

To: Parents of Players Born 2002-1998 (Age Groups U19-U15 for Spring 2017)  
From: HYSA  
Re: Enhanced Team Placement Process Using Multiple Measures  
Date: August, 2016

The Helena Youth Soccer Association has enhanced the team placement process for our upper-age teams starting with the Spring 2017 Season. With the substantial body of information that we have on each player by the time they reach U15 and above, we are able to reduce reliance on a high stakes tryout in favor of multiple measures of each player's skills and abilities. As in all other matters, our overriding goal in implementing these changes is to provide the best soccer education and experience available to youth and their families in Helena and surrounding areas.

Details can be found in the tryout policy approved by the HYSA Board and in the player registration form. If you don't have time to read through the tryout policy in detail, here are the key points of which you should be aware as a parent of a player born in calendar years 1998-2002:

1. There is a deadline to register for the Spring 2017 Season of October 15, 2016. HYSA cannot guarantee placement of any player not registered for Placement by this deadline.
2. There is a nonrefundable team placement fee of \$100, which is due at the time of registration. This fee will be credited toward your player's HYSA season fees for the Spring Season once your player is placed on a team.
3. Players at the upper age groups will be placed in part according to the player's expressed primary and secondary preference of position by line (e.g. keeper, defender, mid, forward).
4. HYSA will be using multiple measures/indicators of a player's skills and abilities for the purpose of team placement to increase the reliability and accuracy of team placement decisions. Examples of measures upon which HYSA will rely include:
  - a. prior years' tryout assessments;
  - b. coaching assessments from the most recently-completed HYSA season;
  - c. placement, performance, starting role and recognition on high school varsity and junior varsity teams, HYSA Club Teams and other similar player roles (e.g. Olympic Development participation, Rocky Mountain, specialized camps, etc.)
5. The role of tryouts for our upper age groups will be used only sparingly to supplement information where other data points are unavailable (e.g. for players new to the program, players who were injured during the immediate preceding season, players participating in HYSA but not high school soccer, etc.). Most players will be placed on a team without having to participate in a tryout session.

Thank You,

HYSA

