

Calgary Northside Soccer (CNS) Policy

Player Placement on Teams - Evaluation Procedures & Team Selection

1.0 Purpose

For all age groups, with the exception of U6 and U8, player evaluations are conducted to determine placement of players on teams within the age group. Teams are formed for the younger age groups (U6 and U8) based on geographic home address and special requests (ride sharing, friends, etc.)

The objective of the evaluation process is to create team rosters with players of similar skill levels. Primary selection criteria include player's skills, physical level and mental maturity ; secondary information which may considered includes prior season performance and requests to be with siblings/friends/past teammates or coaches in team placement.

Generally, player placement is determined with the best interest for the player in mind; however, there are other influencing factors such as the numbers of players registered.

2.0 Glossary

CNS Member – a family who is fully registered for the current season.

CNS Evaluation Coordinator – organizes all evaluations activities after registration for all age groups within CNS competitive minor soccer program.

Age Group Coordinator – a CNS volunteer with knowledge of the CNS Members in a designated age group selected by the CNS Executive to coordinate player evaluations and subsequent team formation according to established policies. No decisions on player placement will be made unilaterally by an Age Group Coordinator. Coaches will be requested to coach by the Age Group Coordinator after consultation with CNS Executive.

CNS Executive – President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar or Member-at-Large of the club. The Executive are in charge of the day-to-day operations of the club and accountable to the CNS Board.

CNS Board Member – an Official elected by CNS Members at the AGM who hold responsibility for governance and club accountability on a volunteer, two-year renewable basis. CNS Board Members (“the Board”) appoint volunteers to CNS Executive positions. CNS Board Members are accountable to the CNS membership as a whole through by-laws and processes as approved at Board Meetings.

Technique – the ability of a player to perform individual tasks required to play the game of soccer (run, pass, shoot, dribble, trap, etc.)

Skill – the players' ability to perform soccer techniques under the pressure of opposition

Movement – the positioning of the player when not on the ball both defensively and offensively.

Game sense – the ability of the individual player to recognize and deal with situations that arise in game play

3.0 Players Unable to Attend Evaluations

Although all players are encouraged to attend all the evaluation session, it is recognized that this is not always possible. For players unable to attend one of the sessions, parents must notify the Age Group Coordinator for their age group.

For players unable to attend any of the sessions, the player will be assessed by attending post evaluation practices. The player can be invited potentially to the practice of more than one team. As a general rule, they are not usually placed on the top team in their age group.

The final player placements of those missing evaluation sessions will be made based on sessions attended and the best impartial information available to the coaches and coordinators.

4.0 Evaluation Process - Purpose

- To achieve proper team sizes & consistency of players.
- To ensure players are playing at appropriate level with opportunity for proper player development and team success.
- To assess if the player's skill, movement and awareness level has improved or dropped relative to their age group from one season to the next.

2) Evaluation Process: Methodology

Evaluation schedule is posted on the website. Parents must follow what is posted.

- All players are strongly encouraged to attend evaluations.
- Meeting between CNS Evaluation Coordinator and Age Group Coordinators to review process, dates, registration info and collection of data.
- Age Group Coordinators are responsible for communicating with parents of their age group. Parents are to assist during evaluations with: sign-up sheets (pinnie vs. name), sign-up table for the evaluation, balls, pylons, and first aid kit. It is strongly recommended that a timer or a time keeper volunteer (not a coach) is used to ensure that players are rotated on and off the field in order to provide an equal opportunity to participate and be evaluated.
- All existing and qualified potential coaches for the age group are strongly encouraged to attend the evaluation sessions so they are prepared for team selection. Coaches and qualified potential coaches are free to consult with the Age Group Coordinator(s) to inquire about players during evaluations.

3) Player Evaluation

During evaluations, NO coaching from the sidelines or player box is permitted from parents or potential/existing coaches.

External evaluators are chosen by the CNS Executive team to evaluate and rank players based on soccer skills, movement and awareness. CNS will carefully consider the chosen evaluators recommended methods for evaluating the age groups. In general the following processes are used:

U10 & U12 age groups: Technique and Skills Tests followed by Small Sided Games (SSG) - players will be placed in an initial sort for their first set of games. Independent evaluators will then rank their performances. On reviewing the SSG evaluations, there may be an additional SSG evaluation to ensure a thorough process is followed.

U14 - U18 age groups: There will be SSG evaluations. Independent evaluators will rank their performances. On reviewing the SSG evaluations, there may be an additional SSG evaluation to ensure a thorough process is followed. If possible for the outdoor season, scheduling an evaluation on a larger field is encouraged – but this is often dependent on the weather.

After the evaluation session results are available, players can be moved up or down at any time after the SSG evaluations based on the External Evaluators input and the Team Selection Process below.

4) Team Selection

Head Coaches (not assistants) meet with the Age Group Coordinator and a member of the CNS Executive (required) to form the teams following CNS Coach Selection policy. At this time, player preferences, past playing history, and positional play will be taken into consideration.

Dispute Resolution- Player Placement

- A dispute of player placement must be done in writing to the CNS Evaluation Coordinator within 48hrs of player team placement notification.
- The Level Placement Dispute letter or email (communication) must contain documentation of player credentials and references to support a higher level of placement. The letter must be written by a CNS Member in good standing. (all fees paid for the current season and no outstanding bills or volunteer commitments owing).
- Upon receipt of a Level Placement Dispute communication the Evaluation Coordinator has 4 days to discuss the issue with a CNS Executive or a CNS Board Member or an impartial Age Group Coordinator to review the placement. This discussion represents a Review Committee meeting. During this period, previous coaches will be consulted and disputing member may be contacted for further

information. A reply communication will go out to the disputing member as to the procedure timetable and resolution period.

- No refunds will be offered as a result of this process except in special circumstances as agreed to by the Review Committee.
- A final written communication to the CNS Member (player) will be given within 7 days of the Level Placement Dispute communication informing them of the reasons for the decision that was made and any opportunity that might be available for higher placement. No further consideration will be given once the Review Committee has ruled on the matter.

Situations may arise when a player is either ranked very low due to illness, injury or not present and the Coaches feel that he is not properly placed. **Each team is given the possibility of exception cases which need to be approved by a member of the CNS Executive.**

Keeper evaluation is open-ended and age dependent. For younger players the keeper position will be rotated among all players. If a keeper is to be designated for each team then this should be decided upon at the first meeting with the Age Group Coordinator and the player evaluations adjusted accordingly.