

PLAYER ACCOMMODATIONS

PLAYER PREFERENCE ACCOMMODATIONS: In the past, most age groups above 7 or 8 years of age in WBSC simply do not have enough players to form multiple teams in each city. Because of this we do not hold tryouts or "drafts" in order to balance teams in each city. Given that teams are formed by the board we try to accommodate players with their own player preferences. Below are a few common questions to help show how we use these preferences to form teams and how we decide to award preference when not every player can be accommodated.

HOW ARE PREFERENCES AWARDED? We have a hierarchy of what player preferences we consider more important (see below). In the event a decision must be made between players with equal priority, the player who registered first will be given his/her preference.

WHAT ARE THE PREFERENCE PRIORITIES? Here are the priorities of what player preferences we consider most important. The lowest numbers are the preferences we try to accommodate first.

- 1) Board Discretion: This is primarily used to balance a large number of new players in a single age group. It also means that the priorities below are guidelines and the Board may deviate from these guidelines as it sees necessary to best serve the interests of the entire club (for coaching reasons as an example)
- 2) City Preference: WBSC forms teams in Brazoria, Sweeny, and West Columbia. We strive to place each player in their preferred city for practices.
- 3) Siblings (Same Age): Siblings that would properly play in the same age group will be placed on the same team as possible.
- 4) Against Team or Coach: If you had any issues with a team or coach in the past and do NOT want to play for that team or coach again we will attempt to accommodate you. Please note, you may need to play in a different city in order to achieve this.
- 5) Girls on a Co-Ed team: Females players requesting to play on an otherwise Boys team.
- 6) Siblings (Play-Up): Siblings requesting to play together where at least one player is also requesting to "Play-Up" into a higher age bracket.
- 7) Requests for a particular team or coach: These requests are considered next.

WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE PRIORITIES? Feel free to call and discuss things with a board member. In many cases, if you are otherwise flexible, you may receive your preference. For example, consider when two siblings are requesting to play on the same team where one is playing up. If you are flexible and willing to travel to any of the three cities for practices we will likely be able to accommodate you. On the other hand, if you want to be in a particular city with a particular coach it will simply depend on other factors (i.e. is there room without "bumping" another player).

MY COACH AND TEAM PREFERENCE ARE LAST! DOES THIS MEAN WBSC IS ABANDONING THE "CORE TEAM" CONCEPT FOR RETURNING PLAYERS? No, that is not the intent! But, at the same time we will not punish new players by making them play in a different city simply because they have not played before. For example, if we have 14 players register to play at a U10 Boys Level in West Columbia (this would have a maximum roster of 10 players) then the first 10 players to register will receive their preference to play in West Columbia. If those are all returning players that is fine.

HOW DO I INDICATE MY PREFERENCES? On the Registration Form (and on-line) there is a section for player preferences. For example, by marking that "Coach" preference is "New" you are requesting not to play for your previous coach. If you need to communicate additional information/preferences, feel free to write in the blank space below the preference section on the registration form.

WHY ARE THERE SEPARATE TEAM AND COACH CHOICES? Well coaches do move, teams combine, etc. By splitting these preferences we are trying to determine if you simply want to play with the same players (without a coach preference) or maybe you want to play for a particular coach and don't care which team-mates you have? Remember, this is just a way to communicate to the team formation committee.

WHEN WILL I KNOW IF I GET MY PREFERENCE? Sorry, but we will not know this until after team formation. In general, it is easier to give preferences to younger teams (as we have more teams in each age bracket). At the higher age groups it is not uncommon to have a single team made from players combined from each city.

IS THERE A GUARANTEE THAT I WILL MAKE A TEAM? Unfortunately there are rare cases (usually higher age groups) where we have too many players for a single team; but, not enough for a second team. In this case the players registering first will make the team. The remaining players will receive a full refund and we will try to work to place them in another club (Angleton, Lake Jackson, etc.) if they are willing to travel.

BUT I REALLY, REALLY NEED TO PLAY FOR A CERTAIN TEAM! Have you registered yet?! Most conflicts between preferences arise simply because there are only one or two teams in the entire age group. Register early and you will be most likely to get your preference