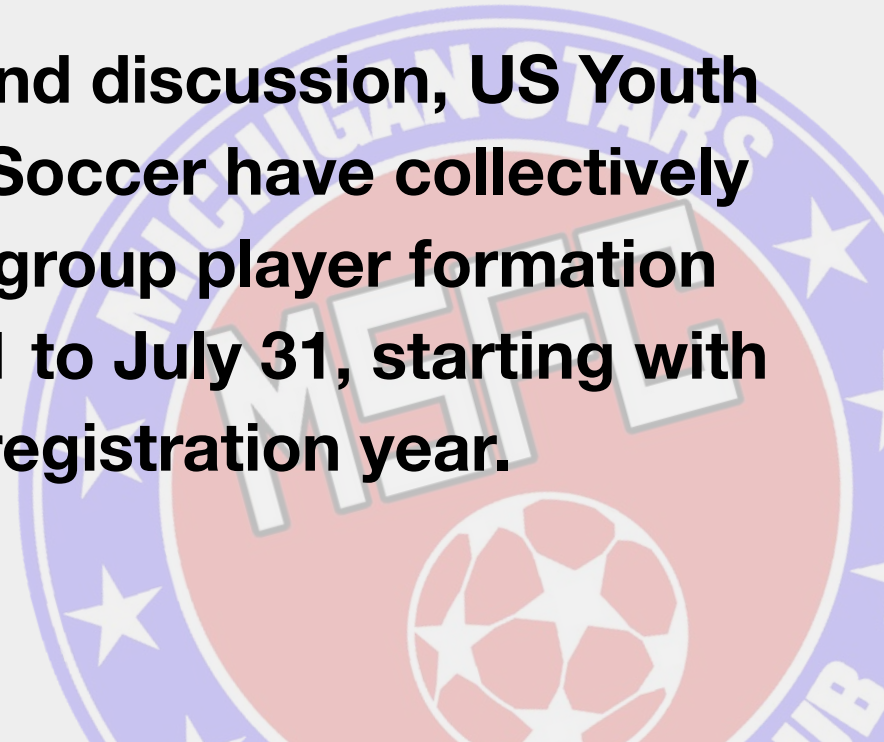


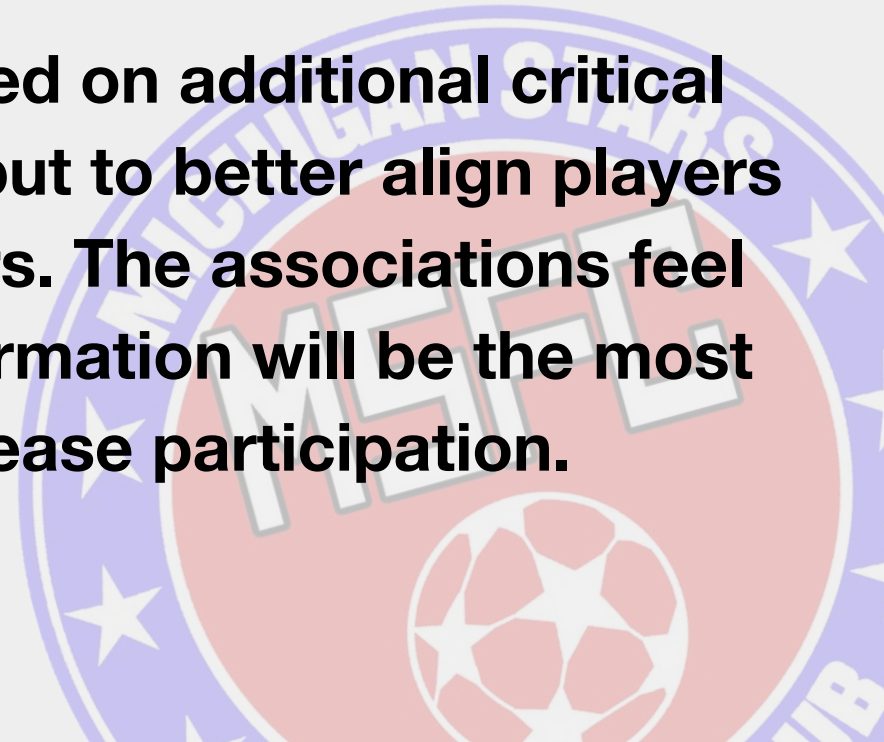
# US Youth Soccer Player Registration Update 2026-2027 Seasonal Year



**Following extensive review and discussion, US Youth Soccer, AYSO, and US Club Soccer have collectively decided to move to an age group player formation cycle that runs from August 1 to July 31, starting with the 2026-27 season/registration year.**



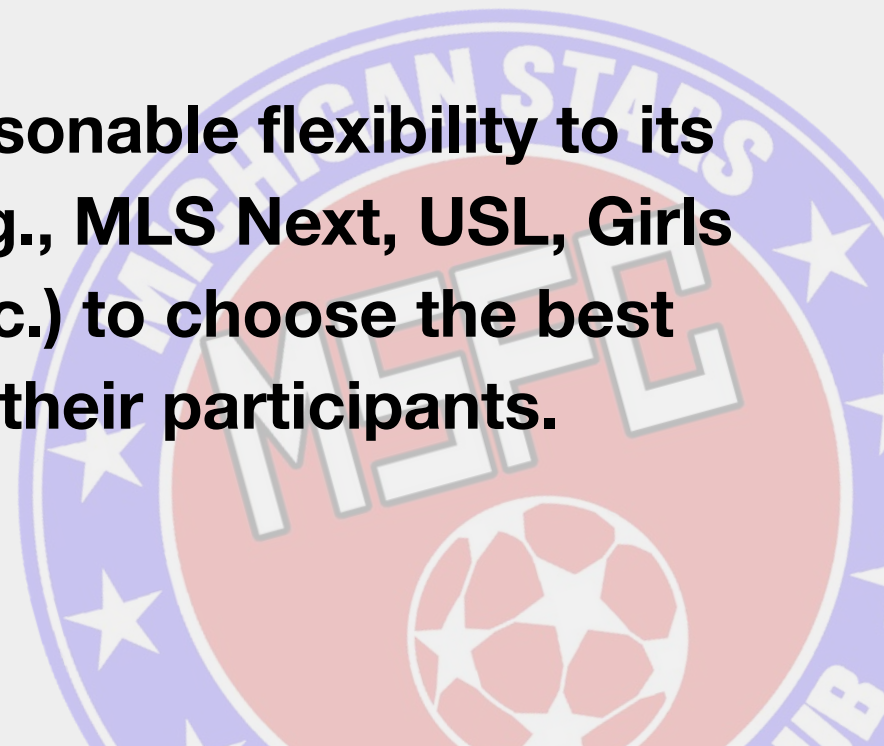
**This change was made based on additional critical feedback, data and expert input to better align players with their school-grade peers. The associations feel that this age group player formation will be the most inclusive and help increase participation.**



**The August 1 to July 31 age group player formation cycle will be used for all USYS league and Cup competitions for the 2026-27 season/registration year including: National Championships, Presidents Cup, and National League.**

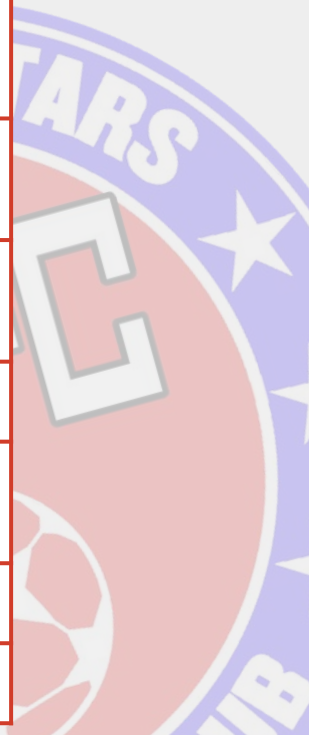


**US Soccer is extending reasonable flexibility to its organizational members (e.g., MLS Next, USL, Girls Academy, USSSA, SAY, etc.) to choose the best registration option for their participants.**



# Leagues in Which We Participate

<b>MYSL &amp; MSDSL (Oakland &amp; Macomb)</b>	<b>MSYSA</b>	<b>School year</b>
<b>Directors Academy (Oakland, Macomb, Elite)</b>	<b>MSYSA</b>	<b>School year</b>
<b>MSPSP (Oakland &amp; Macomb)</b>	<b>MSYSA</b>	<b>School year</b>
<b>Girls Academy &amp; GA Aspire (Elite teams)</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>School year</b>
<b>DPL (Elite teams)</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>School year</b>
<b>MLS Next Academy (Elite teams)</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>School year</b>
<b>MLS Next Homegrown</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>Birth year</b>
<b>NAL (Elite teams)</b>	<b>Private</b>	<b>School year</b>

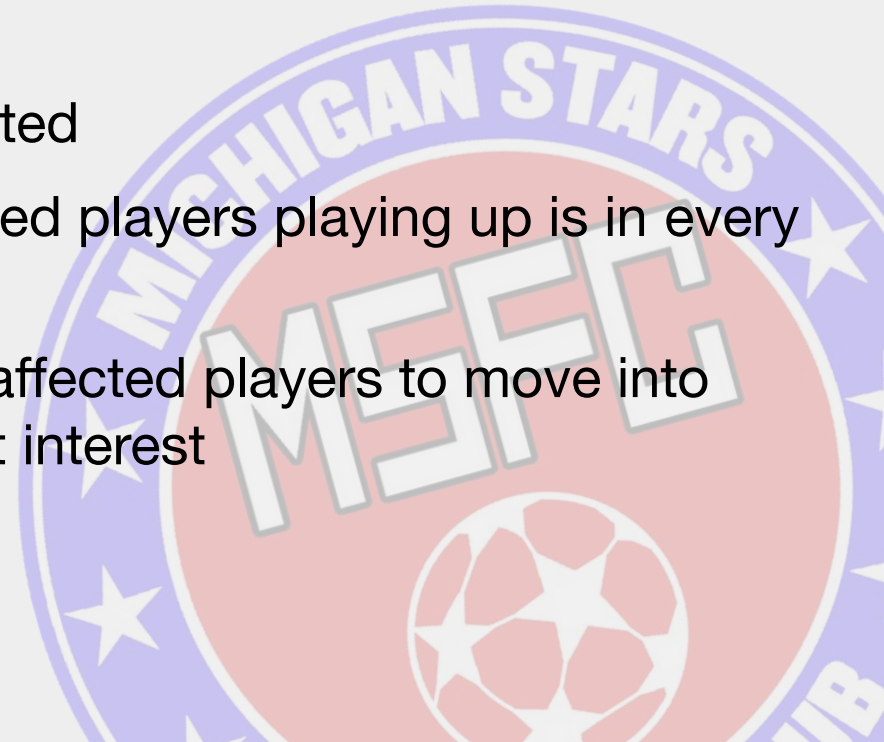


**Our Club's Stance on  
US Youth Soccer's  
School-Year Registration  
Change**



# Player Placement Philosophy

- We will prioritize placing players in the age group that is most developmentally appropriate
- Players may play up where warranted
- We do not believe having all affected players playing up is in every players' best interest
- We also do not believe forcing all affected players to move into their new age group is in their best interest



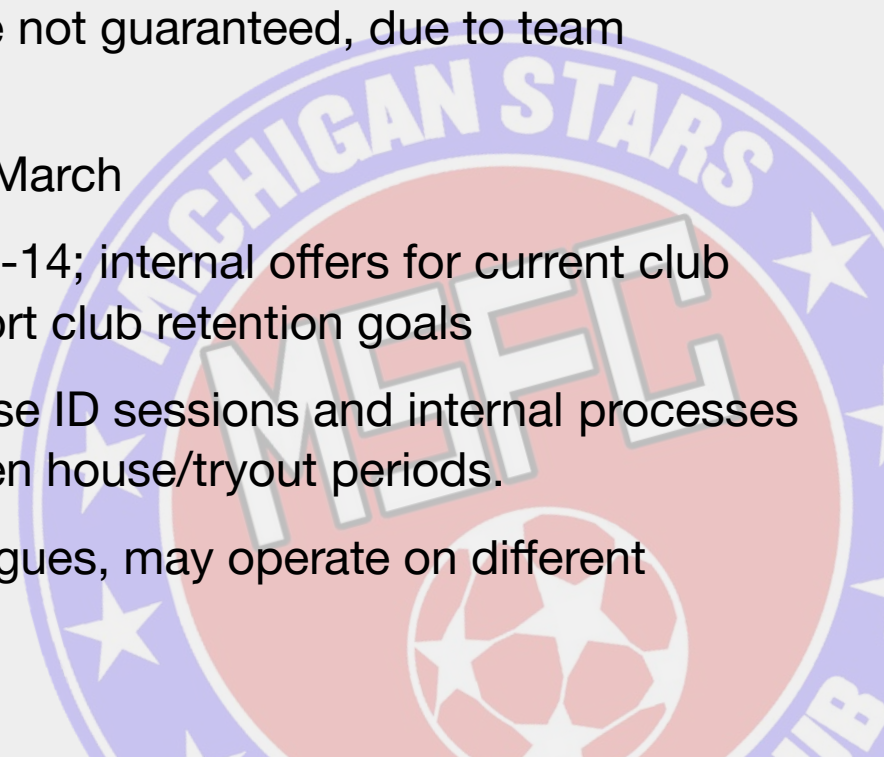
## Individualized Approach

- Coaches will have one-on-one conversations with all affected players on their teams to determine the best fit
- Opportunities will exist for players transitioning to the new school-year groups to train with those players as needed
- Player placement considers current contribution, developmental readiness and future competition levels



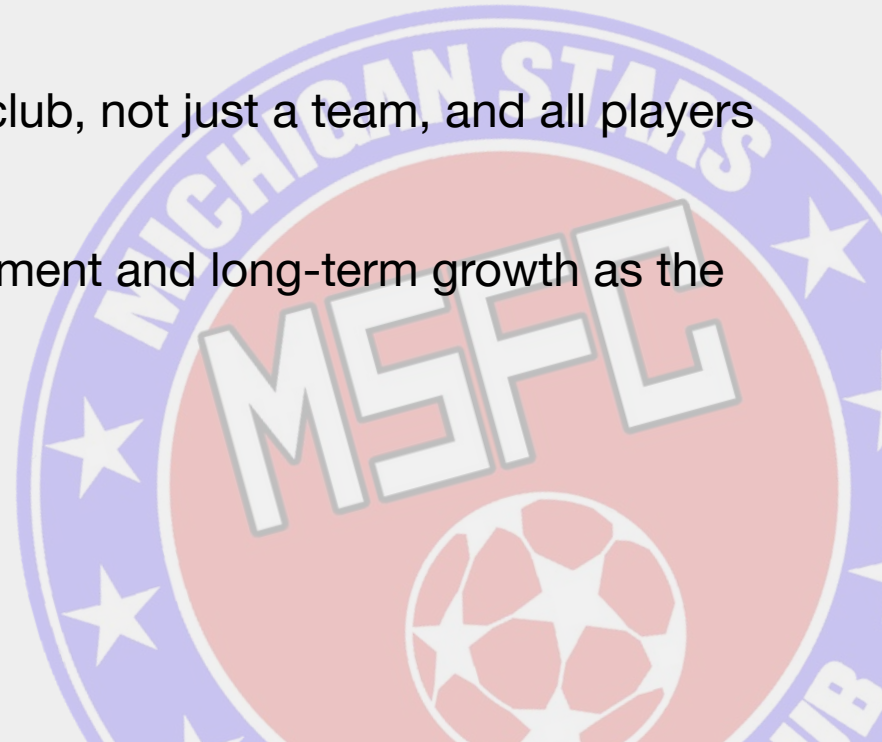
# Tryouts & Player Movement

- Players who wish to play up outside a recommendation may try out in that age group, understanding that spots are not guaranteed, due to team composition and selection dynamics
- High school girls' tryouts begin in early March
- MSYSA official tryout weekend: June 13-14; internal offers for current club players will occur much earlier, to support club retention goals
- Oakland and Macomb club teams will use ID sessions and internal processes to finalize placements before typical open house/tryout periods.
- Elite teams, due to playing in private leagues, may operate on different timelines using similar processes
  - MLS NEXT, GAA, NAL, DPL



# Club Values

- We recognize this change as a shift in the landscape, and we adapt with flexibility
- Our philosophy: everyone plays for the club, not just a team, and all players are valued and supported
- Decisions are made with player development and long-term growth as the priority



## Next Steps

- Recap email, which will include answers to questions in the chat
- Player evaluations & individual conversations
- ID sessions & internal age group play days
- Tryout and signing period



## 2026 Fall / 2027 Spring Age Group Chart

<u>Birth Year</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
<b>2020</b>	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7	U6	U6	U6	U6	U6
<b>2019</b>	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7
<b>2018</b>	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8
<b>2017</b>	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9
<b>2016</b>	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10
<b>2015</b>	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11
<b>2014</b>	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12
<b>2013</b>	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13
<b>2012</b>	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14
<b>2011</b>	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15
<b>2010</b>	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16
<b>2009</b>	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17
<b>2008</b>	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18
<b>2007</b>								U19	U19	U19	U19	U19



**Please drop any remaining questions in the chat**



**Thank you**