

US Soccer has replaced the Birth Year Matrix with the Birth Year and Season Matrix

Explanation for the Confusion with the original matrix:

The Birth Year Matrix originally presented by U.S. Soccer, and posted on cjsa.org, depicted the age groupings in a **single calendar year** format (e.g., 2016, 2017, 2018), in which a player born in 2004, for example, would play as a U12 in 2016. This chart has since been removed from U.S. Soccer's website and replaced with the chart on the next page, which groups players' ages by **soccer year** (e.g., 2016-17, 2017-18). Using the same example above, a player born in 2004 would play as a U13 in the 2016-17 soccer year. According to U.S. Soccer, the two charts are in fact consistent with one another. It's just that the first chart did not address the competitive season, so they created the **"Birth Year and Season Matrix"** to account for the competitive seasons.

Determining the Birth Year

U.S. Soccer explains that birth year registration should be calculated based on the year in which the season ends. For example, if a season begins in the fall of 2017 and ends in the summer of 2018 (ex: 2017-18 seasonal year), the players would be registered based on their age in the year 2018. To simplify **determining the age group, just subtract the birth year from the year the season ends.**

$$\text{Year Season Ends} - \text{Birth Year} = \text{Age Group}$$

$$2016\text{-}2017 \text{ Seasonal Year} \quad 2017 - 2001(\text{birth year}) = \text{U16}$$

The next page contains the Birth Year and Season Matrix

Season	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Birth Year									
2020									
2019									U6
2018								U6	U7
2017							U6	U7	U8
2016						U6	U7	U8	U9
2015					U6	U7	U8	U9	U10
2014				U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11
2013			U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
2012		U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13
2011	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14
2010	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15
2009	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16
2008	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17
2007	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18
2006	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19
2005	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19	
2004	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19		
2003	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19			
2002	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19				
2001	U16	U17	U18	U19					
2000	U17	U18	U19						
1999	U18	U19							
1998	U19								

Birth Year and Season Matrix 11-5-15