

# Rio Valley Travel Team Registration Information

June 22, 2009

Under- 11 through Under- 19 teams may register with the Rio Valley Youth Soccer Association for the 2009 – 2010 Seasonal Year as long the registration procedures and appropriate forms and fees are paid. This year Rio Valley will register Division One and Super II competition groups. Division II and Division III teams will register with their local clubs but must comply with all registration requirements otherwise the team may be disqualified from advancing into any post-season competition.

At the Division One, Super II and Division II level of play, players, coaches and teams are committing to participate in the competitive divisions of soccer for the fall and spring season. Once a coach extends an invitation for a player to join a team and it is accepted, that roster spot is unavailable until after the end of the spring season unless the player transfers to another team or is properly released. **Certain signatures** are required for a player transfer or release. Teams need to be sure that the recruited player is committing to play and fulfill the team requirements before the player is registered to the team. Rio Valley will not process Transfers and/or Releases without the appropriate signatures.

Rio Valley has changed the requirements for **PROOF OF AGE, IDENTIFICATION AND RESIDENCY**. Proof of age shall consist of a certified United States birth certificate, any other documents that provide proof of age that is issued by the US Government or a passport. A foreign issued birth certificate along with a copy of the individual's **school official permanent record card** issued by the school registrar will also be accepted.

Players attending middle school or a higher level educational institution must provide a current/recent photo ID in order to complete their registration, otherwise the player must have the approval of the Rio Valley Governing Board.

Additionally, players will need to provide proof of residency. A recent utility bill (within three months of the player's date of registration) in the player's parent or legal guardians name is required. Players residing outside the STYSA boundaries must comply with the established STYSA Registration Rules and/or Procedures.

Only coaches who have met the STYSA Coaching Requirements can be rostered to a team. Additionally, all persons having contact with the players are required to have a background check and be registered on the team. A Photo ID and an Adult Registration Form must be submitted to process a background check for all members of the coaching staff. Requirements are available on the STYSA Website. Rio Valley assesses a \$ 5.00 Fee for every Kid Safe Applicant on a team.

All teams may register a coaching staff consisting up to four adults. This year a roster for U11 and U12 teams may consist up to 14 players and will play 8 A-side. A roster for U13 through U16 may consist up to 18 players. A roster for U17 through U19 teams may consist up to 22 players. Player and Adult Registration Forms are required to be completed only once during the fall or spring season. After all the required forms have been completed, the team information along with the appropriate fees can be submitted for registration. Please make sure that all the information clearly legible in order to eliminate errors.

**Incomplete Forms (either missing information or fees) will not be accepted.**

The procedure is as follows:

1. All teams must submit a Team Commitment to Play Form. Division One and Super II teams are assessed a team fee of \$ 125.00 for the fall season and is payable on or before August 15<sup>th</sup>. The team fee will be used to defray the operating expenses. Teams will be responsible to pay for the Spring Cup fee established by STYSA.
2. The Rio Valley registration player fee for the fall and spring season is \$ 80.00. New players that register for the spring season will pay \$ 60.00. Players not participating during the fall or spring season but register with Rio Valley will pay \$ 30.00. A player whose registration fee is not paid in full will not be registered. A player who is previously registered to a team may transfer to another team in compliance with the STYSA Transfer Rules and payment of \$ 40.00. Each Kid Safe applicant must pay \$ 5.00. Checks are payable to Rio Valley Youth Soccer Association (RVYSA). A money order should be submitted instead of cash.
3. No refunds are available once the season begins. Half of the player's registration fee will be refunded if request is made prior to the player's participation in first game.
4. Have the player registration form completed by the player's parent or legal guardian. The form must have the residence address, city, zip code and a phone number, if available. **Proof of Residency** must be attached to the player's registration form.
5. All players will need to submit an original Birth Certificate and a Birth Certificate Copy. Upon submitting the registration packet, a Rio Valley Official will verify the Date of Birth on the Registration Form and signs that the copy is a duplicate of the original Birth Certificate. Once verified, original Birth Certificate documents will be returned immediately to the coach and/or parent and must be returned to the parent.
6. Every player and coach will have to provide two (2) current photos. The photo must be a recent identification photo and 1 ½ inch by 1 ½ inch in size (Pass Port size). **Photos that are larger or smaller than the specified size will not be accepted.** The player's name must be written on the back of both photos and attached to the player's registration form.
7. Players attending middle school or a higher-level educational institution must provide a current/recent photo ID (i.e. copy of the current school ID or the previous years ID)
8. Players who reside (live) in Mexico are allowed to register to a Rio Valley team after they have requested and obtain either Permission to Play or an International Clearance (depending on the player's age). Players who reside outside the STYSA boundaries will not be considered register and can not practice or play until after they have received STYSA approval in writing. In order to avoid any misunderstanding, please inform the parent's of players that live in Mexico will have their registration delayed until they fulfill the necessary requirements. **International Clearance** or **Permission to Play** Information forms and instructions are available at [www.stxsoccer.org](http://www.stxsoccer.org) in the forms section. Any player from Mexico that uses a fraudulent Texas address that circumvents these requirements will be considered an ineligible player and sanctions will be applied to both player and team.

9. The Coach must place all player Registration Forms, Birth Certificates, Copy of Birth Certificates, two photos, player registration fee and team fee (if applicable) for his whole team in the Registration Packet.
10. The fall deadline to submit the registration packet is August 15<sup>th</sup> and the spring deadline is January 15<sup>th</sup> unless otherwise established by Rio Valley. A different spring team registration deadline will apply to Under- 14 and older teams. Twelve players need to be turned in by the deadlines for a team to be considered registered. Additional player may register but may not be processed in time for the first game.
11. For the Spring Season, teams returning from the fall season will have to register by the STYSA Spring Cup Deadline, submit a CTP Form and any new player registration forms and fees.

Each fall season, the Under 11 Group is considered open and eligible to all teams. Teams classified as Division One from the previous season are eligible to register Division One. If more than six teams want to be D1, than a qualifying tournament may be necessary to form a group a four. The recommended group size is four but up to six teams may be approved.

Rio Valley will be using the following criteria in order to designate a Super II competition group. The Division One Groupings will be limited to minimum of four teams and a maximum of six teams but the respective Vice-President along with the Competition Committee reserves the right to conduct a competition to better distribute the teams into appropriate competition levels. In situations where teams exceed the group limit, a game or preseason competition will determine who will qualify for any remaining openings.

Once a team has registered with Rio Valley in Division One, the team will maintain the Division One status for the subsequent season or year unless the team fails to re-qualify or that team fails to return a roster of 50 percent plus one player or the team finishes in last place in the previous season's standings or the team is not needed to maintain a group size of four teams.

Teams registered to compete in any lower levels of play and who place first or second in a district playoff or a team(s) advance to a state playoff must compete in the next higher level of play for the next season. A team is defined as 50 % plus one player for this determination.

In order to establish National Cup and/or President's Cup Spring eligibility, a team must compete in the fall season. In the event that a minimum group of four Division-One or Super II teams cannot be formed, the Rio Valley Governing Board may require that certain Super II and/or Division II teams may have their level of play changed for the upcoming season based on their performance the previous year. Newly formed spring teams are not eligible for National Cup, President's Cup and Director's Cup as per the cup competition rules and may only advance in District Competition in the South Texas Cup.

If you have any questions or need a team registration packet, contact the persons below:

1. McAllen – Pablo Hernandez, 956-631-6892 or [angels-jewelry@hotmail.com](mailto:angels-jewelry@hotmail.com)
2. Harlingen – Joe Bazan, 956-970-5308 or [rsbazan@hotmail.com](mailto:rsbazan@hotmail.com)
3. Brownsville – Abel Campos, 956-372-9104 or [abelcampos@sbcglobal.net](mailto:abelcampos@sbcglobal.net)

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