



Penfield Strikers

Understanding Travel Soccer Commitment

REQUIRED TRAVEL SOCCER COMMITMENT

The Penfield Strikers is a travel soccer club and a member of the Rochester District Youth Soccer League (RDYSL) and New York State West Youth Soccer Association (NYSWYSA).

Travel soccer is more competitive and requires a greater commitment from the player and the parents – a much greater commitment than recreational soccer.

This commitment includes the time necessary to attend practices, league games and tournaments. Traveling means traveling to games in the Rochester area with some travel times exceeding 30 minutes. The game season starts in May and runs through late July, so family vacation plans may be impacted. It is expected that players will arrive on time, with all required equipment, and be mentally and physically prepared to participate for all scheduled practices and games. The coach must be notified in a timely fashion when a player cannot attend a scheduled team event due to a conflict (e.g., academic, religious, or illness). Every effort should be made to avoid conflicts and it is recommended that trips and vacations be scheduled after the first week in August. Players with additional soccer season activities (e.g., sports, jobs, clubs, lessons, or trips) that may seriously interfere with their ability to train and play with the team, should examine their ability to participate. While we open our club to any female player with a desire to learn and play the game, we have come to appreciate over the years the value of sharing travel soccer commitment and expectations up front to ensure a more enjoyable and competitive season for all team members.

STANDARD SOCCER YEAR

July & September

Tryouts The club holds tryouts in July (U13+) and September (U7-U12) of each year. All age groups are scheduled for two sessions. It is expected for players, who are seriously committed to playing travel soccer, to attend both tryout sessions. If a player is unable to attend both sessions it is critical for parents to communicate the conflict prior to the start of the first tryout session.

October

Annual Meeting The club holds its mandatory annual meeting at the end of October.

November - April

Indoor Practices Each team is assigned 1-2 hours of weekly indoor practice time from November through April. This indoor time includes both team practice and skills training. Participation is expected at these practices throughout the year; however, sessions may be missed due to illness or prior agreement with the team's head coach.

April - July

Outdoor Season Players are expected to be available for games and practices FOR THE FULL SEASON (April through July). If a player expects to have conflicting sports or other activities that may cause her to miss a significant number of games and/or practices, then travel soccer may not be an appropriate fit.

It is expected that each player will be able to commit at least three days per week for league games and practices during this time. For tournament/festival weekends, the commitment will be higher. Teams typically play 2-3 weekend tournaments/festivals a season. RDYSL generally schedules one or two games per week resulting in 12 RDYSL games in total. Regular season play begins mid-May and ends the first week in August.

Participation is expected at games, practices, and weekend tournaments/festivals; however, sessions may be missed due to illness or prior agreement with the team's head coach. Players unable to meet the expectations stated above will likely receive reduced playing time.

August

No Penfield Strikers planned activities. It's a good time to plan your vacation!

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

All Girls All Soccer (AGAS) Optional program for girls entering Grades 2 through 6 consisting of two skills building/practice sessions in September followed by six weeks of games. Participation is optional but recommended. U13 and older players are encouraged to participate as assistants.

Indoor Leagues Some teams participate in indoor leagues

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