

Travel Tryout Process

What tryout session should my player report to in order to tryout?

All players should attend the tryout for the year in which they were born.

Should players attend all tryouts?

It is highly recommended that players attend all tryout sessions for their age group. The more the evaluators are able to see the players, the better the process works.

If there are multiple teams in an age group, can my child try out for a specific team?

At tryouts, players will be evaluated by the staff and placed on teams that are most appropriate based on the pool of players available. Players at the older ages (U13 and older) will be able to opt out of consideration for the Elite level teams if their commitment level does not align with the level needed for those teams.

Player Selection

How are players evaluated at tryouts?

Players are evaluated based on their Physical, Technical (skill), Tactical (understanding), and Psychological qualities as they relate to the club's playing style and potential for development. The staff does their best to provide a fair and equitable assessment of each player in the age group and to provide them with the best fit for their continued development in the game.

Are players pre-selected for teams?

Teams are not pre-selected. Players are not guaranteed spots on the teams they played in the previous year.

Who picks the teams?

The coaching staff for the coming year and the Technical Director(s) select the teams. Input can be, and often is, taken from the previous year's coaches when appropriate. The Club will also employ independent evaluators to participate in the selection process.

"Playing Up"

Can players "play up" an age group?

Players may still be offered the opportunity to play up when it is beneficial to them in terms of their development. Players might be offered the opportunity to play up from the beginning of the season or might be offered the chance during the season because they have performed well.

Who decides if players are able to "play up"?

Decisions on whether a player is offered the opportunity to play up will be made by the coaching staff and must be approved by the Technical Director.

Who "plays up"?

Players who are performing exceptionally well in their "natural age group" can be offered the chance to play up an age group to speed their development. These players are normally able to compete on even terms with the players at the top level in the next age. During the tryout process we would expect these players to clearly be outperforming players in their age group pool.

If my son or daughter is offered the chance to “play up,” is he or she required to do so?

The staff may offer the chance to play up to a player after tryouts or at some point during the year. We will never offer a chance to play up if we feel it is not in the best interest of the player. Players (and their families) are not obligated to accept this opportunity.

Multiple Sports

Can my child play another sport AND soccer?

Yes. There is documented benefit to cross-training and participating in multiple sports, but it must be understood that our programs are a commitment and players are expected to be at training and games.

Can my child play high school soccer?

Yes. Our HS age players may play on their HS team. We recognize the importance of playing in the high school teams to our players and their families, and we see the value in it. Our HS aged teams begin play in late October/early November after the HS season.

Team Sizes and Seasons

When do seasons run for the various teams?

Teams composed of players who are younger than high school age play from August through May or early June. Teams composed of players of HS age who play in their HS teams begin in late October or early November and play through late May/mid-June. Some older teams may opt to play in college showcase events into July.

What are the expected roster sizes for the various teams?

Our guidelines for team sizes are as follows:

7 on field: 10-12 total

9 on field: 12-14 total

11 on field: 15-17 (U13-U15), and 16-20 (U16-U19)

The Club will set a minimum number of players needed to create a team at each size, and we will NOT form a team with fewer than that number of players.

Uniforms

Must I buy a uniform?

If you are a new player to the Club, you will need to purchase a uniform for the coming year. Uniforms usually change every 2 years due to changes in product availability from the manufacturer.

If my player moves from a Travel team to an Elite team during the coming year, will I have to buy another new uniform?

No. Our Travel and Elite teams will wear the same uniform. This eliminates the need for players moving between teams to purchase additional uniform pieces.