



PLEASANT HILL-MARTINEZ SOCCER ASSOCIATION

A non-profit youth sports organization dedicated to the development of youth soccer players for 30 years

Everyone Plays

Balanced Teams

Open Registration

Positive Coaching

Good Sportsmanship

Player Development

PHMSA Buddying Policy For 2011

One of AYSO's governing philosophies is Balanced Teams. As a result, we have volunteers who have spent countless hours each year trying to make sure that each team can have a success and not be outscored to such a degree that the game ceases to be enjoyable.

In recent years, our policy of permitting players to "buddy" and play on the same team with their friends has been the target of criticism by a number of parents and coaches. "Buddying" became seen as a way to skirt some of the steps taken to ensure balanced teams, despite the efforts of our fine volunteers to take measures to prevent this from happening.

The PHMSA Board has taken this criticism very seriously and has evaluated the pros and cons of "buddying." After substantial discussion and review of our program, the PHMSA Board has acted unanimously to change our existing Buddy Policy.

Starting with the Fall Season 2011, there will be no more "buddying" permitted at any age group. The PHMSA Board believes strongly that this action will help balance teams in the future. Perhaps even more importantly, it will remove the appearance that "buddying" provided certain teams an unfair advantage.

Again - - There Will Be No "Buddying" Of Players In PHMSA in 2011.

This will not affect the ability of two players to be on the same team if their parents/guardians have decided to pair as a coach and an assistant coach. (In the U6 division, there will be a coach and two assistant coaches.) This will also not prevent the placement of siblings (of the same gender and the same age group) on the same team. But aside from these two limited circumstances, a player can no longer select placement on a team with another particular player.

We trust that the entire PHMSA family will understand the reasons for this decision and will support it. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to attend our next Board Meeting.

