



June 10, 2025

Dear Club and League Representatives:

MSYSA has updated several rule changes effective July 31, 2025, subject to membership approval at the 2026 AGM (Annual General Meeting).

[Rule 3.2 \(F\), e](#): now more accurately defines 'Elite' for the purposes of early try-outs and/or participation in State Cup. Previously, elite-level platforms (e.g., E64 Regional League, Director's Academy, etc.) did not definitively fall under any MSYSA competition level.

[Rule 3.4 \(A\), 5](#): now provides an exception for clubs with teams in 'Elite' level platforms/programs (e.g., E4, NLC, Director's Academy, etc.) to conduct early tryouts as is currently taking place with teams participating in competing elite platforms/programs not governed by MSYSA.

[Rule 3.4 \(A\), 9](#): now permits players to commit, sign, and register with their existing soccer club at any point during the current seasonal year. Teams falling under MSYSA's 'Elite' competition level, as defined in MSYSA Rule 3.2 (F), are exempt from this rule and may sign players on their self-established try-out date(s). During the COVID pandemic, MSYSA permitted clubs to sign their existing players early, as try-outs could not be conducted. The Association received positive feedback when that specific change was made, and its reintroduction may assist clubs with player retention.

[Rule 3.7](#) has been eliminated. However, please note that MSYSA player transfer rules remain in place. The poaching rule has been an extraordinary challenge to enforce since its inception. Also, competitor (non-affiliated) organizations in Michigan, without comparable rules and restrictions, place MSYSA clubs at a disadvantage when trying to sign and commit to players. The recent rule changes are intended to establish equal footing for clubs, aid in player retention, and in trying to locate new players through open trainings, ID sessions, etc. MSYSA will develop readily accessible FAQs and other resources to assist parents, players, and clubs prior to the next try-out cycle. If desired, MSYSA-affiliated scheduling leagues may enact poaching rules within their respective leagues.

In closing and based on feedback from clubs who feel they are not adversely impacted by the 'Elite' level platforms/programs, **MSYSA's official try-out start date for premier and select level teams is Saturday, June 13, 2026.** This change provides a large number of teams/clubs with an opportunity to extend their spring seasons by a week.

Please be sure to monitor our [website](#) for additional information and/or for updates.

Sincerely,

Thomas Faro
Executive Director

cc.: MSYSA Board of Directors



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