



2017/2018 Major League Soccer Homegrown Player Information Sheet

This document contains a summary of the 2017/2018 MLS Youth Development Guidelines that are applicable to MLS Club youth development programs (and, as applicable, League competition), and answers many commonly-asked questions. The League reserves the right to modify the MLS Youth Development Guidelines and/or create exceptions to the MLS Youth Development Guidelines.

I. Homegrown Player Eligibility

The following are the primary MLS Club requirements for priority rights to Homegrown Players:

- A player will become an eligible Homegrown Player on the date falling one (1) year from his initial date first entering an **MLS Club's youth development program ("Initial Date")** provided that:
 - Player satisfies the **League's attendance day** requirements for the immediately prior twelve (12) months; notwithstanding however, once a player satisfies Homegrown Retention as described below and/or enters College the attendance day requirements will be waived;
 - **Player's Initial Date must be at least** one (1) year prior to such player entering College;
 - Player must reside with their parent(s) or legal guardian in such **Club's youth** development home territory.
 - An MLS Club may have players who maintain Homegrown Player eligibility but are not from, or reside in, its youth development home territory provided the player may not be from, or reside in, the youth development home territory of another MLS Club;
 - Player satisfies Homegrown Retention as described below (if applicable).
- Homegrown Retention connects the amount of time a player spends with an MLS Club prior to him **aging out of the Club's youth development program and/or entering** College to determine if an MLS Club retains priority and the player retains Homegrown Player eligibility.
 - Full Homegrown Retention: An MLS Club will receive full Homegrown Retention for a player in their youth development program if the following are met:



- **Player has/had been a member of the Club's youth development program for one (1) full year encompassing either his junior or senior year of high school (i.e., the Academy season of his 17th or 18th birthday); and**
- **Player has completed the League's attendance day requirement during such year.**
- A player who has completed his eligibility at College may be a Homegrown Player, provided that such player maintained Homegrown Player eligibility. Further, in order for a College senior that also has Homegrown Player eligibility to be removed from the MLS SuperDraft list, a contract offer must be extended to the College senior prior to the MLS SuperDraft. The specific date which such offer must be extended will be determined on an annual basis by the MLS League Office.

II. Attendance Requirements

- Each MLS Club is required to provide the following number of attendance days for players participating in its youth development program each year (i.e. prior 12 months):

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Attendance Days</u>
U19 and below	150

Received and Acknowledged

Player Signature

Parent or Guardian Signature



If you have any questions about any of these or other MLS rules or contracts, or would like a copy of the full MLS Youth Development Guidelines, please contact MLS or the MLS Players Union as follows:

David Scholl

Director, Player Relations & Competition
Major League Soccer
420 Fifth Avenue, 7th floor
New York, NY 10018
(212) 450-1438
David.Scholl@MLSsoccer.com

Matthew Ratajczak

Senior Coordinator, Player Relations & Competition
Major League Soccer
420 Fifth Avenue, 7th floor
New York, NY 10018
(212) 450-1322
Matthew.Ratajczak@MLSsoccer.com

Johnny Andris

Staff Counsel
MLS Players Union
7700 Old Georgetown Road, Suite 730
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 657-3535, ext. 101
(301) 907-8212 (fax)
jandris@mlsplayers.org

Lara Samuels

Staff Counsel
MLS Players Union
7700 Old Georgetown Road, Suite 730
Bethesda, MD 20814
(301) 657-3535, ext. 105
(301) 907-8212 (fax)
lsamuels@mlsplayers.org