



MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER POLICY

First and foremost this club believes in players playing in multiple sports and doesn't tell players what they have to choose when it comes to other sports. The key word there is "other" sports. While middle school soccer is a fun thing we have no problem with our players playing in, it is basically a recreational or advanced recreational level of play across the board. This is not to insult middle school soccer, this is simply to state a fact. So this situation is very clear to us and most other competitive clubs in this city. Competitive soccer vs Recreational soccer is not a debate. Competitive comes first. Now that isn't to say players can't and won't be supported to play middle school. It just needs to be done with a clear understanding of not only priority of the version of soccer, but with the health of your children in mind.

CONFLICT SITUATIONS

- **OLE FC GAME:** This should be absolute priority and nothing else should be done on these days.
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL GAME:** If it's a day with competitive training, we have no problem with the player playing in the game. That should be only event for the day for soccer for the player though unless they are playing less than 20 min in those games
- **COMPETITIVE TRAINING:** This is the priority on double training conflicts. **PLAYERS SHOULD NOT DO 2 TRAINING SESSIONS** if Middle School is training on the same day. This is because we care about the health and fitness of your children. Double training sessions in a day especially with the intensity and demand of ours will quickly lead to injury and burn out for players.
- **MIDDLE SCHOOL TRAINING:** Should only be done on days with no soccer events and even then, aren't really necessary and can lead to injury and burnout as proper work to rest ratio is important for your child. We recommend explaining this to your middle school coaches and they should understand that players will only attend training when they have no other soccer events and even then, maybe not all.

Again this is all done with the proper development and fitness in mind for your players. With other sports we respectfully feel we have no say and we are willing to work with everyone for what's best for the player and both teams. When it comes to soccer vs soccer and more specifically a competitive level vs a recreational level, we do have a club policy for that. If players choose to play middle school instead of or in addition to, the OLE FC coach will have to make decisions on playing time, or team selection they feel suits the situation and physical demands on the player. Please understand we only want what is best for players development and feel this is the fairest and best way to handle the Middle School soccer conflicts in our ~ U11-14 age groups.