



Selection and Divisional Placement Criteria

2012 SPRING SEASON

All Boys Age Groups (Under 14 through Under 18)

All Girls Age Groups (Under 14 through Under 18)

The following procedures outline the specific steps taken to approve teams for the MRL and assign such teams into MRL Divisions for the **Girls Under 14 through Under 18 Age Groups and the Boys Under 14 through Under 18 Age Groups** in the 2012 Spring Season. The MRL Technical Committee, consisting of three (3) State Directors of Coaching (DOC's), works closely with the remaining Region II DOC's in reviewing all team applications and to bring the process to conclusion.

Premier Divisions have been established based on the results of previous MRL play.

Round #1

1. The MRL shall review all returning Premier Division slotted team applications for any discrepancies and shall confirm that slot are being retained by returning teams.
2. In the event that one or more pre-qualified Premier Division teams fail to re-enter for the 2012 Spring Season, the MRL Technical Committee/Commission shall determine which additional team(s) shall be accepted into the appropriate 2012 Spring Season Premier Division.
3. In the Boys and Girls Under 15 through 18 age groups, the pool of teams to be considered include:
 - 2011 Spring Season First Division teams that did not earn promotion
 - 2011 Spring Season Premier Division teams that were relegated
 - New 2012 Spring Teams that are State Cup Champions in their respective State Association and participated in the 2011 Regionals

In the Boys and Girls Under 14 Age Group, the pool of teams to be considered include:

- 2011 Fall Season teams that did not earn Premier slots
- New 2012 Spring Teams that are State Cup Champions in their respective State Association and participated in the 2011 Regionals

Additional teams may also be considered to insure to the highest standard in the Premier Division.

4. If additional teams are proposed to be added to the Premier Division, a list of such teams is distributed to state DOC's for comment. (If no additional teams are proposed, then the process skips to Round #3 No. 3)

Round #2

1. Any feedback from the State DOC's is reviewed.
2. Any team information -- provided directly or upon request -- in support of a change in divisional assignment is reviewed.
3. DOC's are contacted in person to discuss teams with discrepant numbers / rankings / placement.
4. The Premier Divisions are reformulated.
5. The revised information is sent to the State DOC's for further review, investigation, and comment.

Round #3

1. Any feedback from the State DOC's is reviewed
2. The "final" assignment of teams into Premier Divisions is completed.
3. As required, teams are assigned to Premier sub-divisions on the basis of the following criteria:
 - Place defending Red and Blue champions in same divisions
 - Rank order by regional ranking separating the Regional finalists and placing semi-final opponents in opposite divisions, where possible.
 - Separate by state separating the state finalists and placing the semi-final opponents in opposite divisions, where possible.
 - Balance by number of state champions, state finalists, semi-finalists, and other, if possible.
 - Balance by previous MRL and Regional Cup performance.

Round #4

1. Submit to MRL Commission for final review and approval.
2. Submit to MRL Commissioner for posting.

September 30, 2011

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First Divisions for all age groups is determined as follows:

Round #1

1. The results of each state cup for the National Championship Series are recorded for each team.
2. Teams are assigned with a "1" (champion), "2" (finalist), "3" (semi-finalist), or "other" ranking.
3. Where applicable, a team's record (W-L-T / GD) from the most recent Regional Cup is noted.
4. Where applicable, a team's position in their host state league is noted.
5. Teams are assigned a ranking within their State Association by their respective State DOC.
6. There is a preliminary elimination of any unqualified teams.
7. The preliminary First Division placements are sent to the State DOC's for comment.

Round #2

1. Any feedback from the State DOC's is reviewed.
2. Any team information -- provided directly or upon request -- in support of a change in divisional assignment is reviewed.
3. DOC's are contacted in person to discuss teams with discrepant numbers / rankings / placement.
4. The First Divisions are reformulated.
5. The revised information is sent to the State DOC's for further review, investigation, and comment.

Round #3

1. Any feedback from the State DOC's is reviewed.
2. The "final" assignment of teams into First Divisions is completed.
3. As required, teams are assigned to First Division sub-divisions, geographically striving for Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest sub-divisions within the Region. Additional sub-divisions may also be used if needed.

Round #4

1. Submit to MRL Commission for final review and approval.
2. Submit to MRL Commissioner for posting.

September 30, 2011