



Pike Soccer, Inc  
603 Twin Oaks Rd  
Williamson, GA 30292

**Policy Number: AFU008**

**Policy Date: 03/14/2023**

**Policy Name: Playing Up**

### **Academy and Select Soccer:**

Pike Soccer players should play in their appropriate age group based on birth year, and will not be allowed to play out of their age group except in the following scenarios:

#### **1. Graduation Based**

- a. Playing up would allow a player to play with his or her school year or graduating class.
  - i. These players typically skipped a grade in the school system.
  - ii. Supporting documentation must be provided.

#### **2. Performance Based**

- a. Playing up provides the appropriate environment for a player's mental, physical, and technical development.
  - i. These players are already playing on the top team within their age bracket
  - ii. The player's skill level is significantly higher than that of any other player on the team or in the age group.
  - iii. The player must be an impact or key player on the team in order to move up.
    1. Impact or key player is someone who's ability plays a significant role in the team's accomplishments during a game.

#### **3. Needs Based**

- a. When there is not enough space in the player's appropriate age group and/ or there is a shortage of players in an older age group.
  - i. These players are typically added late.
  - ii. These players are typically placed on a second level team or B team in the same age group they are playing up to.
- b. When there is a need to fill a specific position in an older age group.

All play-ups must be approved in advance by the Director of Coaching.