

FYSA Birth Verification Procedures

A player's date of birth is "VERIFIED" when the FYSA office receives acceptable birth documentation records and, if required, any necessary international clearance paperwork. Most competitive leagues and tournaments require that all players be birth verified so when you register a new competitive player you should obtain all needed birth documentation prior to registering the player with FYSA. Players must be registered with the name as it appears on the birth documentation. For players who have had their name legally changed, such as in the case of adoptions, a copy of the court order must accompany the birth certificate and the new name will be used.

Affiliates are responsible for certifying a player's correct date of birth by looking at original birth documents, this can be the certified copy of a US birth certificate, a passport or visa for a foreign born player, or a foreign birth certificate. The registrar can then lock the player's name and date of birth under the Registrar tab in Got Soccer. FYSA highly recommends that all affiliates set up internal procedures for club administrators to view the birth documentation on all players new to your club, even if the player was previously verified with FYSA.

When you register a new player, if the player's birth documentation indicates that the player was born within the United States, the birth certificate can be uploaded in the documents section of the player's Got Soccer account. If the player was not born within the United States, then applicable international clearance, as detailed below, must also be attached.

Acceptable birth verification documents are:

- A copy of a state certification of live birth;
- Department of Defense Uniform Services identification card (DD form 1173) issued by the uniformed services of the US or birth registration issued by appropriate government agency;
- U.S. passport;
- Drivers license;
- Alien registration card issued by the US government, a certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age or a certificate of an American citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate governmental agency;
- Foreign passports / birth certificates are acceptable if accompanied by a certified translation. (FYSA can translate Spanish)

FOREIGN BORN PLAYERS

As referenced in FYSA rule 202.7 and the USSF international clearance rule, this required clearance applies to all new foreign-born players twelve (12) years of age and older registering with FYSA for the first time. This includes:

1) For a player who arrives in the United States on or after the player's twelfth birth date, the player must request an USSF International Clearance Certificate or complete an International Clearance Waiver (for players under the age of 17);

2) Players who have lived or played in another country after the age of 12, must provide Clearance or Waiver documentation as may be required. USSF regulations do not base International Clearance or Waivers on citizenship, but rather on place of birth. If the birth documentation indicates that the player was NOT born in the United States then proof of residency prior to the age of 12 must be submitted (e.g. school records) or proper International Clearance / Release (ICR) paperwork must be attached.

Players born in Puerto Rico are Foreign born, since Puerto Rico has a separate Federation from USSF For players whose birth documentation does not provide proof of birth in the United States such as Certificates for American Citizens born abroad, or driver's license then the player must attach International Clearance documentation. **PLEASE DO NOT SEND A FOREIGN BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR A PLAYER OVER THE AGE OF 12 WITHOUT ICR DOCUMENTATION; FYSA WILL NOT PROCESS IT. UPLOAD THE COMPLETED REQUIRED INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCE DOCUMENTATION IN THE DOCUMENTS SECTION OF THE PLAYER'S ACCOUNT, ALONG WITH THE BIRTH DOCUMENTATION.**

PROOF OF ENTRY PRIOR TO THE AGE OF 12

If the player has proof of US residency prior to the age of 12, a **"USSF Proof of Entry Prior to 12 Years of Age Submission Form"** must be attached to a copy of the birth documentation along with dated school records such as report cards or if the player has played with FYSA as unverified, a copy of the players history. Here is the link to the form

http://www.fysa.com/docs/Prior%20to%2012%20_P12%202-09_.pdf

ENTRY BETWEEN 12 AND 16

If the player is between the ages of 12-16, then a **"USSF waiver Form"** can be completed and submitted to the FYSA office. This form must accompany the player's Birth Certificate to the FYSA office. Here is the link to the form <http://www.fysa.com/docs/Waiver%20Form%205-26-09.pdf> and the link to the one in Spanish

<http://www.fysa.com/docs/registration/forms/USSF%20international%20clearance-spanish.pdf>

FOR PLAYERS 17 TO 19

If the player entered the country after the age of 17 **an “USSF International Clearance Request Form”**, must be submitted to FYSA. The request for clearance must accompany the birth certificate and the completed form must be sent to the FYSA office for processing. For players that are 17 years old a letter indicating that the player is in the US for non-footballing reasons must be attached. This letter can indicate that the family moved here for better economic opportunities, to flee political or religious persecution, any reason other than the player wanting to play soccer in the US. Once FYSA receives the documents, the player will be birth verified. In all cases, it is imperative that the affiliate send the birth certificate and ICR paperwork TOGETHER. Here is the link to the transfer/clearance form <http://www.fysa.com/docs/ITC%20Request%205-26-09.pdf>

Remember, if a player's pass indicates the player is verified, FYSA has received all required documentation. Players must be verified to participate in State Cup and President's Cup.

For more information, we have provided a link to the USSF PowerPoint presentation, <http://www.fysa.com/docs/USYSAWORKSHOP03-09.ppt>