

# Information for Parents/Players Concerning Tryouts/Commit Dates/Rules & Regulations

## Tryout Dates

### All Players/All States

#### U12-U14

- Tryouts begin November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

#### U15-U18

- Tryouts begin November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Definition of Incumbent:** A player who played for a club (NOT a coach) during last year's REGULAR season (this does not include ERVA post-season or outdoor).

- You do not HAVE to sign incumbents on that date—it is up to you if you want all players to go through tryouts.
- Incumbents do not HAVE to commit on those dates they can try out for other teams during the tryout period.
- Incumbents may sign a Letter of Intent to play with the same club on or after the incumbent signing date-- non-incumbents cannot sign a letter of intent to play until the non-incumbent signing date.
- **If you are a new club, you have NO incumbents and must wait until the Region commit date. Incumbents are connected with a CLUB, not a COACH. If you coached a player in a previous club, that player is NOT considered an incumbent and must wait until the Region commit dates to commit to your new club.**

## Commitment Dates

### Players and Families

- As always, players are encouraged to let clubs know of your intentions as soon as the decision has been made—a player does NOT need to wait until the deadline to accept or decline an offer. Individual clubs may choose to extend offer deadlines, at their discretion, or athletes may ask for this extension. Any extensions granted (or not) are the sole responsibility of the individual clubs.
- Formal acceptance of an offer is determined by when the player/parent submits a signed ERVA Letter of Commitment to the Club Director during the set commitment dates/times (see above). We ask that players/families use ethical standards and not verbally commit to more than one club prior to submitting their LOI. By doing this, you adversely affect another player who is waiting for an open spot.
- After tryouts, you are not limited in how often you contact a club to get more information (cost, schedule, etc.) The club, however, is only allowed to contact you/your daughter TWICE prior to the commitment date. ERVA has this rule in place to create an equal opportunity for each club when making offers to players. If you are being contacted more than the allotted amount by one club, please contact the region office at [office@evergreenregion.org](mailto:office@evergreenregion.org).

## Incumbent Commit Dates

#### U12-U14

- Eligible to sign on November 5, 2016 or anytime thereafter

#### U15-U18

- Eligible to sign November 13, 2016 or anytime thereafter

## Non-incumbent Commit Dates

#### U12-U14

- 1<sup>st</sup> Commit date November 9<sup>th</sup> after 9pm

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Commit date November 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm and anytime thereafter.
- Letters of intent received on November 12<sup>th</sup>-November 15<sup>th</sup> (prior to 6pm) are NOT VALID. The two dates and times listed are when the LOI become VALID and BINDING.

### **U16-U18**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Commit date November 16<sup>th</sup> after 9pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Commit date November 20<sup>th</sup> 6pm and anytime thereafter
- Letters of intent received on November 19<sup>th</sup>-November 22<sup>nd</sup> (prior to 6pm) are NOT VALID. The two dates and times listed are when the LOI become VALID and BINDING.

### **Contact Rules Prior to Tryouts:**

- Informational communication only – for example: tryout date, time and location, club fees, who your coaches are, who is club director, how many practices, how much travel, etc. Do not ask for commitments or imply commitments with your communication or activities prior to tryouts. The Evergreen Region supports high school athletes and coaches during their sanctioned season and strongly discourages any conduct that would cause distraction to an athlete during her high school season.
- If a player or parent/guardian makes the initial contact, a club director or coach may inform the player or parent/guardian, without fear of committing a recruiting violation, about the specific program. It is strongly recommended that all club directors and coaches refrain from making slanderous comments concerning other clubs or their staff. Any reported violations may result in suspension or fines to the offending party.

### **Contact Rules During/Following Tryouts**

The Evergreen Region has a policy regarding when and how clubs can contact junior players and their families. These rules are designed to protect the interests of the player and/or family regarding club contact, and allow players and families to seek information they want from clubs.

- A club program who has given an offer to a player may make 2 club initiated follow-up contacts with that player between the time of the offer and the subsequent commitment date. A club-initiated contact shall be defined as all forms of communication i.e., phone call, text, email, phone apps etc. A club-initiated can be from a club director, coach, club representing parent and/or player, board member etc.
- A player may initiate contact with a team/club representative as often as needed to answer questions.
- A player may not "commit" to more than one club.
- Once a player has gone through a tryout for a team during the tryout period. Ideally one contact to let them know if they are on the list of team members you are interested in offering a position to, and second to let them know on the commitment date that they have been chosen by your club and ask for a commitment. Some clubs will offer a position on the team at the tryout and use the first contact to follow up with the player after that player has attended other tryouts, then use the second contact for the commitment day. Please note the difference between "offering a position" vs. "demanding a verbal commitment." A club may not ask for a commitment at the tryout before the commitment day.
- Once a player has signed a Letter of Intent for a team during the ERVA sanctioned season, club affiliates from other ERVA clubs shall not contact that player or their family for reasons of recruitment to their club or team.
- Examples of violations include **ANY current or previous club director, coach, team member, club members, including current or previous club parents** contacting a player MORE than two times during the tryout period, contacting a player after being notified of a commitment to another club, and pressuring a player to commit to a club PRIOR to commitment day with threats of losing a position if no agreement is made, asking other club members to make contact to pressure them to commit to the club. **(this includes all forms of communication i.e., text, email, phone apps etc.)** Club-initiated violations are subject to a minimum \$100 fine to the club and possible suspension.

**\*\*If you feel a club is violating these rules, a parent must complete the ERVA Reporting form online. This will be emailed to the ERVA office\*\***