2026-27 Allstate Homegrown Division Player Movement Guidelines

Philosophy	MLS NEXT seeks to put the player first and empower players to make decisions about their own soccer development. The MLS NEXT Player Movement Guidelines are designed to ensure that players know of, and therefore choose, the pathway that best fits their needs and ambitions while enabling Clubs to help best guide and safeguard those player choices.
Definitions	Open Period & Initial Registration Period (Off-Season): During the off-season, players can attend trials, train, and play with any MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club. Players may also register with any MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club, so long as the MLS NEXT Homegrown Division club complies with the MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division Roster Rules. During the off-season, clubs are not required to communicate with one another about prospective players; however, communication between clubs is highly recommended. Registered Player: A Registered Player is a player who is fully approved on the season roster for an MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club within Kitman Labs. Once a player becomes a Registered Player, that player cannot move clubs until the following season or during the Player Movement Period. If a club releases a Registered Player during the Initial Registration Period, that player may register with a different MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club before the registration deadline for that season. In-Season Trial Period: During this period, players are eligible to go on trial with other MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division clubs but cannot register or participate in any MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division matches with the trial club. Clubs are permitted to submit trial requests for players. Trial requests cannot be outright denied by clubs. Player Movement Period: This is the period when a Registered Player may move to a different MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club. For a player to move from one MLS NEXT club to another in the Player Movement Period, the current club must release the player, and the current club must provide written approval for the move. Roster Freeze Period: Players cannot register with another club or go on trials during this period. Trial requests are not permitted during this period. Trial requests can be outright denied by the clubs. ***All references to player communication also apply to communication with the parents, guardians, families, and/or agents of the relevant player***
Regulations	• Clubs must inform the player and their family/guardians of any legitimate trial requests. • Clubs must not retaliate against a player who accepts a trial at another club (e.g. must not release the player, reduce playing minutes as a result, punish siblings/family members within the club, etc.). • Clubs must respect a player's decision to reject a trial or move to their club. ◦ If a player rejects a trial or move to an MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club, that club cannot submit another trial/movement request for that player for the remainder of the season.

2026-27 Allstate Homegrown Division Player Movement Guidelines

Player Movement Calendar

Note: Dates may vary by year, specific dates below are based on the 2026-27 season

June 1 – June 21 – Open Period

- Players can train, trial, and play with any MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club without requiring approval from club from previous season.
- Communication between clubs is highly recommended when one MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club is recruiting players from another MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club.

June 22 – August 21 – Initial Registration Period

- Players may continue to train, trial, and play non-MLS NEXT matches with any MLS NEXT club.
- Players are free to register with any MLS NEXT club.
- Once a player is fully registered & approved for a club in Kitman Labs, they cannot register with a different MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club until the Player Movement Period (unless the player is released during a different Period without communication between clubs).
  - Players cannot register with a different MLS NEXT Homegrown Division club for the 26/27 season until the Initial Registration Period opens.
- MLS NEXT prefers that clubs do not commit players to their teams or request participation fees/dues for the 2026-27 season until the Initial Registration Period opens.

August 22 – October 18 – Closed Period

- Clubs cannot communicate with players, trial players, or recruit players registered with another MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club.
  - Except for approved local talent discovery programs with written consent from both clubs.
- Clubs can communicate with each other to express interest/arrange a trial for a player once the closed period ends but absolutely no communication with the player can take place until the Closed Period is over.

2026-27 Allstate Homegrown Division Player Movement Guidelines

Player Movement Calendar	Note: Dates may vary by year, specific dates below are based on the 2026-27 season October 19 – April 17 – In-Season Trial Period • Clubs can communicate with and recruit players, but players cannot register with a new MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club until the Player Movement Period. • The requesting MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club must have written approval from the responding MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club before contacting a player for a trial. January 1 – January 31 – Player Movement Period • MLS NEXT clubs can communicate with and recruit players. • Players can register with a different MLS NEXT Allsatte Homegrown Division club. ◦ For a player to move from one MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club to another in the Player Movement Period, they must be released from their current club and obtain written approval for them to move to a different club. April 18 – June 13 – Roster Freeze Period • Players cannot register or go on trial with a new club during the Roster Freeze Period. • The Roster Freeze Period ends at the conclusion of the MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division Season. June 14-July 12, 2027 - Open Period • Players can train, trial, and play with any MLS NEXT Allstate Homegrown Division club without requiring approval from their club from the previous season. • Communication between clubs is highly recommended when one MLS NEXT club is recruiting players from another MLS NEXT club.

2026-27 Allstate Homegrown Division Player Movement Calendar

- Open Period
- Initial Registration Period
- Closed Period
- In Season Trial Period
- Player Movement Period
- Roster Freeze Period

June 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2026

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August 2026

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September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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December 2026

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January 2027

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February 2027

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March 2027

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April 2027

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May 2027

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30	31					

June 2027

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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