

VISC Team Formation for U-13 boys and girls teams – Fall 2008

Background: Since the merger of the VISC and on-island VPD soccer program in 2005, teams at the U-11 to U-18 level have been participating in the recreational and competitive divisions of TPCJSA (Pierce County) and District 3 (south King and Pierce counties). One or two teams are formed at each age level, depending on the number of kids who sign up to play during registration. The maximum roster size is 14 at U-11, and 18 at U-12 through U-18. In 2006, the VISC board adopted a policy to guide team formation when there are enough players for two teams at the same level. At U-11 and U-12 level, two equal teams will be formed and they will compete in appropriate divisions, depending on ability (typically TPCJSA gold, silver, or bronze).

Starting at the U-13 level, it is the policy of the VISC board to form a District and Recreational team (similar to a varsity and JV team formed in 7th and 8th grade at McMurray) when there are enough players for two teams. After the registration period in May of each year, tryouts will be held in the first two weeks of June to form these teams. The District team will compete at the District 3 gold or silver level, and the Recreational team will compete at the TPCJSA or District 3 recreational level.

Player Numbers and Team Formation

The threshold for forming two teams is expected to be 22-23 registrants by May 31. On the low end, one team would be formed of 18 players and 4-5 players would be moved up to play on the next older team. We typically need 26-28 registrants to create two teams (with team size of 13-14 players minimum). A decision on number of teams to be formed will be made by June 1 after the close of registration on May 31.

Team Formation and Tryouts

Anyone wishing to play on the District team will need to participate in tryouts held in the first two weeks of June. There will be two tryout days for boys and girls. **Likely tryout dates for 2008 are June 10-11 from 6-7:30pm.** It is strongly recommended that a player attend both tryout days to have a chance to make the District team. Players not wishing to try out will be placed on the recreational team.

All players will be pooled in a database on the days of tryouts. Players are evaluated from a set of open tryouts open to all soccer players of the same age and gender. Tryouts will consist of drills, small games, and possibly a full-field scrimmage. U-12 players requesting a potential play-up of one year are also eligible. Evaluations of the players are largely completed by neutral evaluators, with some input from coaches. The players are reviewed for technique, tactical sense, fitness, and soccer attitude. Final team selection will occur by June 12.