

## Missoula Strikers Soccer Association Agreement

Missoula Strikers Soccer Association (MSSA) is a soccer club made up of members, (player members and their parent/guardian members), and other persons who are interested in the advancement of youth soccer and who wish to be affiliated with MSSA. This document is a contract between MSSA and each Strikers player and his/her parent or guardian acknowledging their agreement with the Operating Guidelines of MSSA.

**Mission Statement:** The purpose of MSSA is to promote and further develop the game of soccer; to participate in and conduct the highest level of soccer competition consistent with the principles of the United States Youth Soccer Association; to educate and train players and coaches; to teach sportsmanship, physical health, and mental alertness to youth in Missoula County and western Montana through the game of soccer; and to competitively engage in the sport of soccer with club teams organized in other leagues throughout the state of Montana.

**Club Commitment:** The Club is committed to developing the soccer skills of players to the highest possible level and to advancing the success of teams at the state, regional, and national level. The Club will provide that opportunity through quality trained coaches, well organized practices, and participation in games and tournaments appropriate for the skill level of the team. Participating at this level of competition requires substantial commitment on behalf of players, parents, and coaches. The players and parents are expected to show respect for the coach, demonstrate good sportsmanship, work hard in both games and practices, and have a positive attitude. Club coaches are expected to attend several coaches' training sessions throughout the year.

**Club Operating Guidelines:** MSSA Operating Guidelines, adopted by the club, are available to members for review. Players and their parents or guardians, by signing this agreement, agree to accept and honor club guidelines, and understand that breaking the contract will be grounds for suspension from the club.

**Absences:** Players will be excused for illness, important family events, and school activities. The coach needs to be notified as soon as possible and prior to the absence when possible. During the regular competitive spring season players are expected to treat soccer as their primary sport. This means the players are not to forego soccer games or practices to participate in other sports and activities. (The coach may grant exceptions to this rule, if appropriate arrangements are made.)

**Abuse:** Players will not use alcohol, non-medicinal drugs, or tobacco. Use of any of these items at practice, games, related travel or other activities organized by the Club is strictly prohibited. A violation of this policy is considered a serious infraction which may result in suspension of the player member.

**Coach's Discretion:** The coach has broad discretion over the management of the team to develop competitive players and a competitive team within the guidelines of the Club. Both players and parents need to understand that this is a competitive club and the coach

determines player positioning and playing time. Parents and players are expected to accept the coach's decisions and not be detrimental to a positive playing environment.

**Infractions:** The coach will determine the appropriate disciplinary action for infractions of this agreement. Serious infractions will be reviewed by the MSSA Discipline Committee and may result in suspension from the club.

**Team Formation and Player Selection:** As described in the MSSA Operating Guidelines, the club will create teams of equal strength at the U-11 and U-12 age levels. For players at U-13 and older, the club will have competitive tryouts for "AA" level teams. Coaches will create a strongest team based on their evaluation of players. If more than one team is formed, the additional teams will compete at the "A" level. "AA" teams commit to attend the state championship / regional qualification tournament and, if their team wins the state championship / regional qualification tournament, to attend the regional tournament.

The Club, as well as both the player member and parent/guardian member, agree to support and abide by this agreement.

**MSSA Director:**

**Date:**



10-4-07

**Player Member:**

**Parent/Guardian Member:**

**Date:**

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