

# **St. Paul Soccer Evaluation Format (5<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**(Only when there are two or more teams per grade and 25% of parents request them)**



**The St. Paul Athletic Association added a stipulation that 25% or more of the families had to be in favor of having evaluations (5th grade and higher) before they would take place. We added a process to the online registration that allows everyone to select "YES" or "NO" to the question of evaluations. This is just a question to determine if 25% or more families want to have evaluations. NOTE: Even if you select "NO" on this question and the results show that we will have evaluations, your child can still participate in the evaluations and will be placed after the evaluation occurs.**

- Evaluations will consist of two organized practice sessions prior to team and coach selections and prior to the start of the fall CYC soccer season. Evaluations will be coordinated and scheduled by the soccer lay director. We will attempt to form an upper level team and a medium level team(s), and then evaluate which CYC division each team(s) will play at based on input from the coaches and previous league standings.
  - Any players or parents not wishing to be evaluated will be placed on a medium level team(s) formed by this same process.
  - When players arrive at evaluations they are assigned a number to be worn during the camp. An evaluation committee of least three and no more than five independent evaluators will be selected by the Lay Director and approved by the Athletic Association, who have a good knowledge of the game and can objectively evaluate and differentiate the skill level of each participant. The coaches of the grade level being evaluated can and may assist in running the drills but will not evaluate the players.
  - The committee will evaluate each player's skill and will be rated on a scale of 1-5. Please see scale below. The criteria, in no particular order, will consist of the following skills(Definition of each skill is attached):
    - Dribbling/Ball Control
    - Shooting/Finishing – both strength and accuracy
    - Passing – both strength and accuracy
    - Speed, agility, strength
    - Aggressiveness, drive, determination
  - 5 Excellent
  - 4 Above Average
  - 3 Average
  - 2 Needs Improvement
  - 1 Unsatisfactory
- In an effort to keep the process unbiased, the names of the players are not shown to the evaluators. After the camp concludes the ratings are tallied and an average of the criteria above is assigned to each player. Players are then placed on teams by their assigned number, only.
- If deemed necessary by the committee, "bubble" player selection **can** be determined based on position needs, open/closed status, a player's commitment to other teams or activities\*, or input from previous years coaches.

\*STPAA will not allow the formation of any team to be such that a team would possibly have to forfeit a game due to lack of players.

- If for any reason a player is unable to attend the scheduled evaluations, but would like to participate, the lay director, at his/her discretion can make arrangements to offer an alternative date. This will have to be submitted in writing to the lay director with an explanation of the player's absence.
- After checking for accuracies on the evaluation sheets the names are placed next to their numbers.

**Note:**

- It is the responsibility of the Lay Director to determine what skill level our teams should be competing at. This needs to be done before we can submit to the CYC South Central district what division they should be assigned to (i.e. A, B, C or D). There can be a big difference in skill levels between divisions and we want to make sure that each player has the right to participate at a level commensurate with their maturity and ability.

## Criteria Definitions:

### Technical Ability – Individual Skill Rating

#### ***Dribbling/Ball Control***

The ability to bring a ball played to you under control instantly and smoothly. This is the ability to collect and move in a different direction without stopping the ball completely, yet still maintaining it securely. Exhibit the ability to penetrate into space and create opportunities for attacking or defending.

#### ***Shooting/Finishing/Clearing:***

The ability to strike the ball with strength and accuracy in order to create scoring opportunities or disrupt and/or limit the opponents scoring chances. This may also require a player to use his/her chest, heel, toe, or thigh to accomplish the task.

#### ***Passing:***

You must be able to successfully complete short and long range passes accurately.

### Physical Aspects – Combined Rating

#### ***Speed:***

The ability to accelerate quickly and maintain that acceleration of various lengths.

#### ***Agility:***

The ability to change directions quickly.

#### ***Strength:***

The ability to effectively use your body to win physical confrontations.

### Personality traits – Combined Rating

1. ***Drive:*** Pure will power, eager to achieve goals, a burning desire to achieve success, strong self-motivation, commitment, dedication, determination.
2. ***Aggressiveness:*** “Go-getter”, strong self-assertions, takes risks, wants to dominate opponents, and works hard.
3. ***Determination:*** Seeks the direct way towards goal, no compromising, doesn't hesitate when making decisions, willingness, fully concentrated, success oriented.