

**United States Soccer Federation, Inc.**

**POLICY MANUAL**

## **Policy 601-5—Registration of Amateur Players**

### **Section 1. Restriction of Players**

An amateur player (youth or adult) may not be restricted as to the team he/she may play for due to his/her race, religion or national origin.

### **Section 2. Adult Amateur Players**

- (A) Every adult amateur player shall be registered with the Federation by electronic means in a format approved by the Board of Directors. The fee for registration, release, or transfer of an adult amateur player under any provision of this rule shall be determined by the National Council from time to time.
- (B) These rules apply only to State Association Members and players except as specifically stated otherwise.

### **Section 3. Youth Amateur Players**

- (A) Every youth player shall be registered with the Federation by electronic means in a format approved by the Board of Directors. The fee for registration, release or transfer of a youth amateur player under any provision of this rule shall be determined by the National Council from time to time.
- (B) These rules apply only to State Association Members and players except as specifically stated otherwise.

### **Section 4. Youth-Adult Relationship**

A youth player may play an unlimited number of adult games without losing his or her youth eligibility. The youth player must notify his or her youth coach or other authorized team official of the player's intention to play adult games. The youth player shall request, in writing (1) eligibility clearance from the Youth State Association through which the player is registered, and (2) permission from the appropriate Adult State Association or National or Regional Adult League in which the adult team upon which the player will be playing plays. When the clearance and permission have been granted, the Adult State Association or National or Regional Adult League, as the case may be, has sole discretion in permitting a youth player to play Adult games and will be responsible for establishing the procedure under which this will be implemented.

### **Section 5. State Association Responsibilities**

- (A) State Associations shall have full powers in the matter of registration or release of all amateur players within their respective jurisdictions in the manner and under the conditions set forth in this rule, said State Associations to furnish the Secretary General of this Federation, within thirty (30) days after making the registration, a list of such registrations, giving the names and addresses of the players and the clubs for which they are registered.
- (B) The affiliated bodies are to be responsible and accountable to the Federation for all

such revenue. Player registration fees must be paid to the Federation, not later than ninety (90) days, after the date of registration. All player registrations should be duly processed prior to the Annual General Meeting to ensure accurate Divisional membership totals.

## Section 6. Inclusion Policy

- (A) To clarify the Bylaws, membership of the Federation is open to all soccer organizations and all soccer players, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators and officials without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression or national origin.
- (B) For the purposes of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies, and confirmation sufficient for guaranteeing access shall be satisfied by documentation or evidence that shows the stated gender is sincerely held, and part of a person's core identity. Documentation satisfying the herein stated standard includes, but is not limited to, government-issued documentation or documentation prepared by a health care provider, counselor, or other qualified professional not related to the player.
- (C) This policy shall not apply to the Federation's National Teams programs, but application of this or a similar policy shall be re-evaluated at such time as FIFA addresses the issue
- (D) This policy shall not apply to Professional Leagues.

## Policy 601-6—International Clearances

For a player who comes to the United States on or after the player is 10 years of age, the player must request and receive an international clearance from the Federation.

## Policy 601-7—Competition Participation

### Section 1.

- (A) Any properly registered team has the right to enter any competition involving Organization Members or their members provided that it is eligible under the rules of that competition, pays all required fees, and is in good standing.
- (B) No Organization Member or member of an Organization Member shall interfere with the opportunity of a player, coach or team to travel to compete in a competition, including a game, scrimmage, tournament or league governed by Section 1(A) above and shall not deny permission to travel unless that player, coach or team has been prohibited from doing so for disciplinary reason pursuant to the due process requirements set forth in Bylaw 701. The foregoing shall not prevent Organization Members and their members from having bylaws, rules, or policies that penalize teams or players for failing to meet their previously scheduled game commitments or prevent Organization Members from enforcing reasonable notification requirements prior to travel.
- (C) Any Organization Member or member of an Organization Member, player, coach or individual denied the right to participate in any competition involving Organization Members or their members has the right of appeal and/or grievance through the applicable procedures set forth in Federation Bylaws and Policies.