



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>POLICY STATEMENT ON RETURNING MRL TEAMS</b> <b>Fall Season to the next Fall Season and Spring Season to the next Spring Season</b> <b>as of May 12, 2010</b></p>
--

**Introduction**

The MRL has established the following Policy in regards to the return of teams from one season the following year's season. The Policy addresses both the return of teams into the two levels of the MRL -- the First Division and the Premier Division. At both levels, all MRL teams must be in compliance with MRL Rules.

**First Division Teams**

The MRL acknowledges that the respective Region II State Associations have the exclusive authority to recommend teams for entry into the MRL at the First Division level. Such recommendation is based on a selection process solely determined by the respective State Association. It is understood that in accordance with MRL Rules 2.11 and 2.13, the MRL has the final authority in accepting teams into the MRL. In other words, the MRL may, at its sole discretion, deny entry into the MRL any teams that may have State Association recommendation for entry into the MRL. The MRL acknowledges that each State Association may establish its own criteria for determining its recommended teams for the MRL. Such criteria may include but is not limited to results in MRL and/or State League play, results in State Cup play, roster continuity etc.

**Premier Division Teams**

A Premier Division Team slot shall be allotted to the team/club/organization that owns/controls the name to the team that had participated in the MRL during the previous season. Any questions in regards to such ownership/control of the slot shall be directed by the MRL to the Director of Coaching of the Premier Division team as listed on the original MRL team application from the previous season.

In situations where the team coach and/or player(s) may depart such team and join or create another team, the Premier Division slot does not follow such group.

In situations where there is a mutual desire to merge or consolidate organizations/clubs/teams, the MRL at its sole discretion may review and determine the outcome of any requests for the transfer of a Premier Division slot if the organization/club/team that "owns" such slot formally requests the transfer of such slot to a partner organization/club/team. Such transfer must have the written support of both groups and the state association(s) or the involved groups. The MRL at its discretion may request additional written information in regards to this matter including but not limited to the rationale for the transfer, a guarantee on the number of returning MRL Premier level players for the coming season and any other matter that the MRL deems pertinent in the review of this matter.