



BYSA Competitive Travel

2025-2026 Program Overview

Updated 9/16/2025

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About the Program

BYSA's Competitive Travel Soccer program gives players living in the Bridgewater, MA community the opportunity to develop soccer skills year round. The program is designed for committed players and families who want to invest more time on soccer and are looking to advance their skills through competitive play.

The program runs from late October through the end of June and consists of a winter indoor season and an outdoor spring season. BYSA is a member of the [South Shore Soccer League \(SSSL\)](#) for Grades 3 and up in which teams compete against other local town teams in the South Shore area. For Grades 1 and 2 (U8) is currently not a part of South Shore Soccer League. Teams in the past have participated in the Festival of Future Stars (FOFS) with games held in East Bridgewater.

Spring practices are scheduled weekly at the Flagg St. fields with times coordinated between coaches and BYSA. Spring training times and days may be different from the winter schedule. Practice schedules are typically set in March.

Player Evaluation

Player evaluations are held in early Fall with team rosters assembled shortly thereafter. Players are rated based on a number of factors including, technical and tactical skill, physicality, effort and attitude.

Players are expected to attend all evaluation events for their age group. Missing an evaluation may impact team placement. In the event injury prevents a player from participating, all available player data will be considered and placement will be approved by BYSA President.

Evaluators are selected by the age group coordinator and may include BYSA Board members and past coaches from other age groups. Coach candidates may be invited to observe tryouts. Evaluation schedules are organized by each age group coordinator working with BYSA program directors.

Team Formation

BYSA's goal is to place every player where they are best positioned to achieve maximum development and play against the appropriate level of competition. Player placement and team roster formation depends on a number of factors including tactical and technical skills, grade, and sometimes player position.

The eligible pool of players for each team in an age group is based on final player ratings which are determined from player evaluations. U8 teams are formed with a goal of evenly allocating players based on evaluation ratings.

Roster spots are not guaranteed year-to-year and prior year placement is not factored in current year team formation.

The target roster sizes for each team within age groups are below and are based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, SSSL/MTOC roster size requirements, potential player conflicts, team division placement, and player ability. Exceptions to the target range must be approved by the Travel Program Committee. Actual roster size will vary within the target range based on a number of factors including player skill level and team division placement.

- U8 – 9 to 11 players
- U10 – 11 to 13 players
- U12 – 13 to 16 players
- U14 & older – 17 to 22 players

Coach Selection and Assignment

Head Coach Assignments

All head coach candidates must apply to be considered for a head coach role and be MYSA-credentialed. Head coaches are selected and voted on by BYSA board vote based on a number of factors, including current soccer licenses, coaching experience and philosophy, past disciplinary actions. Coaches are not assigned until after player evaluations.

MYSA-credentialed coaches have passed a CORI check and completed annually required health and safety-related online training. Additionally, BYSA coaches are strongly encouraged to pursue US Soccer licensing for the age group in which they coach and will reimburse coaches for licensing fees.

Assistant Coach Assignments

Each team may have up to two additional assistant coaches. Assistant coaches are typically identified by the head coach, and may in some circumstances be assigned to the team by the BYSA Board or age group coordinator. All assistant coaches must be MYSA-credentialed and reviewed by the BYSA board.

Team Managers

A Team Manager is someone who is not an official sideline coach, but may have responsibilities in helping operate the team in conjunction with the coaches.

This role may involve coordinating communications to parents, tracking participation for games/practices, and potential other tasks to help support the players.

Team Managers are not required by BYSA, but are highly encouraged. If you are interested in volunteering as a team manager, contact your age group coordinator during the tryout process..

Winter and Spring Travel Season Overview

The program includes winter team training sessions held between November and March and weekly practices and games from April through June. Teams also participate in 2-3 sessions of indoor league games during the winter at the Bridgewater Dome, Forekicks, Union Point, or similar facilities.

Indoor Winter Season (Training Sessions and League Games)

The winter indoor season begins in late October and completes in late March. For most age groups, this includes team training sessions at an indoor facility included as part of your registration fee with the potential for weekly league games (at an additional fee and coordinated by the coach). The purpose of the winter indoor season is to develop team chemistry and maintain consistent touches throughout the winter in preparation for the outdoor spring season.

Scheduling of indoor league games is organized by the facility, **not BYSA**. BYSA teams primarily play at the Bridgewater Sports Complex ("The Dome"). Some teams may choose to play at Forekicks (Taunton/Norfolk). The specific facility for each team depends on competition, space/availability, etc.

For teams playing in the Dome indoor leagues, the facility does not release a full schedule until several weeks into each session. The first 2-3 games will be scheduled a few days prior to game day. This approach allows them to observe team abilities before creating divisions within the age groups.

Team winter training schedules will be provided by BYSA near the beginning of the indoor season.

Competitive Spring Travel Season (U8)

The U8 Spring Travel Season is not currently part of South Shore Soccer League and requires limited travel. In past seasons, BYSA U8 teams have competed in the Festival of Future Stars (FOFS) league that is held at the Belmont Soccer fields in East Bridgewater.

Practices are scheduled weekly at the Flagg St. fields with times coordinated between coaches and BYSA. Spring training times and days may be different from the winter schedule. Practice schedules are typically set in March.

Competitive Spring Travel Season (SSSL - U10 and older)

The Competitive Travel Season for U10 and older teams officially begins in April with competition running through the end of June. Games are played weekly starting in early April through early June, with playoff opportunities available for U12 age groups and older. Playoffs run through June.

Travel games are held either at BYSA's home field (Flagg Street Soccer Complex) or at another town's facility within the South Shore area. Bridgewater's U10 and older teams compete against other towns that are members of the [South Shore Soccer League \(SSSL\)](#). Initial schedules are typically made available to BYSA by SSSL and provided to our coaches in February. Reschedules can/may occur depending on team availability. Make up game rescheduling due to weather conditions is handled by the head coach and league administration.

Practices are scheduled weekly at the Flagg Street fields with times coordinated between coaches and BYSA. Spring training times and days may be different from the winter schedule. Practice schedules are typically set in March.

All U12 age groups and above have the opportunity to play in the SSSL playoffs. Division 1 or Division 2 winners at the SSSL playoffs will compete in the [Massachusetts Tournament of Champions \(MTOC\)](#) against other town travel leagues for a chance to be named state champion.

All U8-U12 BYSA travel teams not competing in MTOC have the opportunity to close their season at the Bridgewater Challenge Cup, which are held at our Flagg St fields and host U8, U10, and U12 town travel teams for a weekend-long tournament at the end of June.

Program Fees and Payment

Registration Fee

Fees for the Competitive Travel program vary each year based on the number of teams and registered players, facility rentals, outdoor league fees, and insurance costs.

Program fees cover indoor winter training sessions as well as Spring Travel league fees and outdoor practices.

Division	2025-2026 Fee
Grades 1 and 2 Boys and Girls	\$110
Grades 3 through 8 Boys and Girls	\$180

Grades 9 and up boys and Girls	\$125
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Financial Aid is available upon completion of a request [here](#).

Submitting Payment

Invitations to join a team will be sent after player evaluations. To secure your spot, payment is required when you accept your invitation. You may choose to pay in full or set up a payment plan. Please note, all balances must be paid in full by **February 1, 2026**. Unpaid balances after this date may be subject to late fees or risk losing prior payments and a player's roster spot.

Additional Expenses

- Indoor League Games (coordinated by the coach) - Most teams participate in 2 to 3 sessions of indoor league games. Indoor Leagues are typically held at the Dome or Forekicks and costs range from \$80 to \$100 per player per session. Depending on the number of sessions played, total cost for 20+ games of soccer during the winter would be approximately \$160-\$300.
- Required BYSA Kit, which typically costs between \$100 and \$125
- Player numbers are assigned by BYSA and are communicated to families along with information on how to order after teams are finalized
- Required gear: Cleats, shinguards, water bottle, and soccer ball
- BYSA Goalkeeper Shirt (optional)
- BYSA Training Jacket/Pants (optional)
- Bridgewater Challenge Cup and other tournaments (not included in program fees and handled by coaches)

How to Register

Click [here](#) to login to your BYSA SportsConnect site. If you are new to BYSA you will need to create an account and add your child(ren) with their name/birthdate. You will see an option to register for "2025-2026 Travel Program" for all children who are age-eligible. Click the Travel Program **with the correct grade** for the child you wish to register. Complete the registration information. Players must be registered prior to attending player evaluations. Once rosters are set and coaches are assigned, you will receive a notification to accept your child's roster spot on the team. At that time you can log-in and pay the registration fees. Uniforms are ordered separately from WeGotSoccer. More information on ordering uniforms will be available following team formation.

Key Contacts

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