



Wichita Regional Soccer Association Division Placement Policy U9 – U19 Divisions

Updated 6/30/2022

WRSA strives for the best parity within each age division to provide the competitive spirit and growth for all teams and players. WRSA encourages teams to play up to the team's highest competitive level.

1. After registration deadlines, WRSA staff will host a placement meeting for each age group.
 - The date/time will be announced with fall/spring seasonal dates.
 - Head coach will be required to RSVP prior to the meeting.
 - The representative must be head coach or club manager. If not available, head coach must provide written permission for another representative.

2. At the placement meeting, WRSA will provide team representatives:
 - A list of teams in their respective age group. Teams will be listed by age division (D1-D2-D3) based on their request from the online team application.
 - The previous season's records and standings for the respective age group.

3. The division placement meeting will finalize each age group into competitive divisions. WRSA Office will determine seeding based on following rules listed in no order:
 - Record from the previous season
 - Head-to-head results
 - Team's request of division on the online team application
 - Top team in final standings within the true age division 2 or lower who won the prior season division will be moved up one division.
 - If top 2 teams from Spring 2022 have similar or same goal differential, both teams will automatically move up to the next consecutive division.
 - Only exception would be in Division 1 true age, winning team would be encouraged to play up in age division but not required to move. If moving up, the team should play Division 1 or Division 2, not Division 3 or lower. Final decision is the head coach after discussion with WRSA Office staff.
 - Lowest seeded team in a division has the option to move down one (1) division within their true age group. This team has the right to remain in initial division or move down without a vote from the peer coaches. This option must be exercised and discussed within the placement meeting. WRSA will not automatically move a team to a lower division.
 - Secondary players and/or roster changes will not be considered valid arguments regarding seeding.
 - New teams applying to participate in WRSA youth league will be required to provide their prior standings and records.
 - **Division placement within the true age group cannot be appealed.**

4. Once teams are seeded, WRSA will separate teams into age divisions.
 - The number of divisions within each age will be determined by the number of teams entering the league for that age.
 - A minimum of 5 teams is required to form a new division. Four or less teams results in next division being combined by WRSA as needed.
 - WRSA has the final decision in case of dispute for seedings and divisions.

5. Guidelines for the team coaches during the placement meetings:
 - Each team is allowed **only** one representative to be present at the meeting. One person may represent multiple teams if within same club.
 - If a team coach is not present, the team representatives in the meeting will determine the seeding for the missing team within reasonable parameters.
 - If don't agree with the placement within the division or preliminary divisions, be prepared to defend your position to the peer coaches in the meeting.
 - If a vote is required by the coaches present in the meeting, the majority vote will determine the outcome.
 - Only the team representative present in the meeting may cast a vote. A coach must be at the meeting to provide their input or be included in the vote. Coaches are unable to vote via text or phone call unless over 40 miles from Stryker Sports Complex.
 - Zoom calls are allowed only for teams over 40 miles from Wichita. These zoom calls will be scheduled prior to the division's placement meeting with the head coach.
 - WRSA reserves the right to determine if the final decisions made in the placement meetings by the coaches are fair and equitable. WRSA reserves the right to deny teams the ability to enter an uncompetitive division

6. Information for teams wanting to play multiple divisions:
 - Division seeding will remain applicable to your team , regardless of the number of entries in the age group
 - WRSA reserves the right to deny teams the ability to enter an uncompetitive division
 - If a team plays in D1 AND wins D2 (within their true age group), the team will be moved to the next age group appropriate for their competitive level if the roster size remains the same. This move may not be the lowest division within the age group.
 - If a team is predominantly the same (80% same players), the 2 teams need to play true age and second team play up in an age division. Example, U11 D1 1st team with 2nd team playing U12 D2 or D3 based on availability.

7. Final division placements will be posted within 2 days after the final seeding meeting. Once final, the divisions remain on the Stryker website through the coaches meeting. No further change requests are accepted to allow scheduling to begin timely.

8. High School girls and boys divisions are determined by the WRSA Office in the following manner:
 - HS Division 1: highest level of competition and predominant age of players are U17-U19
 - HS Division 2: lower competitive U17-U19 teams and higher competitive U16 teams
 - HS Division 3: higher competitive U15 teams and true U16 teams
 - U15 Division: true U15 teams and higher competitive U14 teams.