUSC – Blue. If there are less than 14 players at any age group U-13 and above, the DOC will make a decision to either not form a team or make a combined team if there are</p>

	<p>enough qualified players. MUSC's approach is to provide an opportunity for all players and will work towards allowing all players to play. It will be up to the DOC and approved by the board, and ultimately IYSA, to combine age groups to create a team(s).</p> <p>For players U-15 and up MUSC intends to make the most competitive and appropriate teams possible. At the high school ages, MUSC does not always experience full rosters and each age group. Often this leads MUSC to create combinations of ages and players. MUSC maintains its focus of providing soccer for all while pursuing the highest level of soccer. In addition, MUSC intends to make fully competitive travel teams to play throughout the summer. These teams are for highly committed players desiring a higher level of soccer. These teams will travel throughout the Northwest, and potentially further, to compete in major tournaments. MUSC may look outside the MUSC club to help develop teams appropriate for the level of competition.</p>
Play ups	<p>If a player is eligible for grade appropriate play-up (based on school grade), s/he can request a play-up at the time of registration. You must register at the <u>appropriate age level</u> first. Then, after the registration is completed, the Registrar will move the player to the grade appropriate age division.</p> <p>Other play ups will be allowed only at the discretion of the DOC. Some play ups are subject to IYSA approval.</p>
Club Equipment	<p>MUSC provides teams an assortment of equipment to use. The club is responsible for providing the entire club with goals, nets, and corner flags. MUSC also provides each team an equipment bag containing: balls (game and practice), ball bag, equipment bag, colored bibs, short cones, tall cones, ball pumps, and first aid kits.</p>
Player Equipment	<p>Players are responsible for providing for themselves: boots, shin guards, uniforms, and a ball. MUSC asks each player to have a ball and bring that ball to practice, ensuring each player has at least one ball to work with during the training session.</p>
Practices	
General	<p>Practice times and frequency vary by age group. In general, teams will practice 2 - 3 times per week. Each player is expected to participate in each practice. The lengths of practices usually are one and a half hours for younger teams and up to two hours for the older teams. This is approximately the same amount of time players will be on the field from start to finish during a game situation.</p>
Locations	<p>Practices are held most often at the University of Idaho's Guy Wicks Field or Moscow School District's Oylear Field.</p>
Days/Times	<p>The Director of Coaching will work with the coach and manager of each team to create a practice schedule each season to ensure equity among field use, within the constraints of</p>

	<p>field availability. Fields are subject to change on short notice. Practice schedules often need to change based upon field conditions and field availability since University of Idaho and school sports teams have priority for field space and times. However, every effort will be made to maintain consistency in practice schedules to enable parents and players to plan accordingly. You must arrive at the field and be ready five (5) minutes prior to practice, as practice will begin promptly at the designated time.</p>
Equipment	<p>Appropriate training attire must be worn for practice. Make sure your child has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleats and Shin Guards • Soccer Socks (must cover the shin guard completely, with shin guard inside sock) • Full water bottle(s) • Practice ball with name/phone number/contact info • Warm clothing and rain gear (be prepared for bad weather) • Goalie gloves (for goal keepers) • Bag to carry everything to and from practice <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Uniforms are NOT appropriate training attire, including socks and shorts. They are for game use only!</i></p>
Missing Practice	<p>If a player cannot attend practice, it is <u>the player's</u> responsibility to contact his or her coach before the practice begins. Failure to do so will result in a possible reduction of playing time for the next game. At the younger ages, parents are encouraged to help their child through the process. If the player does not attend any of the practices in the week leading up to a game, the player may not play that weekend, but will be expected to attend the game and support his or her teammates.</p> <p>Injured players are expected to attend practices and participate with the team, often helping the coach if possible. Injuries are not excuses to miss practice. Players are a part of the team and need to understand concepts the team is working on.</p> <p>Any player feeling ill or who is sick is asked to stay home and notify coach directly.</p>
Weather	<p>Practices are normally held rain or shine. If you do not receive notice that a practice is cancelled, you should assume that practice is on. If necessary, the coach can cancel practice at the field. The coach and/or DOC have the right to cancel any practice if he/she believes the player's safety to be at risk. Please also be prepared for field closures due to weather, as the use of the fields is a decision made by the University of Idaho and/or the City of Moscow.</p> <p>In cases of poor weather, please be more aware that practices may end instantly. After dropping your child at the field on a poor weather day attempt to be available for an emergency pick up during the scheduled practice hours.</p>
Lightning	<p>Although teams practice/play in all types of weather, lightning is another matter and can be cause for immediate suspension/termination of play. The "30/30" rule for lightning safety</p>

	could save lives. The first “30” means that you need to take cover (in a sturdy building or car) if you hear thunder within 30 seconds of a lightning flash. The second “30” is the number of minutes after the last lightning flash or thunder in order to resume normal activity.
Beyond Practices	Players are expected to make an investment in their own development beyond the formal practice time for their team. Players are encouraged to discuss ideas for skills improvement with their coach. MUSC runs many off-season programs to help develop players. Players who regularly attend these training sessions see greater improvement over the course of the soccer year.
Games	
Game Information	<p>Game dates and times are available at the IYSA web site, under District 1. Coaches and/or managers provide regular reminders of game dates and times. Sometimes a game may be changed, so check for regular updates via email or voice mail (if you don’t have internet). Coaches will announce how many minutes prior to game time players should be at the field, dressed and ready to warm-up. The assumed time is 45 minutes.</p> <p>The manager should email/call the opposing team contact person at the beginning of the week to make sure games will proceed as scheduled. Individual teams are responsible for re-scheduling games canceled due to inclement weather or other circumstances. The team manager should establish whether the coach or the manager will assume the responsibility for re-scheduling games, and communicate in a timely manner with the club scheduler. If possible, this should be done <u>at least</u> three weeks in advance of the tentative re-scheduling date.</p>
Travel	It is the responsibility of each participant’s family to get their child to home and away games. Carpooling and caravanning are encouraged as they represent important ways to assure each child’s timely arrival to games and can build community among team members and families. Please plan carefully when deciding how much time it will take you to get to a game; being late is very stressful for a child and may impact his/her ability to play optimally (see below).
Punctuality	Unless otherwise directed by the coach, players should arrive at the game field at least 45 minutes prior to the game’s scheduled start time. If a player will be late for the game or has to leave the game early, the coach must be notified in advance. Children arriving late may forfeit playing time depending on the circumstances.
Equipment	Players must arrive for games dressed properly and in uniform, with the correct color shirt (white at home; blue when away). Players should have all necessary equipment for the game upon arriving, including: cleats, shin guards, gloves for goalies, full uniform including

	<p>both white and blue jerseys (bring both jerseys to every game), shorts, socks, and proper warm clothes for the weather conditions. By rule, improperly equipped players may not be allowed to play by officials.</p> <p>Things to avoid include any clothing with: buttons, snaps, pins, clips, zippers, etc.</p>
Diet	<p>Children will not be able to play to their potential if they are not properly nourished – both on and off the field. And, because many children will not or cannot choose the best foods for their needs, <i>it is ultimately a parent’s responsibility to ensure optimal nutrition of these young athletes</i>. There are no easy solutions to this complex issue, but the following suggestions are provided as general guidance.</p> <p><u>Morning Games:</u> A child awakens with relatively low blood sugar levels and is somewhat dehydrated. However, simply providing a carbohydrate-rich breakfast with fluids (e.g., toast and a glass of juice) will result in a rapid ‘crash’ halfway through the first part of a game. Conversely, eating a balanced and nutritious breakfast (e.g., 2 eggs, toast, half of a banana, and 1 cup milk) right before a game is also unwise. Thus, it is critical to get up early enough so your child can eat an ample, balanced breakfast and have time to digest prior to game time. A good rule-of-thumb is to plan on finishing such a breakfast 45-60 minutes before your child is expected to be at the field. For away games, this may require some creativity such that your car becomes the breakfast table.</p> <p><u>Mid-Day and Afternoon Games:</u> The same “rules-of-thumb” apply: 45-60 minutes before warming up, a child should be finishing a balanced meal providing a reasonable amount of carbohydrates, fat, and protein as well as water. Unusual foods, cuisines, or foods that typically cause indigestion (e.g., spicy or fried foods) should be avoided or eaten only in moderation.</p>
Conduct	<p>Coaches, players, and parents must behave according to the MUSC codes of conduct, and league and tournament rules. Referees and linesmen should always be dealt with in a sportsmanlike and courteous manner. Parents, players, and coaches should refrain from speaking negatively to game officials and opposing team’s parents and/or players. Players should treat their teammates and opponents with respect and should conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and courteous manner.</p>
Rules	<p>Parents must be knowledgeable of MUSC expectations as specified in this manual and code of conduct. MUSC will supply parents with needed information regarding league and tournament rules. Upon beginning a league season and/or tournament, appropriate rules should be distributed by MUSC, team managers, or DOC.</p> <p>Major rules that are applied almost across the board include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Idaho, teams and parents are placed on opposite sidelines. No individual is to be behind the goal at any time, including parents, players, and coaches.

<p>Injuries</p>	<p>Upon a player being injured in a game, the referee does not have to stop play immediately; only if there is excessive blood, head to head collision, or other serious injury. When the ball is played out or a referee stops play, the referee will approach the injured player. If the player can play, the referee will ask him or her to get up. If the player is injured, the referee will waive the coach onto the field for assistance. Coach will then take the player to the sidelines for further evaluation. If the injury is serious enough in nature, coaches and/or referees will call the player's parent to the team sidelines or on the field.</p> <p>Please avoid entering the field of play or moving to the team bench until a referee or coach has directed you to do so.</p>
<p>Tournaments</p>	
<p>Tournaments</p>	<p>USYSA publishes a list of sanctioned tournaments. This is available on the Internet and is also made available to coaches. It is <u>important</u> that families, coaches and players agree on the number of tournaments for participation, the distance from home and the financial commitment to travel and lodging.</p> <p>A tournament involves many expenses, including lodging, food, car rental and patches for trading. Tournament travel arrangements may become the responsibility of the team manager. It helps to discuss such arrangement with team managers who have done this before.</p> <p>For some teams, it is customary that the team pay the coach's travel and lodging expenses. This should be considered when the team is making its tournament decisions. In determining the extent of the tournament participation, some teams use anonymous ballots so there is less pressure in the decision-making process. Other teams simply discuss options. Registration, cost and deadlines and other information are available on the IYSA tournament list.</p> <p>Only the USYSA registered teams may play in a sanctioned tournament. All players on a team have an opportunity to play; no player on a team's roster should be excluded.</p>
<p>Selection</p>	<p>Director of Coaching will provide tournament dates to managers and suggest which tournaments are best for any given team. Generally the team, parents, Director of Coaching and coach decide as a group which 2-3 tournaments they are most interested in attending.</p>
<p>Expenses</p>	<p>Tournament expenses covered by the team include the coach's hotel, meal and travel costs as well as tournament entry fees. Players and parents of each team decide as a group whether to fundraise for the expenses or to divide them evenly among all players. MUSC encourages a rate for gas reimbursement of \$.50 per mile. Tournament expenses NOT covered by the team include each player's hotel, meal and transportation costs.</p>

<p>Travel</p>	<p>Each player is responsible for his/her own transportation to/from tournaments. Carpooling and caravanning are strongly encouraged. Doing so not only saves money, but it promotes camaraderie among team members as well as team parents, and in general is just more fun! Caravanning (2-3 vehicles traveling together) can be extremely helpful in the event of car trouble, flat tires, etc.</p> <p>A parent volunteer or manager should provide detailed driving instructions for each family. Google maps or other similar mapping tools that provide a picture plus driving instructions are very helpful. Be sure to include the hotel phone number.</p>
<p>Hotel Accommodations</p>	<p>When many MUSC teams are going to the same tournament, the club will designate a “club hotel” and reserve a large block of rooms for all MUSC families. In such case, the manager (or communication volunteer) should ensure that each family knows the reservation deadlines, etc. for reserving their individual room.</p> <p>When there isn’t a “club hotel” a parent volunteer needs to research hotel options and choose whichever location works best (taking into consideration its proximity to the fields, affordability, and amenities such as free breakfast, laundry, Wi-Fi, etc.) and coordinate a block reservation to accommodate the entire team. Then the hotel information is communicated to each family to make their own room reservations. The parent volunteer or manager should also reserve a room for the coach(es).</p> <p>MUSC understands the financial implications of traveling and that some families attempt to save money by staying with local family or friends. MUSC does not discourage this, but requests that as much as possible the soccer player remain with the team for the day whenever possible. Part of tournament experience is the bonding off of the field. We do not want to force our parents to pay for hotels, but want our players to have the full experience.</p>
<p>Hotel Behavior</p>	<p>Responsible behavior while traveling is critical for all MUSC members. Players and parents alike should remember that when we proudly display our vehicle magnets, jerseys and other MUSC items it immediately identifies who we are. Whether at the hotel, the field, or local restaurants, we represent our soccer club and the city of Moscow.</p> <p>Managers and parents are ultimately responsible for the behavior of all players. Some hotels even require the reserving party to sign personally for the behavior of the team in the room block contract. Coaches generally set a curfew, which players must abide by and other adults should enforce. Running up and down hallways, door ditching, and other loud, raucous behavior is not acceptable.</p> <p>Players should also be considerate of hotel property by using waste receptacles, taking extra effort to not damage anything, and generally leaving the premises in the same</p>

	condition as it was upon arrival. Please DO NOT wear cleats inside a hotel at any time.
Team Functions	Travel to tournaments provides great opportunities for team-building activities. As soon as the tournament schedule is published, the coach and/or manager can identify blocks of free time that can be filled with a group activity that promotes team cohesiveness. Many teams make a point of arranging a group dinner that includes family members. Whether you go to a restaurant, order in, or even do a team BBQ if the hotel has the equipment, the time spent together goes a long way towards building a strong team and a strong parent group.
Playing Time	
Season	<p>Moscow United believes that playing time during league games is a critical factor in the development of individual players. Games provide playing conditions that can be simulated, but not reproduced, in a training environment. Lack of playing time during games inevitably limits a player's ability to improve technically and tactically. In addition, Moscow United believes that technical and tactical abilities should be considered as a factor only for players U-13 and older.</p> <p>Guidelines for league game play:</p> <p>Based on the above, Moscow United has adopted the following policy regarding playing time for its competitive program:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any player who attends at least one practice a week on teams U-12 and younger should receive relatively equal playing time at all positions with the exception of goalie, without significant regard to technical or tactical playing abilities. In general, players should play 1/2 of each of the team's games (e.g., at least 25-30 minutes in a 60-minute game), including tournament games and organized scrimmages. The sole exception is for injury. 2. The amount of playing time that players on teams U-13 and older receive is generally subject to the discretion of the player's coach. Moscow United expects its coaches to consider what is best for individual players <i>and</i> what is best for the team as a whole in determining how much playing time individual players receive. Coaches may reduce playing time at their discretion for individual players due to any of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Poor attendance and/or punctuality at practices and/or games b. Poor effort, attitude, and/or behavior during practices and/or games c. Poor fitness level, including injuries d. Inability to work/play well with teammates e. Lack of technical and/or tactical abilities 3. Moscow United expects its coaches to communicate decisions to limit/reduce playing time to the players who are affected by those decisions. Coaches should

	<p>communicate the factors in their decisions, as well as any steps that the player(s) can take to receive more playing time in the future.</p> <p>4. Players with questions or concerns about playing time may approach their coach directly in a manner prescribed by the coach.</p> <p>5. Parents with questions or concerns about playing time should refer to the procedures that are outlined in the Moscow United Parent Communication Guide for contacting coaches.</p>
Tournaments	<p>At U-12 and below, any rostered player attending a tournament for which they incurred tournament and/or travel expense will be rostered for at least half of the games and play a minimum of 25% of total tournament minutes.</p> <p>During tournaments playing time is not guaranteed.</p>
Post & Off-Season Operations	
Team Party	<p>Teams typically hold an end-of-season party so that the coaches can reflect on the season, celebrate the high points of the season, and give player's feedback. It is also the occasion when parents can acknowledge the coaches with a thank-you gift.</p>
Off-season Training	<p><u>Winter</u></p> <p>Futsal: MUSC does its best every winter to create opportunities for players to participate in futsal. Futsal is essentially indoor small-sided soccer. The ball is slightly different to take away the bounce, and help play on a hard surface. Futsal is a popular game played worldwide, with its own world cup tournament, and a great way to develop skills on the ball in the off-season. If you have some time, search futsal on youtube to learn more. Have your player with you and enjoy the skills!</p> <p>Foot skills: are run in February and/or March, typically on the UI Turf field. These are actual training sessions designed for individual player development. These sessions are run by DOC, other qualified guest coaches, or team coaches.</p> <p>Winter Clinic: When the holiday schedule allows for it, MUSC will host a winter clinic for U-10/11/12 age groups. Upon confirming facilities reservations we will disperse appropriate information. The idea behind the clinic is to get kids out of the house if they are not traveling for break, work on some skills, and provide parents much needed time during the holiday season!</p> <p><u>Spring:</u></p> <p>Spring Break Camp: for those players that are not leaving town for the break. This is held on the UI Turf field, outside, and is a week long camp for our players. Coaches within the club and guest coaches are present for training. This is a great tradition at MUSC!!</p>

	<p><u>Summer:</u></p> <p>Pick-up Games: Over the summer, MUSC provides opportunities for its players to come out and play in pickup games. These are fun, no pressure games, with no coaching. Players show up at the scheduled time, teams are made, and games are played. This is another historical tradition of MUSC.</p> <p>Academy: Summer opportunity for U-10/11/12 players to work on individual skills on a semi-weekly basis throughout the summer.</p> <p>Summer Camp(s): MUSC asks its Director of Coaching to put on a weeklong summer camp each year. Summer camp is usually held in the month of July. It is an opportunity for players to train during the summer, prepare for the upcoming fall season, and get exposure to guest coaches, current and former college or professional players. This camp is built around skill building and tactical application of techniques.</p> <p>Striker/Keeper Clinic: MUSC provides an opportunity for its players to train as either a forward or goal keeper. Clinic focuses on aspects of scoring goals and goal keeping. All players are welcome, irrelevant of their given 'position.' This clinic is typically run the first or second week of August, prior to the start of the high school season.</p> <p>*All players are welcome to the Striker/Keeper Clinic. All soccer players need to have the ability to score, irrelevant of position. Players can train both as goalkeeper and forward at their choice.</p>
Miscellaneous	
Club Bylaws	A complete copy of the MUSC bylaws can be found on the club website.
Helpful Links	<p>www.idahoyouthsoccer.org</p> <p>www.usyouthsoccer.org</p> <p>www.ussoccer.com</p> <p>www.wsysa.org (Washington State Youth Soccer Association)</p> <p>www.nscac.com (National Soccer Coaches Association of America)</p> <p>www.regioniv.com (IYSA is a member of Region IV, Far West)</p> <p>www.fifa.com (World governing body of soccer)</p> <p>www.concacaf.com (Central and North America, and Caribbean governing body)</p> <p>www.uefa.com (European governing body)</p>

APPENDIX

Player Code Of Conduct

Purpose: To provide players with rules and expectations, in order to enhance their experience and help them achieve their potential. **All players must sign a code of conduct each “soccer year” (August 1 – July 31) prior to participation on Moscow United competitive teams.**

Players are expected to comply with all of the following rules and expectations each season:

1. Be fully dressed and ready to play on time for every practice and game. Players who will be late to or miss a practice or game may be excused if they notify coaches in advance. Injured players should attend all practices and games unless prior arrangements have been made with the coach. Players who are late to or miss a practice or game due to extenuating circumstances (e.g., family emergencies) will be considered excused.
2. Be properly equipped for all practices and games. Players should bring cleats, shinguards, long socks, appropriate clothing, and water to all practices. Players should have appropriate uniform items at all games.
3. Demonstrate good sportsmanship. Disrespect, defiance, or violence directed at Moscow United coaches, teammates, game officials, opposing coaches, or opposing players will not be tolerated.
4. Avoid using foul language during practices, games, and team functions.
5. Wash all team equipment after the season is over and return at a time and place designated by the coaches.
6. Comply with all applicable Idaho Youth Soccer Association (IYSA), Washington State Youth Soccer Association (WSYSA) and/or United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) rules regarding registration, rules of play, etc.
7. Comply with all local, state, and federal laws.
8. **Represent Moscow United to the best of your ability. Act appropriately during (and while traveling to/from) practices, games, tournaments, and other team functions.**
9. **Be committed to the team by attending all team functions and doing everything possible to create a positive experience for everyone involved in the Moscow United competitive soccer program.**
10. **Come to practices and games prepared to work hard and have fun!**

Violations of these may result in disciplinary actions, including but not limited to, extra conditioning, reduced playing time, and/or suspension or dismissal from Moscow United teams. Coaches may expand the above rules/expectations at their discretion, and may have additional rules/expectations for their players. Coaches will be expected to communicate all changes to the above and/or all additional rules/expectations to players prior to each season. Coaches are responsible for enforcing team rules/expectations and for determining appropriate consequences for violations.

I, _____ (Player Name) have read the rules and expectations above and agree to and agree to comply with them throughout the _____ soccer season.

Player Signature

Date

Parent Code Of Conduct

Purpose: To provide parents with rules and expectations in order to enhance players' experience and to help them realize their playing potential. **All parents must sign a code of conduct each "soccer year" (August 1 – July 31) before their players may participate on Moscow United competitive teams.**

All parents are expected to adhere to the following guidelines throughout each season:

1. Comply with the guidelines listed in the Moscow United Parent Communication Guide.
2. Assist players in complying with the rules/expectations specified in the Player Code of Conduct.
3. Demonstrate good sportsmanship. Disrespect, defiance, or violence directed at Moscow United coaches, teammates, game officials, opposing coaches, or opposing players will not be tolerated.
4. Never approach a player or a coach on or off the playing field in a negative or confrontational manner.
5. During all practices and games:
 - a. Respect the role of coaches by refraining from coaching players.
 - b. Do not disturb or approach players or coaches (except in cases of emergency) until after the coach has released the team.
6. During games remain on the side of the field that is designated for fans.
7. **Represent Moscow United to the best of your ability. Provide positive support for the team and act appropriately during (and while traveling to/from) practices, games, tournaments, and other team functions.**
8. **Do everything possible to create a positive experience for everyone involved in the Moscow United competitive soccer program.**

Violations of these may result in intervention and/or disciplinary action by the Moscow United board of directors.

Please sign below to indicate that you have read, understand, and agree to comply with these guidelines. (All parents/guardians must sign.) If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please feel free to contact coaches and/or other Moscow United officials in accordance with the guidelines specified in the Parent-Coach Communication Guide. We welcome the opportunity to help your player develop in the most positive way possible.

I/We, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of _____ (Player Name), have read the guidelines above and agree to comply with them throughout the _____ soccer season.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Coaches Code Of Conduct

PURPOSE

This code of ethics has been developed to clarify and distinguish approved and accepted professional, ethical and moral behavior from that which is detrimental to the development of soccer within IYSA.

POLICY

Coaching is a privilege offered and granted to individuals who perform capably during IYSA sanctioned and affiliated associations activities. It carries with it an obligation for each individual coach to uphold and promote the stated goals and objectives. Any conduct considered unethical or a conflict of interest shall be subject to discipline by the IYSA.

Article I – Responsibilities to Players

1. The coach shall never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players
2. Coaches shall instruct players to play within the written laws of the game and within the spirit of the game at all times.
3. Coaches shall not seek unfair advantage by teaching deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior to players.
4. Coaches should not tolerate inappropriate behavior from players regardless of the situation.
5. Demands on players' time should never be so extensive as to interfere with academic goals or progress.
6. Coaches must never encourage players to violate IYSA recruitment, eligibility or player rules and policies.
7. Coaches should direct players to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow the physician's instructions regarding treatment and recovery.

Article II – Responsibilities to IYSA and Member Associations

1. Adherence to all IYSA and member association rules and policies, especially those regarding eligibility and team formation and member association rules and policies regarding recruiting are mandatory and should never be violated. It is the responsibility of each coach to know and understand these rules.
2. Any problems that cannot be resolved between coaches should be referred to the appropriate IYSA or member association officer or committee.

Article III – Responsibilities to the Laws of the Game

1. Coaches should be thoroughly acquainted with and demonstrate a working knowledge of the Laws of the Game.
3. Coaches are responsible to assure their players understand the intent as well as the application of the Laws.
4. Coaches must adhere to the letter and spirit of the Laws of the Game.
5. Coaches are responsible for their players' actions on the field and must not permit those to perform with intent of causing injury to opposing players.
6. The coach must constantly strive to teach good sporting behavior.

Article IV – Responsibilities to Officials

1. Officials must have the support of coaches, players and spectators. Coaches must always refrain from criticizing officials in the presence of players or spectators.
2. Professional respect, before, during and after the game should be mutual. There should be no demeaning dialogue or gestures between official, coach or players.
3. Coaches must not incite players or spectators or attempt to disrupt the flow of the games.
4. Comments regarding an official should be made in writing to the appropriate organization assigning the official.

Article V - Responsibilities Regarding Scouting and Recruiting

1. It is inappropriate to recruit players(s) actively playing for another team.
2. It is unethical for a player to be recruited or enticed from the Olympic Development Program (ODP) setting, either by his ODP coach or any other coach, manager, player, parent or team representative.
3. When discussing the advantages of his/her organization, the coach has an obligation to be forthright and refrain from making derogatory remarks regarding other coaches, teams and organizations.
4. It is unethical for any coach to make a statement to a prospective athlete that cannot be fulfilled. It is illegal to promise any kind of compensation or inducement for play and immoral to deliver it.
5. Coaches shall not scout any team, by any means whatsoever, except in regularly scheduled games.

Article VI - Responsibilities of Public Relations

1. Coaches have a responsibility to promote the game of soccer to the public. Comments, critiques of governing bodies, teams, coaches, players, parents or medial should be positive and constructive.
2. Coaches have the responsibility to assist their players in conducting themselves properly when in public, when representing their team, member association and IYSA.
3. Coaches must not attempt to influence member associations or IYSA in politics; financial dealing outside the framework of their own rules and by-laws.

Article VII – Other Responsibilities

1. A coach's behavior must be such as to bring credit to himself, his organization and the sport of soccer.
2. While the concept of rivalry is wholly embraced, it cannot take precedence over exemplary professional conduct.
3. The attitude and conduct of the coach towards officials, players, spectators and coaches should be controlled and undemonstrative.
4. It is unacceptable for a coach to have any verbal altercation with an opposing coach or bench before, during or after the game.
5. Coaches must use their influence on spectators that demonstrate intimidating and/or unacceptable behavior towards officials, players(s) and opposing team member.

Coach signature: _____ Date: _____

Date Received by Affiliate: _____

Parent Communication Guide

PARENTS should expect the following communication from coaches and/or other Moscow United officials.

1. Program and coaching philosophy
2. Expectations of players and parents
3. Location and times of all practices, games, tournaments, and team functions
4. Procedures for parents to follow for excusing players from practices and/or games
5. Explanations of major disciplinary actions involving your players

COACHES expect the following communication from parents:

1. Concerns expressed directly to coaches first (not to other parents, players, coaches, and/or Moscow United officials)
2. Notice in advance when players will miss or be late for practices/games
3. Specific concerns regarding coaching philosophy and/or rules/expectations
4. Positive support for players, coaches, game officials, and the Moscow United competitive soccer program

It is appropriate for parents to discuss the following with coaches:

1. The mental and/or physical treatment of your child
2. Ways to help your child improve and develop as a player
3. Your child's behavior
4. Your child's playing time (only if/after you have attended at least one full practice)

It is NOT appropriate for parents to discuss the following with coaches (unless invited by the coaches):

1. Players other than your child
2. Practice activities
3. Tactical decisions (e.g., positions, substitutions, systems) during games
4. Team strategy

PARENTS should follow these procedures to arrange discussions/meetings with coaches:

1. Contact the coach at an appropriate time (not immediately before, during, or after a practice or game) to request a discussion/meeting. Respect the coach's wishes regarding the terms of the discussion/meeting (these may include inviting the Director of Coaching & Player Development (DOC) to participate).
2. If you are unable to reach the coach, contact the DOC to request a meeting with the coach.

PARENTS should follow these procedures if they have discussed the matter with the coach (or if they have made a good-faith attempt to do so) but the issue still has not been resolved:

1. Contact the DOC to request an appointment to discuss the situation. The DOC will work with the parents and coaches involved to resolve the situation. The DOC will report to and/or request intervention by the Moscow United board of directors at his discretion.
2. Contact the Moscow United Board of Directors to discuss the situation and/or request intervention by the board.

Player Evaluation and Tryouts

Player Evaluation

Player evaluations for the younger teams (U-101 through U-14) are completed by each coach with the assistance of the DOC.

There are two major goals for evaluations:

1. Give club coaches a chance to see every player.
2. Provide feedback to players on a) what they are doing well and b) what they can work on to improve.

Tryouts

PRIMARY TRYOUTS

When there are enough players at the older age groups for two teams, an "A" team or "Gold" team and a "B" or "White" team will be formed. The names of these teams are Moscow United – GOLD and Moscow United – WHITE. If there are less than 14 players for any specific age group, a team will not be formed. If there are less than 30 players, only one team will be created.

When selecting "GOLD" and "WHITE" teams, the best players will be placed on the "GOLD" team with a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 18 players. It will be up to the Director of Coaching, with Board approval, to combine age groups to create a team. *Play-ups on the U-11 through U-14 teams will only be allowed if the Club Director feels the situation is best for the player.*

Tryouts for all teams older than U-18 will not typically be scheduled, due to the inability of players in these age brackets to be present for a tryout. Teams in these age brackets will be selected from a pool of players who have identified in writing to the Club their intent to participate, or from players from a younger age bracket, as necessary, to field a competitive team.

SUPPLEMENTAL TRYOUTS

These are tryouts that are coordinated to help teams pick up additional players before the fall or spring season starts. These tryouts are offered before and during the season if necessary. A coach can request a tryout from the Director at any time before the IYSA spring roster "freeze" date (usually early April). If a "GOLD" team offers a tryout, a "WHITE" team player can attend and try out for any open spot(s).

EVALUATION PROCEDURE AND POLICY

All players are expected to attend all tryout days as designated by their age group. Any player who moves to the area after tryouts are completed may be considered at the next scheduled tryout.

If for some reason a player is unable to attend and/or participate, the Club Director must receive in writing a letter indicating the reason PRIOR to the start of tryouts. All letters

<p>must be sent to P.O. Box 9919 Moscow, ID 83843 prior to the start of tryouts to be considered. If a temporary medical condition/injury necessitates a waiver from tryouts, a statement may be required from a doctor at the discretion of the Club Director. A player who is temporarily unable to try out because of a medical condition may only be considered for a team if that player's ability can be ascertained by the Club Director. In cases of medical conditions/injury, the player must attend at least one of the days of tryouts and all players present will be evaluated throughout the entire tryout.</p> <p>A player wishing to try out for a team in an age group older than his/her birth date dictates may apply to do so in writing to the Board of Directors. However, it is the philosophy of the Club to allow play-ups only when the Club Director deems this player is able to perform at a higher level technically, tactically, physically and psychologically. Applications will be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Tryouts and the addition of players may continue until the roster freeze date as indicated by IYSA, usually early April.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">PLAYER SELECTION</p> <hr/> <p>Player team placement is the responsibility of the DOC and the designated coaching staff.</p>
