

The National Rules & Regulations define the standard Age Divisions as follows:

Division	Age
AYSO Playground Soccer	Ages 3, 4 or 5 by the date of the program commencement
6U	6 years and Under
8U	8 years and Under
10U	10 years and Under
12U	12 years and Under
14U	14 years and Under

Playing Up/Playing Down an Age Division

AYSO's National Rules and Regulations define AYSO's Standard Age Divisions, consistent with US Soccer's Player Development Initiatives, AYSO's Age-Appropriate Coaching methodologies, and in the best interest of the player. From time to time, Regions may receive requests from parents for their child to be placed in an age division other than their standard division. These requests for an exception should be handled on a case-by-case basis annually and considered in the context of what is in the best interest of both the specific child as well as those children affected by the exception.

Requests to "play up" in the next older age division may be considered if doing so would be of genuine benefit to the child socially, developmentally, as well as athletically and as long as:

- The Region secures formal written acknowledgement that this is what the parents want for their child and confirming that they believe their child is developmentally ready for that age division. Parents should acknowledge that this exception does not guarantee that future exceptions will be granted.
- The Region determines that the child is developmentally able to safely play and compete in the next division. Children restricted by age from heading the ball should not be allowed to play up in a division where heading the ball is allowed.

Similarly, requests for an exception to "play down" an age division may be considered if doing so would be of genuine benefit to the child socially, developmentally, as well as athletically and as long as:

The Region secures a formal written request for an exception, expressing the need to play down and the need is determined to be truly warranted based on the developmental readiness of the child as opposed to a preference to be with classmates, friends, or siblings.

- The Region determines that the child does not pose any greater safety risk to the children in the younger age division.
- The Region secures confirmation from the child's parents that the child may not be eligible to play with their team in competitions outside of the Region.
- Full disclosure to all division coaches of the fact that a player has been approved to play down is required, but the reason for the approval is not subject to disclosure to the coaches.

Reference:

https://wiki.ayso.org/wiki/Age_Guide,_Determination_%26_Divisions#Playing_Up/Playing_Down_an_Age_Division

Canastota AYSO Region 1563
Move Up / Stay Down Request Form

Date of Request: _____

Player Name: _____ Player Date of Birth: _____

Current AYSO Division _____ Request to Move Up ☐ Request to Stay Down ☐

Parent / Guardian Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

After Reading the move up / stay down policy, please describe why you feel your child should be moved to a different division.

I have read the move up / stay down policy and understand the request is not a guarantee. I understand the decision is based on the child's safety, area and team needs, and in the best interest of the child socially, developmentally, and athletically.

Parent / Guardian Signature

Date

.....
Administrative Section
.....

Date of Birth Verified: Yes No Board Member Initials _____

Date of Player Skill Evaluation: _____

Request Approved ☐

Request Denied ☐

RC Signature

Date

PLAYERS PLAY  COACHES COACH  PARENTS CHEER  REFEREES REF