

The Far West Regional League is excited to announce that registrations for the Spring Season 2010 of the Northern First Division of the FWRL will open October 23 and close at midnight MST on Monday, December 14. The entry fee is \$200 and is due in full on December 14. **All teams that apply after midnight December 14, or have unpaid balances on December 14, will be automatically wait-listed and will be used to fill brackets.** Announcement of acceptance of wait-listed teams will be made by December 31. Schedules will be published February 1.

The Northern First Division will offer competition in 12 age/gender groups from U13 to U18, boys and girls. Teams will complete a full round-robin schedule over three weekends from late March to early May. The purpose of the NFD is to create competitive opportunities for the best teams from eastern Washington and Oregon, Idaho, northern Utah and western Montana and Wyoming. Hosting requirements can be found on the Spring Season tab of the FWR League at www.regioniv.com.

Please read the following very carefully, because the penalties for withdrawing from the FWRL are steep. In the spring, we face a very compacted calendar. Spring weather and the importance of preparation for state cup present some scheduling problems.

The season will be structured as follows. We will have three play dates, one each in March, April and May.

- 1) We will play in Boise on March 28 and 29.
- 2) We will play on April 17 and 18 at a site to be determined.
- 3) We will play on May 1 and 2 at a site to be determined.
- 4) You will be asked to indicate on your application if your team is available to play a nearby opponent on April 24 or 25, if necessary.
- 5) We need every team to be available on the three play weekends. **This does not mean that you will play all of those dates, just that we have the flexibility to schedule you. If the schedule can be conveniently and fairly completed in two weekends, it will be.**
- 6) The goal is to have the schedules completed by February 1, which still allows some flexibility in scheduling spring events around the FWRL.

Travel

The NFD is a travel league. You must be prepared to travel two or three weekends to participate in this league. Travel is mandatory, and the league will only work if teams meet their travel commitments. Sanctions for failure to meet schedule commitments are levied against your club. The schedule is a full round robin (it's a league, not a tournament) with participating teams from many states. **Do not take this commitment lightly.**

Application

You apply for admittance to the FWRL on line at <http://www.regioniv.com>. Click on FWR League and follow directions to apply. The application fee is \$200 and is payable

by credit card on line, or by check to FWRL, 4152 Dietz Farm Cir NW, Albuquerque, NM 87107.

If your state (Utah or Oregon) is using the Affinity Development Group (ADG) registration system, log on using your account user name and password. If your state is not an ADG state, create an account and apply through the FWRL registration link. Your state association will review your application and solely determine if your team will receive state association approval to participate in the FWRL.

Important: On your application, for your flight, choose “First Division North” for your age group. On the play date availability questions, only the last question applies to the First Division. All other questions apply to Premier.

Only after state association approval will the FWRL review the application and determine if your team will be accepted into the FWRL for the 2010 Spring Season. In completing the application form, teams are required to submit accurate information on team accomplishments. Misrepresentation of team accomplishments may result in the team being disqualified from FWRL participation. State associations may apply whatever criteria they deem necessary in determining the team representatives from their state.

Please review the rules of the FWRL on the Region IV website at www.regioniv.com. Note that teams are required to pay referees for each game in addition to league registration fees, and that guest players are allowed in this league. Other announcements will follow. For questions, please call Jim Tilley at 505-980-4756.