

## **Difference between House League and Competitive Soccer**

- Competitive Soccer means Select (MJ League) or Rep Soccer
- Recreational Soccer means House League

There is a higher expectation level in the competitive program. Competitive soccer includes players that play at either the Select level or at the Rep level. Competitive soccer is for players that have the ability to play at a higher level other than house league. Once a player is playing in Select/ Rep soccer, that player can no longer play for another team or house league during the same season.

### **Select Level**

Select soccer is the first step after playing house league. Select soccer is a place for players to play who are more competitive and who wish to be challenged. Some players may play select soccer with the ambition of becoming a better player to then move up to the rep level of soccer. Playing select soccer requires a higher commitment from the player and parent than playing house league. Most Select teams will practice at least once per week during the winter (90 minutes), while attending the occasional tournament. During the summer season select teams will practice once or twice per week (depending on the coach, 90 minutes per session) as well as attending games and tournaments over the weekends. Some tournaments require an overnight stay.

Teams that play select soccer could travel as far as Brantford to play games. Select teams play in the MJ leagues against other Select teams from other clubs within the area governed by the Hamilton & District Soccer Association. Attendance at training is important as playing time is not guaranteed at this level. The outdoor select soccer season usually runs from the beginning of May until late August or early September.

To make a select team you must attend the try outs and earn a place on the team through your ability and commitment. There is also an extra cost on top of the regular club fee to play Select soccer.

### **Rep Soccer**

Rep soccer is the final step to complete the pyramid of play. Rep soccer teams compete in the SRSL (South Region Soccer league) and also OYSL (Ontario Youth Soccer League). Playing Rep soccer is a higher commitment from players and parents. During the winter season rep teams will train at least once per week, as well as entering tournaments. During the summer rep teams will train 2-3 times per week (90 minutes per session) as well as competing in usually 1 league game per week, sometimes weekend games are scheduled.

Travel to games is again a greater commitment in rep soccer as you will play against teams from around this area such as Saltfleet, Burlington, Oakville, Toronto, Niagara Falls and Bolton.

Rep teams will also enter into the Ontario Cup were they could be drawn against any team in the Province. Rep teams will also attend 3-4 tournaments per summer; some tournaments will involve overnight stays due to travelling long distance. Some tournaments could mean travelling to the USA.

Attendance at training is important as playing time is not guaranteed at this level. The outdoor rep soccer season usually runs from the beginning of May until late August/early September. Again to make a Rep soccer team players have to tryout and the players will be selected on there ability and commitment. There is an extra cost above the regular fee and also select fee. Rep players will receive club tracksuit and also player's bag.

For more information on playing Select or Rep Soccer, please contact the Carl Horton, Club Head Coach at 905-318-1933 or [chorton@mhysc.org](mailto:chorton@mhysc.org)

Yours in Soccer  
Carl Horton,  
MHYSC Head Coach,  
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CSA National 'B' License,  
Provincial 'B' License,  
English FA Certificate,  
English FA Junior managers award,  
NSCAA Regional Diploma,  
Associates Degree in Sports Science,