



Martha's Vineyard United

P.O. Box 945

Vineyard Haven, MA. 02568

[www.mvunited.org](http://www.mvunited.org)

## Playing Up Policy

1. Players are expected to play in their appropriate age group.
2. Players may play above their age group when :
  - a. If at the time of the players initial evaluation and rostering,
    - i. There is not a team available in the players age group, or
    - ii. If the players birthday falls such that his / her classmates are playing in the older age group, and
  - b. There is roster space available on the older team, and
  - c. If the coach of the older team is willing to roster the younger player, and
  - d. If, after consultation with coaches, the parents approve of rostering in the older age group.
3. Players may also play above their age group if :
  - a. The player demonstrates a skill level that would qualify him / her as in the top third of the older team, as determined by a committee comprised of the President, Vice President, Director of Travel and any additional qualified assessors, and
  - b. The players skill will be best advanced by playing in an older age group, and
  - c. The Board of Directors receives a written request from the parents for advancement prior to or during the tryout period, and
  - d. There is roster space available on the older team, and
  - e. No player on the older team will be replaced by the younger player during the regular season, and
  - f. The coaches of both teams consent to the advancement, and
  - g. Prior to being rostered said player shall successfully complete four practices with the older team.

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4. Coaches will not under any circumstance recruit players rostered on another team, nor will they contact any player or parent directly when that player is rostered on another team.
5. This policy will become effective for the spring 2012 season, with the following exception for that season : players rostered out of their age group will be allowed to continue playing on their respective teams when, after consultation with the coach, both the player and parents agree that continued placement on that team will best serve the player's soccer development and the mission of Martha's Vineyard United. Consideration will be best given to the player's contributions to the team, maturity, commitment and the families understanding of the possible social impacts to a younger player participating on an older team. In cases where there is a disagreement among the parties, the Board of Directors reserves the right to review, arbitrate and resolve the differences.