

CLUB PASS SYSTEM Q & A

1. Q: Does the Club Pass System apply to all associations and clubs?

A: Each association and each club makes the decision as to whether they will allow use of the Club Pass System and how they will monitor the process. (STYSA rule 3.12.1)

2. Q: Is the Club Pass System valid for all competitions?

A: No – this program can only be utilized if allowed by the association or by the organization governing a particular competition. (STYSA rule 3.12.2)

For Fall play, Club Passes can be utilized if approved by the Member Association through which the club participates or the District for competitions that are managed by the District such as Super II. In order for a team to be eligible to advance to District or State Fall Championships, the team must comply with all rules in place regarding roster freeze dates and all players on the team must play in two regularly scheduled, regular season games in order to be eligible for post season play. Rosters for teams in contention for advancement to Fall District or State Championships are frozen on November 1 by the state (or an earlier date set by the Member Association and/or Club). In order for a player who participated under the Club Pass program to be eligible to play with the team in District or State Playoffs, the player must be transferred onto the team prior to November 1 and participate in two regularly-scheduled, regular season games with the team.

In Spring play, the use of Club Passes will be determined by the competition in which the team is entered.

3. Q: Can Club Passes be used in all levels of play?

A: No – Club Passes are only valid in the Rec Plus / Rec Academy play levels available to U9 and U10 teams and to the Division 2, Super 2 and Division 1 play levels.

Teams playing in the State Classic League or Premier League of Division I should refer to the rules for that competition to determine if Club Passes can be used and the process for doing so. (STYSA rule 3.12.1)

4. Q: My team is Division 2 and wants to bring a Division 3 player on another team in our club up to “guest” play with the team. Can I do this?

A: No, Division 3 players are not eligible for the club pass system.

5. Q: My team is from a small community with a limited number of players not already assigned to primary teams. Can we invite a player from another club in the association to “guest” play with our team?

A: No, the player must be from the same club with which your team is registered.

6. Q: To what team does the term “primary team” refer?

A: The primary team is the team to which the player is rostered for league play.

7. Q: How are players identified as eligible for the Club Pass program?

A: Players must be from the same club as the team. A team may have a pool of players not to exceed the seasonal year pool limit and per game limit. A player may guest play for the team multiple times during the seasonal year and may be on multiple team pools. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.e)

Teams do not have to name an entire guest player pool before play begins. Once a player has been added to the guest player pool for a particular team, that player occupies that guest player pool slot for the remainder of the season. Example: A U12 team from East-West Club has 14 players on its primary roster. The team invites Billy Smith and Tommy Hill from another East-West Club team to guest play in week 2 of the Fall season. Billy and Tommy are now a part of the team pool for this team, whether or not they are invited to play with the team again. They can also guest play with another team from the same club and become a part of that team’s player pool.

8. Q: Who is responsible for identifying pool players?

A: The coach, manager, and/or team administrators make the selections.

- 9. Q: When do players have to be identified by a team as participating under the Club Pass System?**
A: It is the responsibility of each Member Association, Club or scheduling group to establish the process by which players will be identified. For example, an Association or Club handling the scheduling of games for their organization can implement a requirement that all players participating under the Club Pass System must be identified by 5 pm on Wednesday prior to the game. The time should be established to allow the administrator sufficient time to verify eligibility of the player, update the game roster to include information on the players and print the game cards for that weekend's games.
- 10. Q: How many players are allowed in each team pool?**
A: U11 and U12 teams are permitted to have 3 club pass players per game with a total pool of 20 players, inclusive of the rostered players. U13 and older teams are permitted to have 4 club pass players per game with a total pool of 26, inclusive of the rostered players. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.e) Example: If a U11 team has a roster of 12 players, the team is permitted to have a maximum of 3 Club Pass players per game up to a maximum of 20 – 12 rostered players + 8 Club Pass players for the season with no more than 3 participating in a game.
- 11. Q: Who maintains or monitors the team pools to assure that only players from their club are being used and that teams do not exceed their pool limit?**
A: Ultimately, the player, team coach and Director of Coaching for the club are responsible for knowing who and how many players have participated in a team pool. The club is responsible for tracking who did or didn't participate with each team on the game reports and being able to provide this information upon request.
- 12. Q: Can my Division I player "guest" play under the Club Pass System with a Super 2 team?**
A: Under normal conditions, the answer is no. (See related question below regarding injury rehabilitation for the only exception). A player may only "guest" play with a team of the same or a higher competition level as that of their primary team. For example: A Super 2 player may guest with a Division 1 team. A Division 2 player may guest with a Super 2 or Division 1 team. A Rec Plus or Rec Academy player may guest with a Division 2, Super 2 or Division 1 team. (See related question below regarding U10 or younger play-ups.)
- 13. Q: I have a player who is rehabbing from a knee injury. Can the player utilize the Club Pass process during their recovery?**
A: A player who is returning from a serious injury or illness requiring verifiable medical treatment that prevented the player from participating in games for a period of 60 days or more can use the Club Pass System. In these cases, a player may play down one level of competition but in the same age group. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.b)
- 14. Q: My team has a game on Saturday morning. Can some of my players accept an invitation to "guest" with another team on Saturday afternoon?**
A: No – Players may play for only one team per day (this includes the Primary team). If the player participates in the Primary Team's game on Saturday, they would not be eligible to guest play on that day. If a player participates as a Club Pass player with a team, they are not eligible to play with any other team later that day, including their primary team.
- 15. Q: If a player on my primary team guest plays with another team and gets a red card, when and how will they serve the one game suspension?**
A: All penalty point suspensions must be served with the primary team. Whether the player receives a yellow or red card, the points must be added to the player's total points with their primary team. If a suspension is required, the player will sit out the game with the primary team. Until the suspension is served, the player is not eligible to guest play with any other team. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.d)
- 16. Q: Who tracks the penalty points?**
A: The player, coach (primary and guest team), and coaching director of each club is responsible for monitoring the receipt of cards and compliance with the rules. In the event a violation is found to have occurred in connection with a player's participation in the Club Pass System, there will be a minimum of a 4 game, non-probated, suspension for all adults responsible for monitoring and assuring compliance. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.d)

- 17. Q: How many Club Passes can be utilized per game?**
A: U11 and U12 teams may have a maximum of 3 “guest” players per game.
U13 through U19 teams may have a maximum of 4 “guest” players per game. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.e)
- 18. Q: My child has a friend who recently moved into our neighborhood and hasn’t signed up for soccer yet. Can we invite this friend to “guest” play with our team?**
A: No – Under no circumstance may a player guest play with a team if they are not properly registered with the club and with STYSA. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.f)
- 19. Q: There is a player who has registered with our club but hasn’t yet been assigned to a team. Can this player “guest play” with my team?**
A: No, the Club Pass rule states that a player must play in the same or older age level as the primary team to which the player is rostered. If the player is not rostered to a primary team, they are not eligible to participate as a Club Pass player. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.a.)
- 20. Q: Our team plays in the East-West Club in Austin - can the Club Pass System be used to invite a player from the East-West Club in San Antonio to “guest” play with our team?**
A: If a club shares the same Board of Directors and is within a 50 mile radius, then players are eligible to “guest” play within the club. If the two clubs are managed by different Boards or they are outside the 50 mile radius, they are not viewed as the same club and the Club Pass System cannot be utilized. (STYSA rule 3.12.4)
- 21. Q: With my U11 (or U12) roster filled to capacity at 14 players, can I increase my total roster to 18 by adding 4 additional players under the Club Pass System?**
A: No, the roster sizes stay intact as defined and teams must adhere to the existing team registration/playing rules. As stated above, you can utilize the Club Pass System only if you have openings on your roster for a specific weekend.
- 22. Q: The STYSA Rules state that I can have only 3 U10 or younger players on my Under-11 roster. Does that limit still apply for the Club Pass System or can I bring one or two more U10 players up for a game?**
A: The Club Pass System does not change existing rules. The maximum U10 or younger players remains at 3 so you would only be eligible to bring U11 players onto your roster. If the maximum number of U10 or younger players are rostered to the team, no additional U10 or younger players would be eligible to guest play.
- 23. Q: Does my guest player need a player id card?**
A: Yes, all players participating in games need to have a properly prepared player card. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.f.) The player will use the ID card from their primary team when playing as a Club Pass player. ID Cards belong to the player so coaches do not have the right of refusal to providing the player their id card upon request.
- 24. Q: Can a player “guest play” with the same team for more than one game on the same day?**
A: Yes, they can play for the same team in multiple games on the same day but they cannot play for two different teams on the same day. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.c)
- 25. Q: Can a player play for their primary team on Saturday and “guest play” for a different team on Sunday of the same weekend?**
A: Yes, the player may only play for one team on any given day. For example: a U14 Super 2 player may play for his primary team on Saturday and then guest play for a U15 Super 2 or a Division 1 team on Sunday. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.c)
- 26. Q: Can a player “guest play” for different teams (neither of which is the primary team) during the same weekend?**
A: Yes, as indicated in previous responses, a player may participate with only one team on a given day. For example, if a team has a bye one weekend so that they have no games on the schedule; a player can “guest play” with one team for Saturday games and another team on Sunday. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.c)

27. Q: Is there a limit to the number of times a player can “guest play” during the season for the same team or for multiple teams?

A: No, there is no limit on the number of times a player in a team’s guest player pool may guest play with that team over the course of a season. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.2)

28. Q: Can a guest player’s information be handwritten on the official game report or does it need to be generated by the scheduling system?

A: This depends on the rules of the competition in which the team is playing as well as the procedures in place by the club or association. It’s important that each coach determine the procedures put in place by the entity through which their games are being scheduled and managed. At a minimum, the player’s name, id number and jersey number need to be recorded on the game report to show that they participated with the team.

29. Q: My team is Under-14 but I have players who are eligible for Under-13 (they’re playing up). Can they guest play with a U13 team since their age makes them eligible for Under-13?

A: No, the Club Pass rule states that a player must play in the same or older age level as the primary team to which the player is rostered. (STYSA rule 3.12.3.a)

30. Q: I have a U12 girl on my U12 boys’ team. Can she participate on a girls’ team using the Club Pass System?

A: Yes, she can participate with another team of the same or higher play level or age.

31. Q: Can a player on a U13 Super 2 team use the Player Pass System to participate with a U15 Division 2 team since this is an older age group?

A: No – a player cannot play on a team of a lower competition level. Super 2 players can participate on another Super 2 or on a Division 1 team of the same age or older.