



NPSC's Guiding Philosophy

All decisions at NPSC are grounded in our coaching philosophy: child safety comes first, having fun is a close second, and player development follows closely behind. Central to this philosophy is our commitment to placing each athlete in an environment where they can thrive based on their individual technical, tactical, physical, and emotional needs.

NPSC's Approach to Team Placement for the 2026-2027 Age Group Realignment

With this philosophy in mind, the club has adopted the following framework:

- **Travel tryouts will remain competitive.** Players will be selected based on performance and overall fit for the team.
- **All roster placements will be made collaboratively** by the coach and Technical Director, Doug Orr (who is responsible for soccer player and coach development across all ages and competitive levels) to ensure players are appropriately placed.
- **Rising U12 (current U11) and younger:** NPSC will prioritize placing players in their age-appropriate groups under the new system. Playing up may occur, but it will be limited.
- **Rising U13 (current U12) and older:** NPSC will prioritize continuity with current teams where appropriate. Tryouts will remain selective, but coaches will have greater flexibility, and playing up will be more common in these age groups.

We understand that concerns may arise, whether about competitiveness, perceived status, or playing with friends. Please know that placement decisions are always about creating an environment where players are meaningfully involved, challenged appropriately, and positioned for long-term success and enjoyment of the game. Every recommendation is made with care and with your child's best interests at heart. NPSC remains committed to transparency, open communication, and partnership with families throughout this process.