



WELCOME AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Congratulations on being selected to play for FC USA Soccer Club during this upcoming year.

OUR MISSION

FC USA Soccer Club is devoted to each of our players to reach their highest potential by creating a supportive, competitive, challenging, and fun environment in the dynamic game of soccer. We accept the responsibility to develop every player to their highest level of athleticism, skill, teamwork, and leadership with dedication to our objectives and appreciation for the opportunity. For our players to achieve affirmative results on and off the pitch, we vigorously exert to use all of our attributes of integrity, courage, compassion, acumen, and spirit. To support our uncompromising intention to be the best youth soccer club, FC USA will utilize ardent leadership and a detailed, holistic approach to long-term elite player development in every age group. We also strive to be a positive role model for our community, with our players volunteering in community service projects and including provisions of financial support for needy families to the best of our ability.

We are committed to achieving a unique and unparalleled developmental environment for our players and we look forward to an exciting 2018/19 soccer season!

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INFORMATION

This year, we will begin working with Stack Sports for our team registration, payments and team communications for scheduling. We are striving to make all aspects of our program outstanding and easy for you. We believe a platform that will operate communications, scheduling and our website will support that endeavor. Once you have received your child's invitation, you will accept your position via the link provided to you. This will direct you to create a profile with in Stack Sports while collecting your first payment. You will then be prompted to join Team Connect and to use the Team Connect app. Please go to <http://fcusasoccer.msyalive.org/home> to learn more about the club.

FC USA Soccer Club Player Information Packet (rev. 2018)

DESCRIPTION OF FEES AND FINANCIAL POLICIES

Costs Included in Annual Fees:

- FC USA Club Dues
- MSYSA Registration and/or US Club Registration
- Fall and Spring Practice Sessions (two sessions per week with an option to add a third at the coach's discretion)
- Winter Practice Sessions
- Goalkeeper Training
- Skills, Speed & Agility, Fitness and Strength Training
- Team Coaching Fees, Manager Fees, Director of Coaching support
- 2017/18 League Fees (CMSA, CMSLL, BBSL, EDP...etc)
- Game Fields and Referees
- Minimum of 4 Tournaments



- State cup/Presidents Cup fees, fields, and referees (U12 and older)
- Coach's overnight travel expenses

The fee does not include required player uniforms, warm-ups, practice jerseys, player travel-related costs.

Fees:

Fees are determined annually on a per player basis

Uniforms:

The club updates its uniform kit every two years. 2018/19 will be a new uniform year. Every player joining the team in fall 2018 will be required to purchase the official FC USA Soccer Club uniform kit. Once you have accepted a roster spot, you will receive a jersey number from your coach or manager. Further instructions on how to order uniform kits will be provided.

Mid-Season Roster Additions:

Fees for players added/transferred during the season will be assessed as follows:

The year is broken into 10 months- Jun-March. Fees will be pro-rated to a 10% monthly allocation after the initial deposit is paid.

Injured Players:

A player injured for three months or more may receive a reduction in the player fee provided he or she applies to the team for a reduction and provides a doctor's report on letterhead regarding the condition of the player, the probable duration of the injury, and any recommended physical therapy. The player should state in the application whether s/he intends to remain on the roster after recovering from the injury and completing any rehabilitation period. The minimum relief granted will be 15% of the annual fee; the maximum relief granted for extreme circumstances will be 30% of the annual fee. The coach and manager will review any application for fee reduction and determine whether to grant a reduction and if so, in what amount.

Payment Schedule:

Payments are by credit card/debit card/ or e-check only. Here are the following options:

- 1.) Pay in full at the time of registration.
- 2.) Automatic Charge Payment Plan: The initial deposit will be charged at checkout and the remainder due will be divided into the following options:
 - a.) 3 installments
 - b.) 10 installments

Players paying electronically by credit card or electronic check will be assessed an additional \$2.00 processing fee per transaction. There will be no extra fees assessed for those paying by e-check.



A player shall not participate in any Club activities until previous season year balances have been satisfied.

Players joining after November 1st will be offered a shortened payment plan.

If you do not have a credit or bank card, you must contact our FC USA Finance Coordinator.

It is the players/family's responsibility to remain current with the payments and maintain the membership in good standing.

In the event that the payments are not made within 30 days of the payment due date, the club will take the following actions:

31 days late: Notify Director of Coaching, Coach and Manager of balance due and that member is not in good standing. Player will receive warning that if the payment is not made within 30 days, the Director of Coaching will be notified and appropriate actions taken by the Executive Director (suspension from games, suspension from practices and games, suspension from the club, etc.)

61 days late: Director of Coaching will discuss past due balances with the Executive Director and appropriate sanctions of player and family will take place until such time as player and family become a member in good standing.

Members with balances that are greater than 60 days past due should expect that their participation in team and club activities will be suspended until such time as the balance due is paid in full.

Refund Policy:

Accepting a position on an FC USA Soccer Club team is a commitment to the club and to the other members of the team to play for the full soccer year.

FC USA Soccer Club is a volunteer-based organization funded primarily through registration fees. Teams are assembled and staff is assigned based upon the registrations received. Because of the method of registration (electronic) required by our affiliation with MSYSA and Stack Sports, costs are incurred by the club the instant that a player registers and pays any fee for a team, program, apparel or related club items. As such, no refunds will be issued after the team selection process is complete or August 1 of the respective year of play, whichever comes first.

Partial refunds may be issued at the discretion of the FC USA Soccer Club's Board of Directors between the time a player registers and the time team formation occurs prior to August 1. Players that register after August 1 for a program may only be granted a partial refund of fees as noted in the "exceptions" section below.

Participants in FC USA Soccer Club programs assume the risks of changes in personal affairs, health, injury or vacation when they are unable to participate in training sessions, games, trips, programs or special events.

All refunds requested prior to this deadline must be submitted via email to: FC USA Soccer Club, info@fcusasoccer.com.



Exceptions:

- If you register with FC USA and we are unable to place you on an age-appropriate team, a refund will be issued, not including any late fees, team fees or purchased or received uniforms, spirit-wear or related apparel items.
- If you register with FC USA and we are unable to place you on an age-appropriate A team but are willing to be placed on an age appropriate B team, you will be refunded the difference between the two team fees, not including any late fees, registration fees or purchased or received uniforms, spirit wear or related apparel items.
- If you are placed on an age-appropriate A team and accept the position, you will be given a refund only if all of the following criteria are met:
 - Written refund request, mail or email, is received prior to final team formations and FC USA approves your request.
 - Any club costs already allocated to the player will be deducted from the refund.

FC USA reserves the right to deviate from this policy when special circumstances are presented. In accordance with MSYSA regulations, there may be circumstances that result in a player asking to be released from a team. This refund policy applies to players who voluntarily request release from a team prior to the completion of the year (August 1-July 31).

FC USA Soccer Club depends on receipt of payments to pay for expenses during the seasonal year. As such, refunds will be granted only in the rarest of circumstances. In accepting a spot on an FC USA team roster, you are agreeing to play and pay for the full soccer year.

STAY IN TOUCH! We are looking forward to a great soccer year! Your team manager and coach should be your first stop for information regarding the team. Please feel free to contact us if we can be of help to you during the year.

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Players Code of Conduct Parent and Player Pledge:

I recognize that players need to conduct themselves in a manner that is supporting to the development of the player, the team and the positive experience of all person's they interact with in the context of the FC USA Soccer Club program.

Player Code of Conduct:

As a player, I agree that I will abide by the following, and as the Parent of a player, I agree that my player will abide by the following: Individual

Conduct:

1. I will maintain a high level of fitness and nutrition and I fully understand my role in enhancing performance and preventing injuries.
2. I will spend time on individual player development, before, after and outside of practice.
3. I understand my commitment to FC USA is from August-June (even after tryouts).
4. I understand that I am not allowed to guest play with other clubs or teams outside of FC USA without specific permission from my coach.
5. I will embody the "values" of FC USA. Conduct with Team:
 1. I will be respectful and professional on and off the field at all times.
 2. I will challenge, support, encourage, and motivate my teammates.
 3. I am fully committed to my team's success and will maintain a high level of competitive spirit.
 4. I am fully committed to the FC USA style of play, which separates us from other clubs.
6. I will embody a winning mentality in all activities all of the time.

Practice Conduct:

1. I understand that practice is mandatory and there are no unexcused absences.
2. I understand that punctuality is a requirement.
3. I understand that I will be ready to play at that time and when needed support the team in practice set up and/or takedown, including getting equipment ready: pinnies, balls, cones, etc....
4. I will have 100% focus and commitment in all activities.
5. I understand that practice performance impacts my playing time in games.
6. I will wear the correct FC USA practice gear.

Game Conduct:

1. I will wear the correct uniform for game and travel.
2. I will arrive early for games. U8-U13 must arrive 45 minutes before the start of game. U14-U18 must arrive 60 minutes before the start of the game.
3. I understand that all players must attend home games even if they are not rostered.



4. I will behave professionally during games and on trips. "I" shall include any relatives and/or friends of parents attending any FC USA function.

Social Media Post & Texting:

Parents and players should know that FC USA has zero tolerance for cyber bullying. That includes posts referring to players outside of the club. Please have players click the link below to review Maryland Anti-Bullying Laws & Policies. Cyber-bullying is a serious offense and can be deemed a criminal offense. Cyber-bullying is bullying that takes place over digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets. Cyber-bullying can occur through SMS, Text, and apps, or online in social media, forums, or gaming where people can view, participate in, or share content. Cyber-bullying includes sending, posting, or sharing negative, harmful, false, or mean content about someone else. It can include sharing personal or private information about someone else causing embarrassment or humiliation. Some cyber-bullying crosses the line into unlawful or criminal behavior.

The most common places where cyber-bullying occurs are:

- Social Media, such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter
- SMS (Short Message Service) also known as Text Message sent through devices
- Instant Message (via devices, email provider services, apps, and social media messaging features)
- Email

Parent's Code of Conduct Parent's Pledge:

"Soccer is a player's game. The paramount concern of the adults involved is the holistic development, welfare, enjoyment and safety of their players"- Code of Ethics NSCAA

I recognize that parents are the most important role models for their children and that amateur athletics help develop a sense of teamwork, self-worth, and sportsmanship. I will encourage my child to play by the rules and respect the rights of others. I understand it is important to enforce rules of play and conduct standards as necessary components in athletics and life. I will at all times encourage my child to respect the game official's decisions and not criticize a game official's ruling during or after a game.

Parent's Code of Conduct:

As a parent, I agree to abide by the following:



1. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
2. I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
3. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco, alcohol and abusive language, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
4. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child and other players ahead of a personal desire to win.
5. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of their race, sex, creed or ability.
6. I will do my best to make youth sports fun for my child.
7. I will remember that the game is for the children and not the adults.
8. I will know FC USA Soccer Club rules and procedures.
9. I will require that my child's coach be trained in responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coach's Code of Conduct.
10. I understand that the coach has a right to remove parents/spectators from the sideline.
Additionally, I abide by the following FC USA policies:
11. I will demonstrate positive sideline behavior and never "coach" from the sideline.
12. I will ensure my players are available for all activities.
13. I understand my players are committed to the entire 10 month season (August-June)
14. I understand that U13-U18 parents are not allowed around the fields during practice.
 - I will abide by the "24 hour rule"- which requires that I not contact a coach within 24 hours after a game to discuss issues.

*"I" shall include any relatives and/or friends of Parent attending any FC USA function