

AYSA - ASTON UNITED Club Soccer Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

❑ WHAT IS CLUB SOCCER?

- CLUB SOCCER IS COMPETITIVE TRAVEL SOCCER, COMPETING AGAINST OTHER AREA CLUB TEAMS.

❑ WHAT IS THE PLAYER COMMITMENT FOR CLUB SOCCER?

- WHILE SOCCER IS A YEAR ROUND SPORT, THE PLAYER COMMITMENT FOR CLUB SOCCER IS THE FALL SEASON (JULY THRU NOVEMBER).
- MANY OF OUR COMMUNITY YOUTH ARE MULTI SPORT ATHLETES, AND WHILE WE ENCOURAGE MULTI SPORT ATHLETES, MOST CLUB TEAMS CONTINUE WITH WINTER/SPRING TRAINING AND GAMES THROUGH TO THE NEXT YEAR TRYOUTS. MOST PLAYERS PARTICIPATE IN WHAT THEIR SCHEDULE ALLOWS.

❑ WHAT ARE THE PLAYER COSTS TYPICALLY ASSOCIATED WITH A CLUB TEAM?

- Aston United Club Soccer Registration \$ 250
- Club player uniform (*approx. every 2 years*) \$ 100 - 150
- Tournament Fees (5-8 tournaments / year) \$ 20 – 40/tournament
- Winter Indoor/Training \$ 20 – 50/ player
- What does AYSA Club Registration cover?
 - This fee helps cover the team/players registration fees to the state and league fees, club insurance and Challenger Sports trainers for Fall season, this also helps cover the \$1,100 AYSA gives each Club team participating in a full Fall season.
- Club Teams will use Fundraisers to help offset some of the costs associated with the teams events/tournaments. Aston Club teams in the past have participated in many successful fundraisers like the Applebee's Pancake Breakfast, and Yankee Candle sales among others. Also each team will coordinate running an AYSA concession stand at home game weekends during the season to help raise money.
- The uniform cost covers 2 shirts (home/away), shorts and socks. Our uniforms and Aston United Club spirit wear is ordered thru soccer.com. Bags are also highly recommended.

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- Teams are encouraged to play and/or train thru the winter/spring. These events would be out of pocket for players.

❑ **WHAT IS THE TRAVEL AREA THAT THEY WOULD PLAY IN?**

- Boys club teams typically compete in the Delco Soccer League and Girls teams compete in PAGs (Philadelphia Area Girls Soccer) League. There are other leagues available to us and the appropriate level of play will be determined by the BOD (Board of Directors) and team coach. The goal is to develop players at an appropriate level that will allow them to succeed and grow.
- Roughly half the games would be home games played at on local school district fields; the other half would be to area clubs. Typically away games are within 45 minutes drive. Depending on your divisional placement, some could be as much as an hour and 30 min drive. Carpooling is encouraged.

❑ **WHEN DOES THE SEASON RUN?**

- The outdoor Fall soccer season runs from September through November, similar to the intramural schedule. The outdoor season is completed by Thanksgiving.
- The season consists of 8 – 10 games.
- The season kicks off the Saturday / Sunday after Labor Day with a one week break for Columbus Day weekend. Teams will typically play in a Columbus Day Tournament.

❑ **WHAT IS THE PRACTICE SCHEDULE?**

- The practice schedule will be dictated by the coach. The typical schedule is to practice twice a week during the season, the days to be determined by the coaches and field availability. Teams typically start practice in late June/ early July.
- Expect to have at least 3 hours of total practice time a week during the fall season.

❑ **IS THERE AN OFF-SEASON PRACTICE SCHEDULE?**

- Typically the practice season can run December – May.
- If a team chooses to use a trainer in the offseason or winter season, the practice time would be based on availability of the trainer and the players.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) CONTINUED

- Offseason spring practices will be determined by each coach/team individually, as well as the availability of indoor/outdoor facilities.

❑ **WHAT ABOUT TOURNAMENTS?**

- AYSA encourages all teams to play in tournaments outside of the regular season.
- Teams are encouraged to play in 3 – 4 tournaments during the spring and summer season to strengthen the team and prepare for the fall season.
- The typical team registration fee for tournaments is approximately \$450 - \$ 800 per team. Tourney fees typically increase with age increase. Example of a tournament fee structure would be: U9/U10 \$450, U11/U12 \$525, U13 and up \$625.
- Tournaments typically play 3-4 games over the course of a weekend, so they are going to be playing multiple games in one day.
- AYSA club does not dictate which tournaments you have to play in. AYSA teams try to attend the same tournaments, which can help families with multiple children in the program, but this is not guaranteed.
- Parents are encouraged to organize two – three fundraisers over the year to help offset cost for winter indoor season and other team functions and events.