



# Atlanta Fire United Soccer Association

---

**Policy Number: S002 [5/19/21]**

**Policy Name: Playing Time**

## **Recreational Soccer:**

Playing time should be balanced and fair to all players throughout the course each game and throughout the season. Each player must play at least 50% of each game.

Unless there is a player that is committed to playing goalkeeper full-time, it is strongly encouraged that all players should take their turn playing goalkeeper. When rotating players through the goalkeeper position, they should get equal field time (25% of game as goalie = 25% of game as a field player).

## **Academy & Select Soccer:**

### **U8-U11**

Each player will play a minimum of approximately 50% of each game.

### **U12-U14**

- ECNL: Playing time is not guaranteed, but each player will enter at least once per game (excluding Goalkeepers).
- Pre-ECNL, ECNL-R, Elite teams and below: Coaches should strive to allow players to play approximately 50% of each game.

### **U15-U19**

- ECNL, ECNL-R: Playing time is not guaranteed.
- Elite teams and below: Coaches should strive to allow players to play approximately 50% of each game.

### **Playing time may be affected due to the following:**

- Player game performance.
- Training session performance.
- Attendance to training sessions, games, tournaments.
- Game scenario (relegation games, qualification games, etc.)
- Discipline of players.
- Game management scenarios (tactical situation changes).
- Health, injuries, other miscellaneous factors.

If parents have concerns about patterns or trends with their son's or daughter's playing time, they are encouraged to contact Atlanta Fire's Executive Director of Coaching, Mirza Mustafic.