

FCSA Bracketing Guidelines

This is some of the criteria that will be used when bracketing teams. Every coach thinks that their team is the exception to the rule and should be placed according to the coach's wishes. This is an effort to take opinions out of the bracketing process.

These guidelines are not weighted, hence no numeric ordering, some will apply to teams, some will not. It will be up to the FCSA Traveling League coordinator to make the best determination, keeping the items listed below in mind.

In order to be scheduled, a team must first be registered online via Gotsoccer and have surrendered a signed copy of the team information form.

The club and/or coach is responsible for ensuring that the team is entered in the correct age division.

Should the team end up in an older age division due to lack of diligence, that team will play the schedule given. Should the team end up in a younger age division, we have no choice but to move the team up into the correct age division but it will be in the A Bracket.

There will be no consideration in bracket placement for issues that need to be handled on the club level. As examples; new players on the team, losing skilled players on the team, young players on the team, one or more older players making the rest of the team play up, etc.

When possible, brackets will be formed to allow for "age pure" divisions. An example would be teams that are truly U13 would be in their own bracket apart from the U14 teams.

For the purpose of bracketing, any game from the previous season that was not played or goes unrecorded will be considered a win for both teams involved.

Only the record from the previous playing season will be considered. Tournaments, prior seasons, etc. will have no bearing on placement.

Any team that fails to provide standings from the previous season, will be placed in the A Bracket.

Any team that provides false information will be placed in the A Bracket.

Any team that changes name or coaches and fails to give the information from the previous season will be placed in the A Bracket. Any team returning 40% of the players from the previous season is still that team.

If teams are merged, that information should be included. Submit both team names, records, etc. on the team information form.

Any team that performs any action in order to procure a lower bracket, will be placed in the A Bracket.

Any team that requests to play in the A Bracket will be placed accordingly.

Any team that requests to play in a higher age division will be placed accordingly.

A girls team that requests to play in the boys division will be placed accordingly.

No requests will be considered for a lower skill placement.

No requests will be considered for a younger age division. Age of eldest player will determine the appropriate age division.

When making the brackets, there will be a minimum of 5 teams (play each other twice for a total of 8 games) and a maximum of 11 teams (play each other once for a total of 10 games).

Any team that stays in the same age division from the spring to fall seasons will move up a bracket. An example would be a team that plays U14 in the spring and then is still eligible for the U14 division that next fall.

Relegation. Any team that is dominant in their bracket will move up to the next bracket between seasons, if there is a higher one. Also, any team that is dominated in their bracket will move down to the next bracket between seasons, if there is a lower bracket. This could apply to multiple teams as well.

FCSA Traveling League
Coach/Team Information

The team must be registered via Gotsoccer in order to be scheduled. Registration is the responsibility of the registrar and/or home club. It is the club's duty to verify that the team is entered in the correct age group. All schedule conflicts (i.e. tournaments, etc.) need to be posted online via Gotsoccer. Please fill in all information. When applicable, please clearly circle the correct response.

Home Club: _____ Is this a FCSA club? YES NO

Field Number: _____ Lights Available? YES NO

Team number: _____ Team Name: _____

You may request to play up an age division or to play in the upper bracket of your age division. A girls team may request to play in the boys division. You may not request to play down an age division or the lower bracket of your age division.

Team Gender: BOYS GIRLS Is this boys team COED? YES NO

Team Age (i.e. U13, U14, etc.): _____ Request to play UP to Age: _____

Request to play in upper bracket: YES NO **DOESN'T GUARANTEE LOWER BRACKET**

The contact information will be used by teams in your schedule to confirm games, resolve conflicts, etc.

Coach or Team Manager: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

e-mail: _____ Other: _____

2nd Team Contact: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

e-mail: _____ Other: _____

LAST SEASON(Even if the information has not changed, please enter it as the team was listed last season.)

Team Name(s): _____ Team Age: _____ Bracket: _____

League Played: _____ (If not FCSA, please attach copy of final standings from league.)

League Record(s): W _____ L _____ D _____ All games played and reported? YES NO

We cannot use tournament records or preseason play to determine brackets. To be fair, we only use the last season's record. (All records will be verified.) As the requests for playing in upper divisions and older age brackets are few and far between, they are the only ones in consideration. When given the option, nearly all teams choose the lower skill brackets, no matter the previous season. When bracketing the teams, any missing information is taken as intentionally left out to procure a lower bracket. Therefore, missing information will result in consideration of higher placement. Should you submit false information as to records, etc., you will be placed in the highest bracket of your age division. After as many teams as can be sorted by the means we have, the rest will be face-down draw into the brackets to fill the schedule. The only changes to the schedule will be where teams are in the wrong age division. Not signing this form will result in no placement for the team.

Coach has read and understood the above. Signed _____ Dated _____

Club acknowledgment Signed _____ Dated _____