



Fishers Soccer Club Policy and Procedure



Section I. FSC Player Tryout Policy

1.0 Recreational Division Tryouts.

No tryouts shall be held for the Recreational division of soccer play within Fishers Soccer Club (FSC). All players desiring to participate and having duly registered and having paid the appropriate registration fees, during the denoted registration period, shall be provided the opportunity to be assigned to a team.

As a general rule, all players shall be assigned to teams within their age group, provided that an adequate number of players exist for that age group division. Any situations where a parent requests for their child to play up or down a division of players of comparable age may be considered by the Rec Director(s). The decision as to whether to approve such a request shall be at the Rec Director(s)'s discretion. If a sufficient number of players do not exist for a given division in which players are available, every effort shall be made to ensure that an opportunity to play soccer within FSC exists.

2.0 Travel Division Tryouts.

Tryouts for all U8 through U14 FSC Travel teams shall be held each year at the conclusion of the spring season, usually in mid-June. All players shall try out in their age-appropriate division.

Players who intend to try out for the FSC Travel program will preregister for tryouts online. Any player who does not pre-register will be required to complete the online registration process upon arrival to the tryout session. This will need to be completed before the player is able to take the field. Players unavailable to attend the tryouts due to extreme circumstances shall preregister and mention their conflict in the "comments" section of the online registration form. Parents of these players should also notify the Director of Coaching about the conflict.

At the discretion of the Director of Coaching, supplemental tryouts may be scheduled as necessary to seek additional players. Such tryouts shall be conducted by the FSC Training Staff. Any player who is going to participate in a supplemental evaluation/tryout must pre-register online with a link provided by either the Director of Coaching or the Club Registrar.

Only the DOC has the final say on rosters and therefore is the only person who can commit a player to a roster.

Tryouts, team playing level, and registration are all subject to the policies and rules of United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) and Indiana Soccer.

2.1 Qualification of Players.

All players meeting appropriate USYSA and Indiana Soccer criteria for eligibility and having appropriately registered for the tryouts shall be provided an opportunity to be assessed for assignment to a Travel team.



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2.2 Assessment of Players.

Upon appropriate registration, players desiring to participate in the FSC Travel division tryouts shall be subject to a tryout assessment. Tryout assessments shall be used to identify new players and compare their skills against existing players in each gender age group. The tryout format shall cover skill assessment, small sided games and full sided games. Players shall be evaluated based on USYSA playing level criteria. The Director of Coaching and the Training Staff shall conduct the Travel division tryouts, with administrative assistance from the Registrar.

Under no circumstances will any individual be permitted to evaluate their own child. These players shall be evaluated by at least 2 other members of the Training Staff.

2.2.1 U8, U9 and U10 Player Evaluations.

Prospective U8, U9 and U10 Academy participants shall be evaluated at tryouts by the Academy DOC and other Academy Training Staff.

2.2.2 U11 through U14 Player Assessments.

All U11 through U14 players shall be assessed at tryouts by the Training Staff.

2.2.3 Assessments for Over-Age (Captive) Players.

All over-age (captive) players shall be assessed at tryouts by the Coaching Directors. Such players are also encouraged to try out and/or coordinate with the Indianapolis Premier Soccer Club (IPSC) so as to help assure consideration for placement on a team for the spring season. There is no guarantee of placement for Captive players and they should plan accordingly.

2.2.4 U15 through U19 Player Assessments.

U15 and older players shall be directed to the IPSC for evaluation and possible placement on U15 and older teams.

2.3 Formation of Teams.

Teams and Academy Groups shall be formed at the conclusion of club tryouts & evaluations.

2.3.1 Formation of U8-U10 Academy Groups.

As recommended by the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) "Best Practices" Player Development document, all U8, U9 and U10 players shall participate in an Academy Group style program.



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2.3.2 Formation of U11-U14 Teams.

Upon completion of tryouts, U11-U14 division team assignments shall be made based upon FSC developmental philosophies and the skill level of the players. Placement of players on specific Travel teams shall not be directed by other players, parents, guardians, or FSC volunteers.

Pre-tryout rankings and player evaluations from the prior season submitted by the Trainers and Coaches shall be used as guidance in the team selection process. As pre-tryout preparation, Trainers and Coaches shall each rank existing players and submit their list to the Director of Coaching. Pre-tryout rankings shall not be solely used to determine teams prior to tryouts, nor shall they excuse any player from attending the tryout session. Pre-tryout ranking results shall be considered confidential.

Team lists will be formally developed after reviewing the tryout assessments of new potential players and comparing them to the pre-tryout rankings, evaluations and assessments of those who played for the program the previous year. Once the team lists are finalized, the Training Staff shall send the proposed rosters to the Coaching Directors. Once approved, the team lists shall be posted on the FSC website. The number of players on each team will be determined on a team by team basis, based on ability levels and available players. Teams shall not be considered final until FSC player registration with Indiana Soccer is completed. FSC will utilize the Club Pass system throughout the year as a developmental tool, to augment the number of available players on a team.

2.3.2.1 U11-U14 Team Designations.

The top team in each U11-U14 gender age group shall be designated as the Red team. The second team in each U11-U14 gender age group shall be designated as the White team, the third team in each gender age group shall be referred to as the Blue team, and the fourth team in each gender age group shall be referred to as the Black team.

2.3.3 Oversight Committee.

The Oversight Committee shall ensure that team formations correlate to data collected from the pre-tryout rankings, evaluations, and assessments. The Oversight Committee shall be responsible for ensuring that player placement on teams is in accordance with this policy, and that players have not been inappropriately assigned to teams. The Oversight Committee shall not have the authority to alter individual or team placements unless to remedy errors in procedure or in the recording of evaluation, assessment, or pre-tryout ranking data. The Oversight Committee shall consist of: Director of Coaching, Director of Player Development, U13/14 Technical Director, U9-12 Girls Technical Director, U9-12 Boys Technical Director, and the U5-U8 Technical Director. The Oversight Committee shall consider all tryout data confidential, and shall not share the data with any parent, player, coach, manager, or trainer.



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2.3.4 Discrepancies.

The teams shall be selected in a professional manner with honesty and integrity. There will not be a process offered for players to petition placement decisions or request placement changes. Parental desires for specific team placement of their child shall not be accommodated for any reason.

2.4 Playing Up an Age Level.

If deemed developmentally appropriate by the Coaching Directors, and supported by prior year player evaluations, a player may be asked to try out and play up one (1) age group level. Players shall only be allowed to play at a higher level other than their current age group if, at the discretion of the Training Staff,

1. The player indicates a level of skill at or near the top of the majority of players in their current age group or level of play,
2. The player's development would be impeded by remaining at the current level of play,
3. The age group team to which the player is being moved has adequate roster positions to allow for that player without displacing a current player on that roster.
4. The player would not be at a physical disadvantage by being promoted to a higher level of play or age group, and
5. The player demonstrates the ability and maturity level to play at the next higher age group or level of play.

Additionally, at the discretion of the Coaching Directors, players may be asked to play at an older age group to appropriately balance a team needing additional players. The higher playing level evaluation criteria listed above shall be used as a guide for determining a player's eligibility, although not all criteria need be met.

No opportunity shall be offered to any player where the safety of the player may be in jeopardy due to the player's lack of experience, skill level, or size.

Parents shall retain the authority to decline the club's offer for their child to play up in age group.

2.5 Special Circumstances for Over-Age (Captive) Players.

U14 teams are permitted to roster up to three (3) over-age (captive) players for league and tournament play during the fall season. However, in the spring season, the U14 team must be promoted to the U15 age group or release their over-age players. If it is determined by the Coaching Directors that the team is to move up in age group, the FSC team will cease to exist and the team will be transferred to the Indianapolis Premier Soccer Club (IPSC). This will require players to register for IPSC during the advertised IPSC registration period, and will also require that the players purchase IPSC uniforms. If the team remains at the U14 age group and thereby releases their over-age players, the over-age players may participate in the IPSC tryouts



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for an opportunity to play for a U15 or older team. Release from the FSC U14 team does not guarantee an IPSC roster position.

Over-age (captive) players shall register with FSC for one half of the year (fall only) and will be released after the fall season. Full year non-captive players whose team is promoted and transferred to IPSC shall be refunded for one half of the yearly fee.

2.6 Selection of Assistant Coaches.

Each FSC Travel team shall have, one (1) or sometimes two (2) parent assistant coaches on the Coaching Staff. However, no more than two (2) parent assistant coaches shall be assigned to a U11-U14 team. The number of parent assistant coaches utilized for the Academy teams will be based on the number of players and at the discretion of the Director of Coaching and the Academy Director. Parents who are interested in assisting shall submit their names to the FSC Director of Coaching for appraisal. The Director of Coaching shall review factors such as prior coaching experience, prior playing experience, coaching licenses obtained, coach philosophy & commitment. An interview could be requested by the club, in which the potential assistant coach will sit down with the Director of Coaching to discuss the role in more detail. As a general rule, current assistant coaches will be given preference, if warranted.

Individuals who are interested in coaching during the upcoming year shall submit to a background check and attend a mandatory coach's meeting. During the coaches meeting, each coach and/or potential coach shall be required to acknowledge the FSC coaching and training policy by signing the FSC-approved coaching agreement form. Failure to sign the coaching agreement form shall be cause for removal from the list of coaching candidates for the upcoming soccer year. Parent coaches that are not already licensed shall be required to obtain the requisite license within six (6) months.

2.7 Team Postings and Player Commitment.

All FSC-approved teams, along with their Red/White/Blue/Black designations and the names of their assigned Trainers, shall be publicly posted on the FSC website within 24 hours of the conclusion of tryouts for the gender age group.

2.7.1 Player Identification.

Protecting every player's privacy is important and therefore, any publicly displayed rosters will not show the full name of any player.

2.7.2 Player Commitment.

Players that have been assigned to a FSC Travel division team, or a FSC Academy Group, will be required to accept positions via email, and then register in order to guarantee their roster position.



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2.7.3 Option to Move Over to the FSC Rec Program following Travel Tryouts.

All HSE resident players who try out for the FSC Travel program and do not make a Travel team or who are assigned to a FSC Travel team and do not accept the offer to play with the Travel team will be given an opportunity to register for the FSC Rec program. Due to team assignment and uniform ordering logistics, all such changes must be made within the short time frame established each year. Completed SPORTS registration forms must be delivered in person to either the Rec Director(s) or the SPORTS office with full payment by the requisite deadline date.

2.8.1 Academy Group Training.

The Academy Groups will have 2 training sessions and 1 free play (street soccer) session per week. Players are expected to attend at least 2 sessions per week for most weeks.

2.8.2 U11-U14 Training.

All U11-U14 teams will have 3 training sessions per week, of which attendance is expected at all 3, unless there are special circumstances. 1 or more of the sessions will be in a group training format.

2.9 Determination of League Playing Level.

The Director of Coaching shall determine the team playing level for each team/group after consultation with the team Coaching Staff (Trainer & Assistant Coach).

Coaches, Trainers and/or Managers shall not have the authority to register their team with any league. Additionally, the FSC Registrar will not process any team with Indiana Soccer until their playing level is approved by the Director of Coaching. If a coach or manager registers the team in any league without FSC approval, FSC shall not be responsible for any penalty fees incurred due to incorrect registration and those fees shall be the responsibility of the team.