New Jersey Youth Soccer posts resources such as instructional videos, written help guides, and weekly FAQs on the <u>Register Players and Coaches page</u> of the njyouthsoccer.com website. All clubs are encouraged to visit the webpage before contacting registration@njyouthsoccer.com for further assistance.

Additionally, Sports Connect Support is available by phone at the contact information and hours below:

<u>State Platform: 855-873-5357</u> M-F: 11:30AM-8:00 PM EST Sat: 10:00AM-6:00PM EST

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Why is the 2025-2026 seasonal year dropdown not shown in the state platform?

NJYS will only enable the 2025-2026 seasonal year dropdown for clubs that have completed the Annual Affiliation Request. Upon completion of the Annual Affiliation Request, a member of our registration team will activate the new seasonal year for your organization within 1-2 business days. Additionally, the system configuration for clubs that have not completed the request will show as 'Suspended.' This term does not mean the club is suspended with NJYS.

Click here to complete the Annual Affiliation Request.

Why is my club listed as "Suspended" in the state platform?

The system configuration for clubs that have not completed the Annual Affiliation request will show as 'Suspended (Cannot Configure New Season)'. This status does not mean the club is suspended with NJYS, only that the new seasonal year not yet configurable for the club.

<u>Click here</u> to complete the Annual Affiliation Request. Note: NJYS shall approve the request for the term to change to "Active (Can Configure New Season)" status. It is not automatic.

Clubs that are not in good standing with NJYS are placed in a "Deactivated (Cannot login)" status that will prohibit log-in to the State Platform.

How do returning players and/or new players register for the new seasonal year?

Every player, regardless of a new or returning status, must have a new application (i.e., registration) submitted for them each year. This can occur through the upload portal by completing the upload player template with updated information for the player, through the Sports Connect club platform, or by manual entry (only recommended for less than 15 players).

Sports Connect Club Platform users may register players upon configuring their 2025-2026 program that is integrated with NJYS. The upload portal will not accept player registrations for the 2025-2026 season until May 2025.

What is the purpose of the 'Migrate Teams' feature?

The 'Migrate Teams' feature will only copy the team's name and team ID into the next seasonal year, aging the team up one age group. This reduces the amount of time spent by club admins creating new teams year-over-year. "Migrate Teams" will not copy players and coaches from the existing year into the new seasonal year as a new registration is required each year.

To learn about the team migration process, <u>click here</u>. For club platform organizations using the Get Teams feature, <u>click here</u>.

Does a player's photo and birth certificate verification carry over from a previous year?

When registering players and coaches, be sure to use the exact variation of the first name, last name, and date of birth that was previously used to avoid creating a duplicate account that requires new uploads for all compliance documents. The most common errors include variations of hyphenated names, players that may have included a middle name/initial in the first name text field, or the date of birth does not exactly match.

To resolve this, please (1) <u>cancel the application</u> associated with the newly created duplicate account and then (2) manually create the application from the player's previous record.

<u>Note:</u> A player's photo is removed every other seasonal year. For example, player photos uploaded in the 2023-2024 seasonal year are removed in advance of the 2025-2026 seasonal year. Please plan accordingly to upload new photos for players.

How does a coach register for the 2025-2026 seasonal year?

Coach registration must be completed annually, with the submission of the applicable compliance certificates. Clubs that use the Sports Connect Club product with an integrated registration event may permit coaches to register through their own club portal. Clubs that do not use Sports Connect for club registration (e.g., Upload Portal clubs), shall have coaches register through a generic NJYS link available on the NJYS website.

When registering, coaches must be sure to use the exact variation of the first name, last name, and date of birth that you have previously used to avoid creating a duplicate account that requires new uploads for all compliance documents.

What compliance documents/trainings are needed to become a coach?

All coaches (i.e., travel, recreation, and TOPSoccer) must submit NJYS approved compliance documents in their Sports Connect account for verification (if not previously verified). See the compliance requirements below:

- Coaching Education (No Expiration Date) *Travel Only
- Concussion Education (No Expiration Date)
- SafeSport Training (Annual Requirement Completion Date after January 1st, 2025)
- Background Check (Every Two Years)

How can a coach upload the SafeSport Training or SafeSport Refresher Training?

SafeSport Training is an annual requirement. For the 2025-2026 seasonal year, a coach may upload a certificate dated January 1st, 2025, or later. The certificate must be one of the following four courses: (1) SafeSport Trained, (2) SafeSport Refresher 1, (3) SafeSport Refresher 2, (4) or SafeSport Refresher 3.

If a coach takes the training through the 'Begin Training' button during the NJYS Coach Registration, the completion of the course shall automatically be relayed to NJYS, and no further upload is required. Should a coach take the SafeSport training outside of the NJYS platform (e.g., through SafeSport directly, or another sport), a manual upload is required.

NOTE: A coach cannot manually upload the new SafeSport certificate until the current year's certificate expires. New manual uploads are not permitted until August 1, 2025.

Do players need to complete SafeSport training?

Players that are currently 18 years-old or older or will turn 18-years old during the 2025-2026 seasonal year (September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026) are required to take the annual SafeSport training prior to team assignment and pass printing. This will mitigate any lapse in SafeSport compliance during the seasonal year.

To view the Player SafeSport Training instructions, please click here.

When can passes be printed for the 2025-2026 seasonal year?

Beginning on August 1^{st} , member passes for the 2025-2026 seasonal year can be printed for players and coaches on ACTIVE teams. As a reminder, once a team is active, a player can only be removed through the transfer or release process by the request of a parent/guardian (subject to the amended transfer policy). Team activation is not recommended until the roster is nearly complete.

Clubs that are still determining team placements for players should be cautious in activating a team at this time. We encourage clubs to utilize member passes for the 2024-2025 seasonal year as those passes are valid until August 31^{st} , 2025 and may be used in competitions for the remainder of August.