

## **BAYS GRADE AND AGE GROUPINGS FOR 2016/2017 SOCCER YEAR**

The new Grade/Age groupings that will be used commencing with the fall 2016 season are shown in the following grid along with the grade and date of birth criteria used to determine player eligibility.

<b>Age Groups for Fall 2016 and Spring 2017</b>			
<b><u>PROGRAM</u></b>	<b><u>GRADE REQUIREMENTS</u></b>		<b><u>DATE OF BIRTH REQUIREMENTS (BORN ON OR AFTER)</u></b>
Grade 3 (formerly U9)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	<b>AND</b>	1/1/2007
Grade 4 (formerly U10)	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Lower	<b>AND</b>	1/1/2006
Grade 5 (formerly U11)	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Lower	<b>AND</b>	1/1/2005
Grade 6 (formerly U12)	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Lower	<b>AND</b>	1/1/2004
Grade 8 (formerly U14)	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Lower	<b>AND</b>	1/1/2002
Grade 10 (formerly U16)	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Lower	<b>AND</b>	1/1/2000
Grade 12 (formerly U18)	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade or Lower	<b>AND</b>	1/1/1998

Without waivers, players must meet both criteria in order to be eligible for a program. For example, a player in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade born January 2, 2004 is eligible for the Grade 6 program because he meets both the grade and date of birth requirements. A player in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade but born on December 30, 2003 must play in the Grade 8 program because he does not meet the date of birth requirement for the Grade 6 program.

### **Additional considerations:**

- The BAYS Grade 2 Policy (formerly BAYS U-8 policy) provides that in Fall 2016/Spring 2017 (a) players born on or after 1/1/2008 may not play on a BAYS team unless they are in the third grade (or higher), and (b) children born on or after 1/1/2009 may not play on a BAYS team no matter what grade they are in.
- The BAYS Board has voted to establish a “Grade-Down” waiver that will permit players in a higher grade to “play down” with their age group. For example, a player in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade who was born January 4, 2004, wouldn’t be able to play with similarly-aged children (who commonly will be in Grade 6) because of the player’s advanced academic standing. The Grade-Down waiver, which will be an automatic waiver, will allow the player to play with other children of the same age and physical development. This waiver will be valid for all levels of play.
- The BAYS Board has voted to establish a Grade-Appropriate Older Player discretionary waiver which will permit older players to play with their classmates. A player that meets the grade requirement but is older than the age requirement (for example, a grade 6 student born on or after 1/1/2003, may apply for this discretionary waiver to play in grade 6 even though the player does not meet the age requirement). This waiver will require the approval of the BAYS Competition Committee and is valid for any level of play