



UPPER DIVISION Team Formation Process

Overview

In 16U and 19U, teams are chosen with a player draft, run by the Upper Division Coordinator and, per Area 1-C Rules, overseen by an impartial Area 1-C Board member. The Upper Division Coordinator ("UDC") shall use best efforts to share relevant player information equally to all coaches, and endeavor to create balanced teams within each division.

Draft

The UDC shall compile a list of players included in the draft and distribute to all coaches. The UDC shall call for a meeting of all coaches to draft the players, and the UDC shall run the draft process. If the UDC is involved with one of the teams, then the draft shall be run by an impartial member of Region 13's Board of Directors, approved by the Regional Commissioner ("RC").

Players associated with a Head Coach (and Assistant Coach, if applicable) shall be placed into the draft ahead of time as that coach's automatic selection in the round relative to skill level. If coaches can not agree the placement of their own players, then placement shall be determined by the UDC, or other impartial Region 13 Board member, as approved by the RC.

Coaches will draw from a hat to determine draft order. Coaches will then begin selecting players, using a serpentine ('S') order, whereby the first person to pick in the first round is the last person to pick in the second round, etc. When a coach gets to the place in the draft grid where his/her own player has been placed, they shall skip that round of the draft.

The UDC will endeavor to make sure Assistant Coaches and other key volunteers are distributed as equally as possible in the draft. The UDC may, in some cases, pre-pair Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches before the draft, if (1) doing so helps streamline the process; (2) the pairings do not interfere with the balance of teams; and (3) the pairings are approved by the RC. Similarly, to the extent positions are known, the UDC will endeavor to ensure each team receives a potential goalkeeper, inasmuch as there are enough to go around.

Coaches will proceed until all players in the draft have been selected. Once the UDC declares the draft final, the results of the draft shall be recorded.

Post-Draft Activity

Once the draft is deemed final, no transfer of any player from one team to another may be made without the approval of the UDC and the RC.

Once the UDC inputs and confirms the team rosters in Region 13's registration system, the



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coaches may access the player information and begin contacting players and families. Only coaches with Safe Haven training will be given access to the players' contact information.

If any of the drafted players drop out, or if any players remain on or join the wait list (“WL”) after the draft, the UDC shall use best efforts to replace dropped players or distribute new players so as to retain the equity and balance of the teams. Such replacement will occur at such times that the UDC has enough players to work with to maximize balance (roughly once in early August and once just before games begin).

If the only available replacement players do not, in the opinion of the UDC, match closely enough to the dropped player, the UD may elect to not replace the dropped player, provided all teams retain at least 16 players.

No coach shall be forced to carry more than 18 on the roster. If all teams have 18, and players are available from the WL, coaches can identify WL players they wish to choose, and UDC will randomly determine an order of priority to assign such players.

All player placements after the draft will be at the sole discretion of the UDC. If the UDC is involved with one of the teams, then placements will be made by an impartial third party, approved by the RC.