



AGE CHANGE INFO

- Three leading member organizations
- Moving away from birth year
- New cycle will be from August 1st - July 31st
- Back to the old cycle

WHY DID THEY CHANGE BEFORE?

- It was to align with international standards for Elite competition. For example, International youth teams.
- It changed in 2016 to 'Birth year'.
- U.S Soccer mandated the change.



WHY THE CHANGE BACK?

- Growth of the game
- Grade/maturity difference
- 8th grade teams
- College showcases/Seniors
- Surveyed 15,000 people



**IF IT ISN'T
BIRTH YEAR,
THEN HOW
WILL WE
LABEL TEAMS?**



U19 (11v11) - August 1st 2007 - July 31st 2009

U17 (11v11) - August 1st 2009 - July 31st 2010

U16 (11v11) - August 1st 2010 - July 31st 2011

U15 (11v11) - August 1st 2011 - July 31st 2012

U14 (11v11) - August 1st 2012 - July 31st 2013

U13 (11v11) - August 1st 2013 - July 31st 2014

U12 (9v9) - August 1st 2014 - July 31st 2015

U11 (9v9) - August 1st 2015 - July 31st 2016

U10 (7v7) - August 1st 2016 - July 31st 2017

U9 (7v7) - August 1st 2017 - July 31st 2018

U8 (4v4) - August 1st 2018 - July 31st 2019

WHY ARE WE HEARING GRADE YEAR?

- This was the original label - “Birth year to Grade year”
- **It is NOT school grade**
- There is no perfect way of avoiding kids in different grades
- Choice. You cannot choose teams. A conversation with the DOC is advised for those wanting to play-up

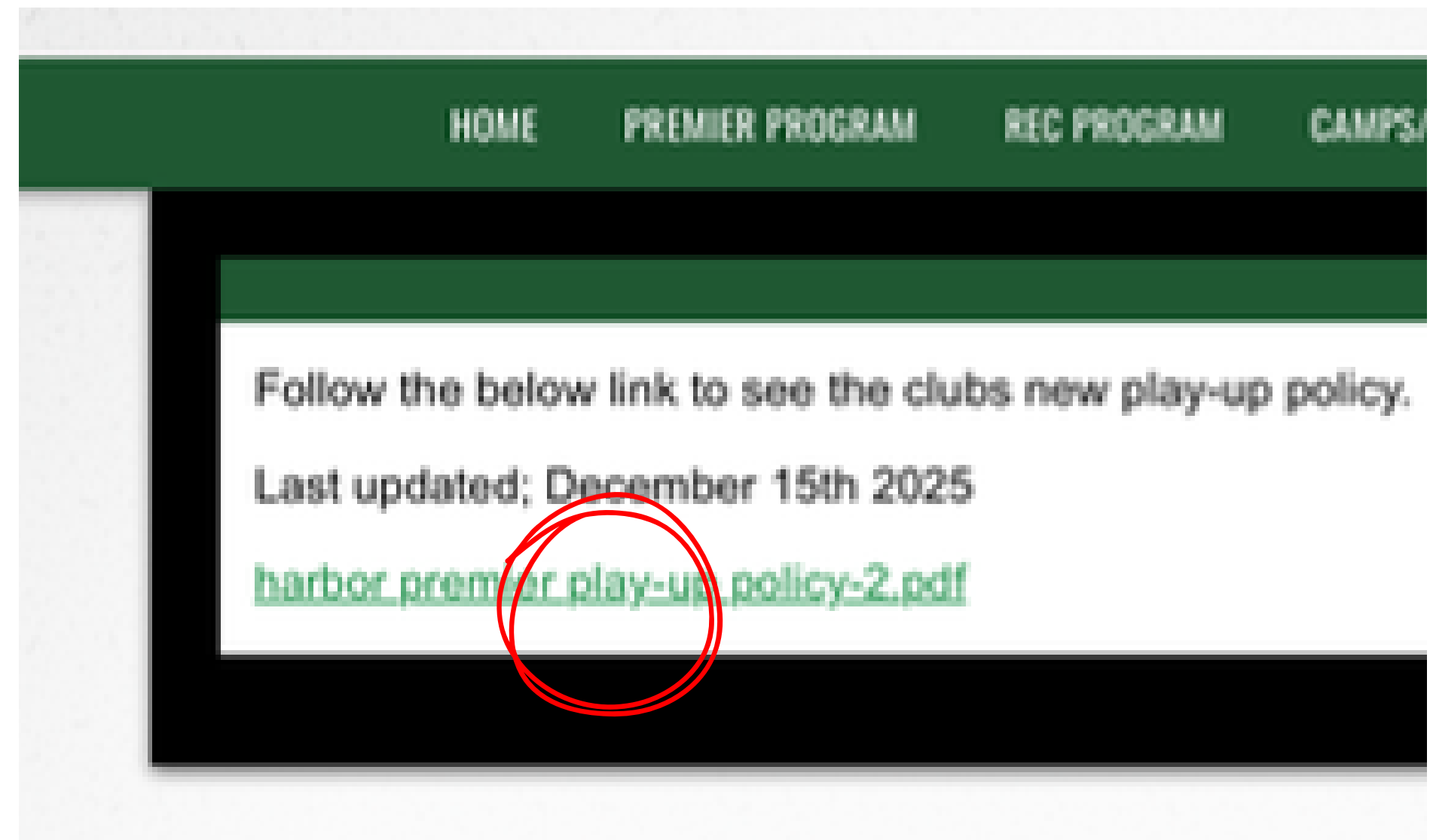
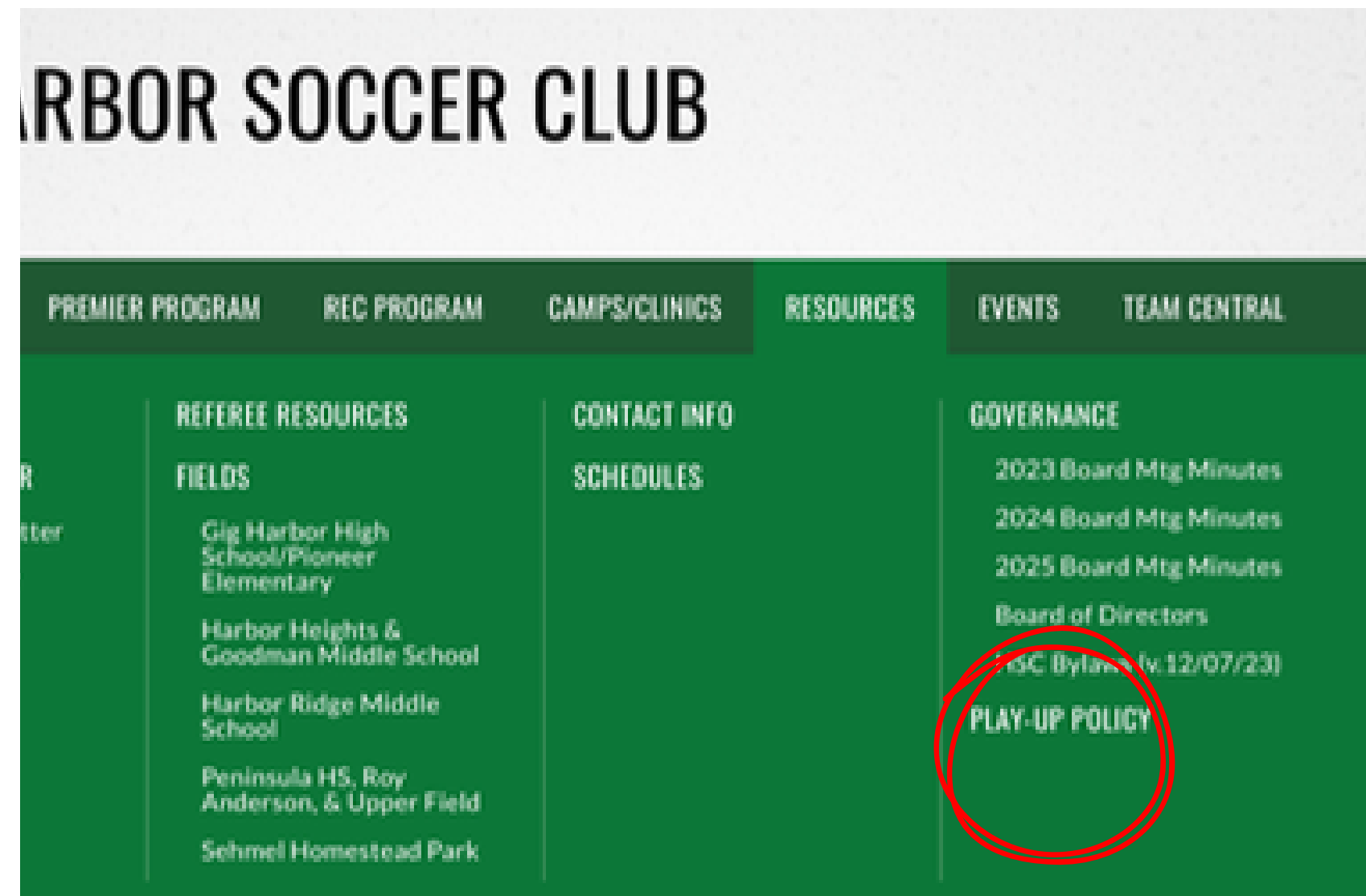


CAN MY CHILD PLAY- UP AN AGE?

- Every child is allowed to tryout up an age group. However, they must tryout within their own age group first.
- Harbor Premier will follow the clubs 'Play-Up Policy'.



WHERE CAN I FIND THE NEW PLAY-UP POLICY?



WHAT PARENTS NEED TO EMBRACE

Change is Necessary for Growth

- As the competitive landscape evolves, so must Harbor.
- Updating age structures, training models, and development philosophies keeps players aligned with best practices.

Standards, Competitiveness, Reputation

Harbor aims to:

- Raise expectations for players, coaches, and teams
- Provide higher-quality training environments
- Improve competitive performance across levels
- Strengthen the club's identity and regional reputation

Opportunities Are Expanding

- More tournaments, higher-level leagues, expanded programming, and new partnerships all create a stronger future for all Harbor players.



ASSESSING THE SOCCER LANDSCAPE

- RCL 2010 Founding
- Development Academy and ECNL
- Creating of new national leagues
- Alphabet soup



NEXT STEPS

- Applications
- Feedback from you



OUR VISION



- Provide quality programming
- Increase Quality of Coaching Staff through education & recruitment
- Improve standards (uniforms, expectations, IDP's)
- Add and improve programming to provide better recruitment opportunities
- Add programs to continue playing after Youth Soccer
- Find our own facility
- Be a leading club for our community
- Attract players to our community

