

SYA Soccer Financial Aid Guidelines

SYA Soccer provides for a need-based player scholarship program for travel players. All award decisions are made at the sole discretion of the SYA Soccer Financial Aid Committee and the SYA Soccer Commissioner. The application information will be kept confidential within the SYA Financial Aid Committee.

Funding

The scholarship program shall be financed through various fundraising events specifically designated as supporting scholarships.

Scholarship Committee

SYA shall maintain a Scholarship Committee to administer the financial assistance program. The Scholarship Committee shall be convened annually in August, and shall include SYA Soccer Commissioner, SYA Travel Commissioner and the SYA Soccer Administrator. The Scholarship Committee shall review all applications and determine amounts of assistance (if any) that will be awarded to each applicant within 30 days of application deadline.

Applications

Completed applications (with supporting documentation) for financial aid may be mailed to SYA Soccer, 3819 Plaza Drive, Fairfax VA 22315 or faxed to SYA at 703-539-8633. Applications may also be emailed to registrar@syasoccer.org. Incomplete applications may result in disqualification for aid. **Application deadline is July 15, 2010 for the 2010/2011 soccer year.**

Scholarship Criteria

Scholarships will be awarded based on qualification criteria set annually by the Scholarship Committee. These criteria will generally track published Federal poverty guidelines based on verified family income. Other factors such as unemployment or other financial hardships may be considered by the Financial Aid Committee. Scholarship awards will be determined by the applicant's level of qualification, the total number of qualified applications, and the amount of funds available for scholarships.

Application Process

Scholarship application forms are available online on the SYA Soccer website. Completed applications, along with all supporting documentation, a \$75 application fee (to be credited to dues should be submitted to the SYA Soccer Administrator prior to July 15, 2010. **A signed copy of the most recent Federal tax return on Form 1040 (or applicable form) for both parents of the applicant (supporting schedules and attachments are not required unless requested) must be filed with the financial aid application.** Applicants must register the player in the SYA Soccer travel registration system on a timely basis. All SYA Soccer travel

club fees must be paid in full (by aid award or otherwise) on a timely basis for the player to be eligible to play for or train with their SYA travel team. Annual awards will be credited in equal amounts at the beginning of each season subject to applicant's re-registration and confirmation of continuing need in the spring season.

Applications will be evaluated by the Financial Aid Committee. The Committee shall present the proposed aid awards to the Commissioner of the SYA Soccer Board for approval. Notification of aid awards shall be sent via email to each applicant.

If the scholarship application is denied, an additional \$275 to complete the \$350 nonrefundable, nontransferable registration fee must be paid within 15 days of the notification. The applicant will then owe regular dues payment amounts on September 1, November 1, January 15, and March 15 in order to remain on the team.

Anyone who was deemed delinquent by missing two payments in a scholarship award year will not be eligible for a scholarship the following season.

Scholarship Awards and Co-Payments

Scholarship awards will be applied towards the dues for the upcoming year. Awards will cover a portion of the player's Annual Dues, with the remainder to be paid by player's family (co-payment). This amount will be communicated in writing to the applicant. The player's co-payment will be divided into four equal payments due on the regular club schedule of payments listed on the financial agreement (\$75 application fee will be considered July 1 payment, with the remaining payments due September 1, November 1, January 15 and March 15.) The SYA Soccer Financial Aid Committee and the SYA Soccer Commissioner shall determine the amount of the financial aid available for a season; however, there is no obligation to award all/any of the award pool. Based on the amount of the award pool and the amount of requests for financial aid, awards will be made on a sliding scale based on verified family income.

Families of travel applicants receiving the maximum aid award for their income level may be required to provide up to 12 hours volunteer service to SYA Soccer each season. Those applicants that do not fulfill this requirement for a season may be ineligible for future aid awards.

Late Co-Payments

Payments are considered late if they are not received by the ten days after the due date in which they are due and a \$25 late fee will be added to your account. Checks returned for insufficient funds or a declined credit card payment will be charged a \$25 fee. Scholarship players who are over 10 days

late twice during the 2009-2010 season will forfeit the scholarship award and will be required to pay the regular dues payments in order to continue with the team.

Eligibility

All applicants and their parents/guardians must sign the SYA Financial Assistance form in order for the application to be considered. This agreement states that the recipient and their family agree to participate in fundraising, training, games, and other regular team activities.

Recipient's families may be requested to volunteer for service to SYA Soccer, such as working on the Board, or at SYA Soccer event or tournament. We also recommend that all scholarship recipients seek a referee license so that they can earn funds for soccer expenses by refereeing games. Please see www.syasoccer.org for more information on obtaining a referee license.

Each Player U14 – U18 who is awarded a scholarship will be required to work 12 volunteer hours for SYA. These volunteer hours will be administered by the club.

Questions – Questions about financial aid awards for travel players may be directed to the SYA Soccer Administrator at admin@syasoccer.org.