

Player Eligibility & Protests

Eligibility parameters are based on the AAU system. Boys divisions are age based with two grade exceptions. Girls divisions are grade based.

1. Player Eligibility.

1.1. Boys Divisions

8U/2nd – An athlete can be no older than 8 on August 31, 2018.

9U/3rd – An athlete can be no older than 9 on August 31, 2018.

10U/4th – An athlete can be no older than 10 on August 31, 2018.

11U/5th – An athlete can be no older than 11 on August 31, 2018.

12U/6th – An athlete can be no older than 12 on August 31, 2018.

13U/7th – An athlete can be no older than 13 on August 31, 2018.

14U/8th – An athlete can be no older than 14 on August 31, 2018.

1.2. Girls Divisions

2ND GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 2nd grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 9 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 3rd grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 8 on August 31, 2018.

3RD GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 3rd grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 10 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 4th grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 9 on August 31, 2018.

4TH GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 4th grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 11 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 5th grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 10 on August 31, 2018.

5TH GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 5th grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 12 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 6th grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 11 on August 31, 2018.

6TH GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 6th grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 13 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 7th grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 12 on August 31, 2018.

7TH GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 7th grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 14 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 8th grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 13 on August 31, 2018.

8TH GRADE DIVISION

An athlete must be in the 8th grade as of October 1, 2017 and can be no older than 15 on August 31, 2018. For an athlete that is in the 9th grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 14 on August 31, 2018.

1.3. **Grade Exceptions:** 3 (three) grade exceptions will be allowed per team in the boys division. For example an athlete that is in the 3rd grade as of October 1, 2017 wanting to play down, they can be no older than 8 on August 31, 2018.

2. **Maximum Age.** Even if grade eligible, no player may play in a division where the player is more than one year older for the corresponding age for that division. For example, a 13 year old 5th grader is not eligible to participate in the 11u division.

3. **Application of Eligibility Rules:**

3.1. **Playing Up.** A player may play up in a higher age division.

3.2. **Playing on Multiple Teams.** A player can play on only one team within a single age division of any event (for example a player cannot play on a team in both the 14u A and the 14u B division or two teams in the 14u A). If a player is found violating this rule both teams the player played on will receive forfeits for the current game and all previous games played. Then moving forward the player must choose one team to play on after serving a one game suspension.

A player can play in more than one age division of any tournament, provided the player is age eligible for each division in which the player participates (for example they can play in the 13u A and in the 14u B division).

3.3. **Signed Waiver & Release.** In addition to the grade eligibility requirements, each player is required to have a parent/guardian signed Release/Waiver on file with San Diego Sol. San Diego Sol may suspend participation privileges for any player without a signed Release/Waiver.

4. **Proof of Player Eligibility.**

4.1. **Team Responsibility.** Proof of player eligibility is the responsibility of the team manager or coach.

4.2. **Acceptable Forms of Documentation.** Acceptable proofs of age include clean photocopies of birth certificate, adoption papers, immigration papers, school documentation which reflects DOB, current driver's license and current passport. Acceptable proofs of grade include a clean copy of any report card of the current or immediately preceding school year, progress report for current school year or current school ID.

5. **Player Eligibility Protest Procedure.**

5.1. **Who Can Protest:** Player eligibility protests can be submitted only by a coach or team manager.

5.2. What Can Be Protested.

5.2.1. Player is not age eligible or within the Grade Exception of Section 1

5.2.2. Player is beyond age maximum

5.2.3. Player is on multiple teams in the same age division

5.3. Protest Upheld.

5.3.1. **If a player is ruled ineligible for violating Sections 5.2.1 or 5.2.2** the player will be prohibited from participating in the remaining games of the event. If a post-game protest is upheld, that game will be forfeited by the team with the ineligible player. **Prior games will also be forfeited.** The team will be allowed to continue to participate in the event without the ineligible player(s).

5.3.2. **If a player is ruled ineligible for violating Section 5.2.3** which doesn't allow a player to play on two teams in the same age division then both teams for who that player played for will receive forfeits for all games in violation. From the time that the player infraction is discovered the player will then have to choose which team he/she will play for moving forward after sitting out a one game suspension.

5.4. **Player Reinstatement.** If a player is ruled ineligible for the sole reason that the team did not have eligibility documentation for the player, the player can subsequently be ruled eligible if such documentation is later provided. The reinstatement is for competition subsequent to the documentation being provided and no prior action will be modified or set aside.

5.5. **Ruling Binding.** Any player eligibility protest ruling made by San Diego Sol is binding upon all coaches, players, and attendees of the event. There is NO appeal of any upholding or denial of a player eligibility protest.

San Diego Sol shall apply the Player Eligibility Rules in such manner as San Diego Sol and its site directors deem appropriate to uphold not only the letter but the spirit of such rules. San Diego Sol will impose such additional sanctions, suspensions or other corrective action it deems appropriate under the facts and circumstances of noncompliance with the player eligibility rules. All coaches, players, and attendees shall be bound by any such application of the rules and corrective action imposed by San Diego Sol.