

January 2014 Administrator's Report:

- WMYSA will not enter U17/U19 Elite Division. 8 of their 9 teams requested Elite. They will keep all teams in one WMYSA division.
- GVSA will sponsor 36 premier teams for 9 of our Clubs for the spring 2014 season. We are up 6 teams from spring 2013 and are sponsoring one additional club

○ Crew	7 returning	4 new	=	11 teams
○ MI Fire	3 returning	1 new	=	4 teams
○ Costa		1 new	=	1 team
○ Ole	2 returning	1 new	=	3 teams
○ PASS	4 returning	2 new	=	6 teams
○ SCOR		1 new	=	1 team
○ Lakeshore	4 returning	3 new	=	7 teams
○ Vardar	1 returning	1 new	=	2 teams
○ <u>MI Rovers</u>	<u>1 returning</u>		=	<u>1 team</u>
9 Clubs	22 returning	14 new	=	36 teams

- Will Deliver the Premier Packets to MSPSP on Saturday, January 11, 2014.
- Will begin GVSA division placement next week. Commitments are due Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>.

Hi Josh,

Thanksgiving was good, always nice to have some time away from the game and spend it with family. How about you?

With reference to the 8 v 8 and 9 v 9 game, I believe both have merit however I would support a state wide change based on the following. US Soccer recommendations of systems of play at 11 v 11 are 4 - 3 - 3 and 4 - 4 - 2. I think 9 v 9 has more flexibility with systems of play, especially those that relate better to the 11 v 11 game than 8 v 8.

For example;

- 9 v 9: 3 - 2 - 3 relates well with 4 - 3 - 3. This is the recommendation in the US Soccer Curriculum.

- 9 v 9: 3 - 3 - 2 or 2 - 4 - 2 relate with a 4 - 4 - 2.

- 8 v 8: The only system that truly relates to 11 v 11 would be a 2 - 3 - 2, which could make the transition to a 3 - 4 - 3.

- 8 v 8: I believe playing a 3 - 3 - 1 is a poor transitional system to 4 - 4 - 2. No players centrally get to play in pairs.

- 9 v 9 has more options to play with 2 forwards, which I believe would be a huge help in the transition to 11 v 11. If you play with 2 forwards at 8 v 8, you are either losing width at the back or in the midfield.

The number of players in each line would help them understand the technical and tactical functions of the positions better and the leap in the learning curve would be reduced when players do make the change from 9 v 9 to 11 v 11.

Also, from a coaching education and licensing stand point, the D License has changed in format to include the 9 v 9 game, which is to coincide with the US Soccer Curriculum.

Other reasons, include:

1. DA League is 9 v 9 - I believe the state should all play the same sided game.
2. IL, IN and OH, which are neighboring states play 9 v 9 at U11 & U12. This would help our teams, which travel out of state to tournaments.

Just an FYI, I would also support a change a U9 & U10 to 7 v 7. I believe this change in numbers would allow teams more ways to play with three lines on the field (backs, mids & fads) than the 6 v 6 game does.

I'm sure I am leaving other points out of this email and if you would like to chat more lets touch base with a call. If this was not what you were looking for please let me know.

Thanks,

Paul Thomas

Director of Coaching

Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

Office: (734) 459 6220 ex 208

Cell: (847) 802 0364

[www.michiganyouthsoccer.org](http://www.michiganyouthsoccer.org)