

San Rafael Youth Soccer Club

Request to Play Up in Age Group

The San Rafael Youth Soccer Club encourages players and parents to select the age group which is most appropriate for their child to play. We recognize that young children have the desire to play and compete "with their friends". Peers can make the game more fun and as a recreational sport the enjoyment of the game is a key goal.

It is the club's understanding that playing at an "age" appropriate level; i.e. U6, U7, U8 through U14 etc., places the child in a group which more typically is at their level of mental and physical maturity, and thus provides the player with a greater opportunity to have success on the playing field with his or her age peers. A player who is "young for their grade" and chooses to "play up", will find themselves competing against players who are one to two years in age, grade, mental maturity and/or physical size beyond their years. A player may encounter playing with/or against a player who is much larger, faster, more aggressive and more developmentally mature. This can place the younger player at a disadvantage in achieving their potential and having success on the field, becoming a leader on the team, or enjoying the game. Experiencing success, "playing to their potential" and a player's enjoyment of the game, are primary goals for SRYSC.

The SRYSC strongly encourages parents to retain their children in the appropriate age group based on the age cut offs as directed by the California Youth Soccer Association, CYSA. See the age group matrix on our web site. This is the most advantageous and safest option for most.

However, SRYSC will allow a player's parents to make the final judgment as to what is best for their child/player. We encourage parents to look honestly at their children's ability and physical and mental maturity and if you have any doubt as to their ability to have success on the field, then please, do not allow your player to "play up".

We ask all play up player's parents to review, sign and submit this form.

Please discuss this with an SRYSC Board Member who will review this issue with you openly.

Player Name: _____

Player Birth Date: _____ Player grade level: _____

Number of seasons previously played: _____ (during season)

Last Team/Coach: _____

Age group requesting to move up to: _____ Season: _____

Purpose / Goal / Reason: (be explicit, physical characteristics, seasons played, coaches recommendation, grade level friends, etc. Examples are helpful.)

Parent Name: (print) _____

Phone Number/s: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Received by Board: _____ **Initials** _____ **Date:** _____