

Tri-County Soccer Association

Player and Team Movement Policy

TCSA Member Approved February 7, 2021

Contents

1. PLAYER MOVEMENT PRINCIPLES.....	1
2. DEFINITIONS	2
3. PLAYER MOVEMENT AND TRANSFER WINDOWS.....	3
4. PLAYER CONTACT & COMMUNICATIONS.....	3
5. TRY-OUTS (Assessments, Evaluations)	4
6. FEE COLLECTION AND REFUNDS.....	4
7. TEAM MOVEMENT	4
8. REPORTING PLAYER MOVEMENT	5
9. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE	5
10. PENALTY GUIDE	6
Player Movement Examples.....	7
Team Movement Examples.....	9

1. PLAYER MOVEMENT PRINCIPLES

- To provide an interpretation of Rule 4.E of the TCSA Rules & Regulations on Discipline & Appeals
 - It is an offence for any Club, through its responsible officers or representatives to induce or attempt to induce a registered player of a Team under the jurisdiction of the TCSA to leave his / her team before the end of the current season. The offence shall be dealt with by the TCSA under the same jurisdiction and by the ASA in all other cases.
- To define Recruitment in terms of players
- To define acceptable contact periods during and / or between seasons.
- To define acceptable contact types during and / or between seasons.

2. DEFINITIONS

- Affiliated Member
 - District Members and Associate Members of the TCSA
- Affiliated Parties
 - Includes parents of players, relative of players and any other persons determined by the Executive Review Panel to have connections to a team.
- Contact
 - Refers to any Action or Communication that is intended to induce a registered player(s) to leave his / her team. Contact may be any one or more of the following Types;
 - Mail, Courier, Facsimile, E-mail, Text, Phone, Social Media Applications, Face-to Face and any other contact as determined by the Executive Review Panel.
- Executive Review Panel
 - The TCSA Executive Review Panel formed as per Appendix D of the TCSA Rules & Regulations on Discipline & Appeals.
- Prospective Player
 - refers to the Registered Player, and includes his or her parents, legal guardians and any other persons determined by the Executive Review Panel to have influence over the player.
- Recruitment
 - Any Contact with a Prospective Player by any Team Official, Registered Player or Affiliated Parties of another Club or team for the purpose of enticing the Registered Player to leave their team.
- Registered Player
 - Includes all youth players currently registered with the TCSA.
- Seasons
 - In-season (Restricted Contact)
 - The period commencing with the start of League Play, up until and including the last day of ASA Provincials.
 - League play beginning includes league scheduled pre-season games.
 - This will not include invitational tournaments after ASA Provincials.
 - This will not include exhibition games scheduled by Clubs / Towns.
 - Provincials will normally be the end of Tier 1-to-Nationals and the Youth Indoor Provincials weekend.
 - Off-season (Open Contact)
 - The period commencing on the day after the last day of Provincials and ending on the day before the start of League Play.
 - This includes all teams, regardless of if they qualify for Provincials, and regardless of if their league play leads to Provincials
 - Provincials will normally be the end of Tier 1-to-Nationals and the Youth Indoor Provincials weekend.
- Team Official
 - Club representatives including but not restricted to Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Team Managers, Technical Directors, or other Technical Committee Members.

- Try-outs (Assessments, Evaluations)
 - The process by which a Player is evaluated / assessed for placement within a Club or team.
 - This can occur at open tryouts, individual team practices or any other location where skills are demonstrated for Club or Team Officials.

3. PLAYER MOVEMENT AND TRANSFER WINDOWS

1. All players are free to move to any team or Club during the off-season without permission from their Club. The receiving Club must follow TCSA guidelines on reporting player movement with in this document.
2. All players must follow TCSA Player and Team Movement Policy
3. TCSA in-season transfer dates are as follows;
 - a. Youth
 - i. February 1 annually for Indoor.
 - ii. 4 weeks prior to Provincials for Tier IV Rural.
 - iii. 3 weeks prior to Provincials for Tier IV Cities.
 - iv. July 1 annually for Tier I, II and III.

4. PLAYER CONTACT & COMMUNICATIONS

1. OFF-SEASON (OPEN) CONTACT PERIOD - All Clubs, Team Officials and Affiliated Parties may contact any player and Affiliated Parties during the Open Contact Period.
 - a. The Open Contact Period will be;
 - i. Indoor
 1. The day after Tier 1 Youth Outdoor Provincials are complete to August 31st Annually.
 - ii. Outdoor
 1. The day after Youth Indoor Provincials are complete to March 31st Annually.
2. IN-SEASON (RESTRICTED) CONTACT PERIOD
 - a. Indoor
 - i. September 1st to the last day of Tier 1 Youth Provincials annually.
 - b. Indoor
 - i. April 1st to the day after the last day of Youth Provincials annually.
3. CONTACT GUIDELINES
 - a. Off-season (Open) Contact Period
 - i. During the Open Contact Period, contact with any Club, Team Official or Affiliated Party is at the **discretion of the Prospective Player**. If the Prospective Player asks for contact to stop any future contact will be considered a violation of the policy.
 - b. In-season (Restricted) Contact Period
 - i. During the Restricted Contact Period, any Club, Team Official or Affiliated Party may not contact a Prospective Player regarding movement during the off season.

- ii. All contact by Affiliated Parties with a Prospective Player regarding movement during the current season must be declared to their Club and it is the responsibility of the Club to report those Actions / Communications to the District
- iii. No contact is allowed with a Prospective Player for the purpose of recruiting a player to leave their current team in-season.

5. TRY-OUTS (Assessments, Evaluations)

1. Attending try-outs during the Open Contact Period are at the discretion of the Prospective Player.
2. Players currently registered with other clubs cannot attend tryouts during the restricted contact period unless approval has been granted by the losing club of the Prospective Player.
3. Players may register for try outs during the current season for try outs scheduled during the following Open Contact Period.

6. FEE COLLECTION AND REFUNDS

1. During the Restricted Contact Period, Clubs are free and have discretion to register players for the following playing season that are currently registered with their Club or are unregistered players.
 - a. Any refund policy should be provided or linked to during the registration process (electronically or hard copy).
2. During a current season, a Registered Player cannot register for a team with a new Club until the Open Contact Period has begun unless approval has been granted by the losing Club.
 - a. Clubs may charge a non-refundable try-out fee of no more than \$50 for any Prospective Player that attends try-outs during the Open Contact period.
3. Any Registered Player changing clubs during the Open Contact Period will be subject to the registration guidelines and refund policies of the Clubs and Affiliated Members to which they register.
4. All refund policies will, at minimum, provide a 1-week refundable period, from the date of registration, where a maximum 10% administration fee could be charged if a refund is requested.

7. TEAM MOVEMENT

1. For the purposes of this section a Team will be defined as 7 or more Registered Players or 33% of a roster in a current season, the lower of the two will be applied in all cases.
2. Teams who move to a new Club will not be allowed the same **Team Officials** at their new Club for 1 calendar year from the end of their last registered season without the permission of the Club or Affiliated Member they left.
3. Team movement within the district will be monitored by the TCSA and all teams are subject to TCSA rules and regulations.

8. REPORTING PLAYER MOVEMENT

1. Once a player has registered with a new club, it will be the responsibility of the gaining (new) club to inform the district of the particulars of said new player(s) and to include:
 - a. Last Name, First Name, DOB, Gender, City, Province.
 - b. Past registered - District, Club, Age Group, Tier and Team.

9. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

1. Complaints may be filed by Registered Players, Affiliated Parties, Club or Affiliated member if they believe they have been subject to a breach of this policy.
2. Complaints filed for review will be sent to the Discipline@TriCounty.Soccer using the proper non-game misconduct form and forwarded to the TCSA Executive Review Panel for review and determination of the grounds for discipline.
3. Complaints filed should include a minimum of the following;
 - a. A signed TCSA non-game misconduct form completed, in full,
 - i. Evidence of contact that show the breach of the policy or a Statutory Declaration of the specific types of contact,
 - ii. Evidence can include screen shots of text messages / phone calls or copies of emails or other communication.
 1. Any video or picture evidence will not be accepted unless it is clear, time stamped, and the identity of the individual(s) with in can be confirmed by the TCSA Executive Review Panel.
 - iii. Evidence must include details of the origins, author, date and recipients of the contact or other details that permit authentication of the evidence.
4. Complaints filed can be kept confidential to the best extent possible, at the request of the complainant, if they provide a written statement as to the reason for their request for anonymity.
 - a. The request for anonymity should be written separately from the incident report but must be received in the same complaint package.
 - b. If a request for anonymity is received by the TCSA Executive Review Panel, the report signature and other identifying factors will be redacted, to the best extend possible, from the evidence provided to the accused and panel members.
5. The accused will remain in good standing until a decision of the TCSA Executive Review Panel has been reached.
6. Appeals will follow the standard Appeals mechanism as per the TCSA Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.

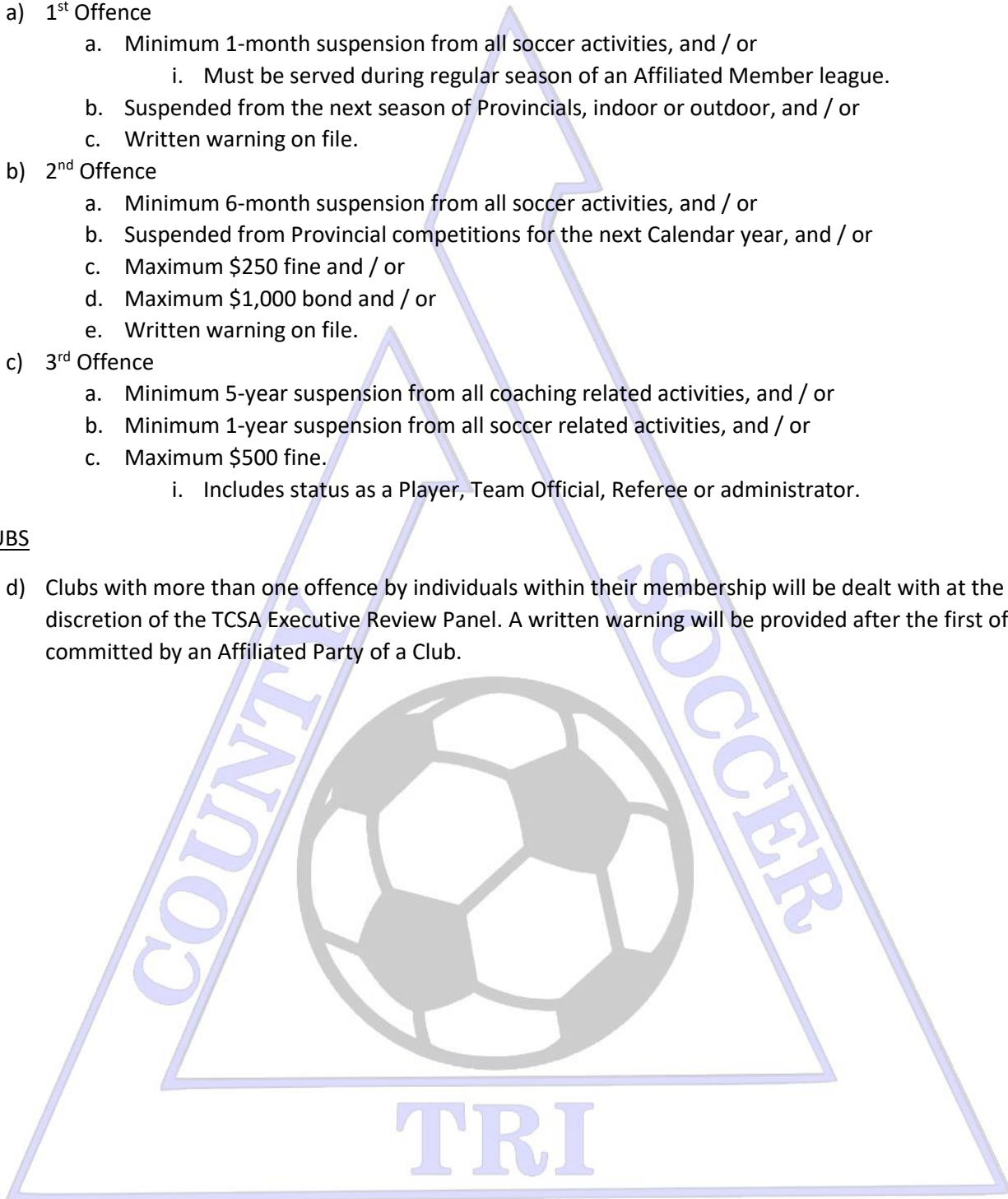
10. PENALTY GUIDE

INDIVIDUALS

- a) 1st Offence
 - a. Minimum 1-month suspension from all soccer activities, and / or
 - i. Must be served during regular season of an Affiliated Member league.
 - b. Suspended from the next season of Provincials, indoor or outdoor, and / or
 - c. Written warning on file.
- b) 2nd Offence
 - a. Minimum 6-month suspension from all soccer activities, and / or
 - b. Suspended from Provincial competitions for the next Calendar year, and / or
 - c. Maximum \$250 fine and / or
 - d. Maximum \$1,000 bond and / or
 - e. Written warning on file.
- c) 3rd Offence
 - a. Minimum 5-year suspension from all coaching related activities, and / or
 - b. Minimum 1-year suspension from all soccer related activities, and / or
 - c. Maximum \$500 fine.
 - i. Includes status as a Player, Team Official, Referee or administrator.

CLUBS

- d) Clubs with more than one offence by individuals within their membership will be dealt with at the discretion of the TCSA Executive Review Panel. A written warning will be provided after the first offence committed by an Affiliated Party of a Club.



Player Movement Examples

Example 1 – Player A

Player A is registered during the current indoor season with Club X and would like to register for the outdoor season with the same club, Club X.

ANALYSIS:

Player A is free to register with Club X at anytime under the player movement rules.

Example 2 – Player B

Player B did not register for indoor soccer and would like to register with Club X for the outdoor season

ANALYSIS:

Player B is free to register with Club X at anytime under the player movement rules.

Example 3 – Player C

Player C moved to Alberta from out of Province and would like to register with Club X for the outdoor season.

ANALYSIS:

Player C must complete the proper transfer paperwork as directed by the local district and once transferred, is free to register with Club X at anytime under the player movement rules.

Example 4 – Player D

Player D registered with Club X during the indoor season but would like to register with Club Y for the outdoor season. Player D has informed Club X he/she would like to leave the club between seasons and Club X granted the player permission to leave.

ANALYSIS:

Player D is free to register with Club Y at anytime under the player movement rules.

Example 5 – Player E

Player E registered with Club X during the indoor season but would like to register with Club Y for the outdoor season. Player E has not informed Club X he/she would like to leave the club between seasons.

ANALYSIS:

Player E can register for tryouts with Club Y and be charged a max fee of \$50 for the tryout. The tryouts must occur after youth indoor provincials have been completed. Player E is free to fully register with Club Y only after youth indoor provincials have been completed under the player movement rules.

If Club Y accepted a full registration fee prior to the Open Contact Period the full registration fee must be returned if player E chooses not to register with Club Y prior to the open contact period beginning.

Example 6 – Player F

Player F registered with Club X during the indoor season but would like to register with Club Y for the outdoor season. Player F has informed Club X he/she would like to leave the club between seasons, but Club X has not granted permission to leave.

ANALYSIS:

Player F can register for tryouts with Club Y and be charged a max fee of \$50 for the tryout. The tryouts must occur after youth indoor provincials have been completed. Player F is free to fully register with Club Y only after youth indoor provincials have been completed under the player movement rules. If Club Y accepted a full registration fee prior to the Open Contact Period, the full registration fee must be returned if player E chooses not to register with Club Y prior to the open contact period beginning.

Example 7 – Player G

Player G registered with Club X during the outdoor season and was then selected to participate in Full-time ASA programming (REX or WC Academy) during the indoor season but would like to register with Club Y for the following outdoor season. Player G received permission from the ASA Technical Committee to leave Club X and register for Club Y.

ANALYSIS:

Player G can register for tryouts with Club Y and be charged a max fee of \$50 for the tryout. The tryouts must occur after youth indoor provincials have been completed. Player G is free to fully register with Club Y only after youth indoor provincials have been completed under the player movement rules. If Club Y accepted a full registration fee prior to the Open Contact Period the full registration fee must be returned if player E chooses not to register with Club Y prior to the open contact period beginning.



Team Movement Examples

Example 1 – TEAM A

7 or more Registered Players or 33% of roster is registered during the current indoor season with Club X but would like to register with Club Y for the outdoor season.

Team A has informed Club X they would like to leave the club between seasons and Club X granted the team permission in writing to leave.

ANALYSIS:

Team A is free to register with Club Y at anytime under the player movement rules with the **same Team Officials**. It will be the responsibility of Club Y to report the moving players, team officials and copy of written permission from Club X to the district.

Example 2 – TEAM B

7 or more Registered Players or 33% of a roster is registered during the current indoor season with Club X but would like to register with Club Y for the outdoor season.

Team B has informed Club X they would like to leave the club between seasons and Club X did not grant the team permission in writing to leave.

ANALYSIS:

Team B is free to register with Club Y at anytime under the player movement rules. Team B will **not be allowed the same Team Officials** from Club X for 1 calendar year. Special permission may be granted by the TCSA Executive Review Panel upon request for inter district league play only. It will be the responsibility of Club Y to report the moving players to the district.

Example 3 – TEAM C

7 or more Registered Players or 33% of a roster is registered during the current indoor season with Club X but would like to register with Club Y for the outdoor season.

Team C has not informed Club X they would like to leave the club between seasons and Club X has not grant the team permission in writing to leave.

ANALYSIS:

Team C is free to register with Club Y at anytime under the player movement rules. Team C will **not be allowed the same Team Officials** from Club X for 1 calendar year. It will be the responsibility of Club Y to report the moving players to the district.
