

BAYS Policy: <https://bays.org/content/bays-guest-player-policy>

- Other teams can have players from lower divisions/grades at your game
- The purpose is so games will not be cancelled due to low player turnout
- If they have a guest, you will be presented with two rosters, one for the main team, and one for the roster of the guest.
- Up to 4 kids could be guests on a team.

WAYS Adaption of the BAYS Guest Policy:

WAYS Decisions:

MAY 28, 2025 UPDATES IN BLUE

- Open for all teams and players in BAYS, grades 3rd-8th grade
- Coach must ask the teams directly below (or laterally in the same division) in their grade to borrow a player, they must CC Registrar, the Age Group Coordinator, and all assistant coaches on their email.
 - If those teams in your grade cannot fill the spaces, then the coach may ask the grade below, again CC registrar, both age group coordinators and all assistant coaches.
 - Age Group Coordinators can provide the needed contacts/emails..
- 11v11 - must have 7 of your original roster and can request up to 4 guests, to a max roster of 15. Must be aware of MTOC eligible teams and the MTOC roster freeze date of May 12.
- 9v9 - must have 6 of your original roster players and can request up to 4 guests, to a max roster of 13.
- 7v7 - must have 5 of your original roster players and can request up to 4 guests, to a max roster of 11.
- Request guest's roster from Registrar by Thursday by 5 PM for Saturday games, or 48 hours before kickoff on other game days. The Referee will not allow the guest players to play without evidence of their original roster- 2 copies must be provided of each roster used.
- WAYS suggests guest player appearances are limited to 3 per season. To be recorded by registrar.

BAYS Guest Policy info:

<https://bays.org/content/bays-guest-player-policy#:~:text=Guest%20Player%20requirements%20are%3A,in%20their%20own%20grade%20group.>

Mtoc link <https://bays.org/content/mtoc-team-considerations>

Notes from BAYS

This BAYS Guest Player Policy was approved by the BAYS Board of Directors on February 12, 2025 and will be effective for this BAYS Spring 2025 soccer season. This Policy is a tool for Clubs to use to reduce the number of Game rescheduling that occurs during a season. It provides a way to plan ahead to play the game by having Guest Players available when teams, due to vacations or other planned events, need to add guest players to their roster to fill in absences on game day. Additionally, it may create flexibility when teams have smaller rosters due to player registration numbers.

Here I will highlight what is in the BAYS **Guest Player Policy** to provide a better understanding on what is expected by Clubs, Coaches and Referees.

1) A Guest Player should prioritize playing on their town club team, but can also play as a Guest Player on another team in their town club. This includes Rescheduled games.

2) **Playing Up/Playing Down Policy-**

a) Guest players are from the same Club organization; Players cannot play down in a lower Division or section in their Grade;

b) Guest Players can play Up one Grade group level at the same or above Division; and Match Rule 2 Roster and MR1, which includes the Honor System, apply.

c) Double-sided 4 (F1 and F2), double-sided 5 (F1 and F2) or seeded (A and AA) split sections are considered equal sections.

3) **Handling Playing Up process at the Game Field-** There are required actions by both Coaches and Referees.

Coaches-

a) Provide 2 copies of their official Game Roster and 2 copies of the Official Game Roster for any Guest Player(s);

b) Responsible for ALL players having a Unique Jersey number on both the Team and Guest Player Roster(s) prior to handing them to the referee;

c) Should cross out any players not expected to be at the game on their team roster; ;

d) Shall cross out any players NOT playing in the game on the Guest Player(s) Roster(s);

e) Shall write in the current game's ID# on all the rosters handed to the referee.

Referees-

a) give a copy of any Game Rosters (team or guest players) to the opponent coach, as needed;

b) shall check in all players on the rosters provided;

- c) When a Guest Roster is used, they will check a box in the Game Report showing that the Home and/or the Away team used a Guest Player Roster;
- d) The referee must keep all game rosters until BAYS closes the season at the end of the last month of the season;
- e) The Division Director NOT the referee will determine the outcome of the game and eligibility of players, as needed.

4) **How the Game is Administratively Handled-**

Each BAYS member Club is responsible for establishing a process within their own club using recommendations that are in the BAYS Guest Player Policy. This includes, but is not limited to:

- a) Notification to a Guest Player's coach that one of their players will be a Guest player with another club team with the date and time;
- b) two copies of the Guest Player's official Team roster needs to be provided by the town club or guest player's coach to the club coach each time they are using the player as a Guest Player.

There are **Consequences** listed for when this new policy is not followed, and **Recommendations** from BAYS in this Guest Player Policy.

I will point out that **Match Rule 8 Rescheduling Games/Playing the Schedule** had, and still has, a section on the Rescheduling Game Process. This includes **Division Director Notification Requirements** and **Game Rescheduling Types** of which there are 5 allowable types listed.

Clubs and Field Schedulers- If you are considering the use of the Guest Player Policy please look into not using Field Sharing which may provide more flexibility in using this policy. We understand that one may be limited to implementing due to having access to a limited number of fields in your town.

The BAYS Guest Player Policy or link to the policy can be found on the BAYS website: Under Policies/ Policy Details, and in MR2 4 Dual Rostering.

Good Luck to all Clubs in the upcoming Spring Season.

The Guest Player Policy Task Force Members and

Dick Penta, Chair