

San Francisco Vikings Soccer Club, Inc.



Founded 1923

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Summary of Travel Team Program

Philosophy and Mission

The foundation of our Travel Team Program is individual player development. We believe that having fun and developing as a player are inseparable and we promote a spirit of cooperation and competition. Our travel teams foster the physical and mental development that is necessary to excel at soccer in a healthy, character-building environment that encourages each child to achieve his or her highest potential. Winning games is not the mission of the travel program. Our mission is development in a competitive arena.

How does travel team or competitive soccer differ from recreational soccer? Being part of a travel team requires a significantly greater commitment of time and dedication on the part of the players, family members, coaches and volunteers. The commitment is for one year. Travel teams practice several times per week, compete eight to ten months a year, and often play games and tournaments outside of San Francisco. The league games can be as far away as San Jose or Santa Cruz, and tournaments range from Fresno to Sacramento to Ukiah. Players who attend all practices and are on time to the game, will play at least 50% of the game. The only exception to this policy is the Association or State Cup tournaments.

Coaching Objective

To develop and instill the important life values of individual and group effort, group trust and loyalty, sportsmanship and soccer playing skills in the most learning efficient and positive playing environments possible.

Seasonal Calendar

The player will register in April for the fall season with the new team. \$100 deposit is required with registration (part of season fees).

August is the month when teams begin practice. The teams may play in one or two tournaments before the fall league season begins after Labor Day. The league games can be Saturday or Sunday and occasionally both days on the same weekend. There are typically 10 games in the season, 5 home and 5 away. Players are required to play this season.

Winter season consists of an indoor futsal league in San Francisco. These games are typically played Sunday afternoons from January to March. Player participation is not required. Some teams may play an outdoor tournament during the winter season.

Spring season will be similar to the fall season, 8-10 games from April to mid-June. Players are required to play this season.

Practice days are twice a week, during the week. The days and times are dependent upon field availability. Practices are typically one and a half to two hours.

Cost

The Club season (annual) fees for travel team players are approximately \$1,200. These fees include tuition, three season league fees and tournament registration. Families may have additional expenses for uniforms and other misc expenses. Some financial assistance is available to those families who cannot afford to pay the full amount. Fundraising opportunities are available for teams.

Selection of Coaches

The Club coaches generally meet these criteria: CYSA "E/D" or higher license; a Positive Coaching Alliance "Double Goal" certificate; commitment to follow the philosophy and coaching methodology of the Club; and willingness to communicate regularly with parents.

Team Formation

The under 10 age group is the first year that teams are formed in the Club. The maximum roster size is set by CYSA and is 13 players for U10 and U11 and 18 players for U12 and older teams. However the average roster size is typically 16 for U12 and older teams. The teams must be formed by tryouts and be made up of San Francisco residents (maximum of 2 non-residents).