

Parents, Soccer Players, and Families,

We are once again coming to that enjoyable time of the Spring when we begin to think about next year...its tryout season!

Below, you will find the tryout calendar for players looking to participate on teams through the 2018/19 soccer season, starting in the Fall of 2018.

As you will see, this year's tryout date is a little later than previous years due to the unfortunate weather that we have been fighting throughout the Spring Season.

For the first time in memory, many travel teams will now be playing competitively all the way through to June 23rd/24th which is the last weekend of the school calendar and obviously gives us no time to implement tryouts without disrupting the end of your seasons.

Taking the above into account, and after MANY conversations about an appropriate tryout process that favors the majority of our players, we have set the following criteria in place for tryout season.

1. Tryouts will be held during the week of June 25th – June 29th at Bellport Middle School.
2. Teams will be listed by calendar birth year rather than team name.
3. Players will be selected based on soccer ability and soccer potential. There will be no selection based on player position, previous team, or social grouping.
4. If any player is unavailable to attend tryouts, they will still be considered for a team presuming that they inform the club of their intentions for next year prior to tryout week
5. Players that inform us that they will be unable to attend tryouts will be monitored at all practices between now and the end of the season by CSG trainers who will recommend an appropriate playing environment to the club. Obviously the sooner these players inform the club of their intentions, the more they will be seen by the trainers before tryout week.
6. If a player wishes to tryout for a new team, they will be encouraged to attend practices with that team between now and the end of the Spring on a trial basis
7. For groups with more than one team in the age group, both teams will tryout at the same time and players may be moved between teams to find an appropriate fit.
8. Players are encouraged to attend ALL tryouts that they are eligible for.
9. PLAYING "UP" - Players may not try out for a younger team but may try out for an older team up to one year above their appropriate age (for example a 2007 player can try out for the 2006 team but not a 2005). Any player that wishes to play "up" will only be selected on an older team if they meet the following criteria
 1. They are considered in the top 5 of the team that they are trying out for
 2. They are the difference in an older team forming or not forming
 3. After all other options have been explored and there is no opportunity to play age appropriate
10. When signing in for tryouts, parents will be given a choice to try out for an A or a B team based on their commitment, and desired level of play. Players wanting to participate on an A team are strongly encouraged to prioritize soccer for the calendar year.
11. U8 (pre-Academy) teams do not try out in June and are selected from intramural players in Fall 2018.
12. U9 (Academy) teams will try out in June with all other Travel players. Players selected for the U9 Academy Program will also be expected to participate in the Intramural program for one soccer year.
13. U10-U13 teams must conduct tryouts overseen by Director of Coaching, must meet the minimum standards for roster size, and must adhere to all club tryout rules.
14. U14 and older teams – Must conduct tryouts with a professional trainer that has been approved by Director of Coaching, however this trainer can be neutral. This trainer must adhere to all club rules as listed above with no exceptions.

15. U15 and Older teams - These teams include HS Freshmen who regularly play up many years on a HS team. From these ages, players can play up more than one age group but must still adhere to the rules listed above.
16. PAYMENTS – 50% of the annual travel registration is due within 48 hours of being selected for a team (no exceptions). Any player who does not pay, will be passed on and the next player will be registered. There will be no “cuts” to a “B” team until the “A” team is registered. This includes payment.
17. The club cannot “guarantee” placement on a specific team but will do all that it can to provide players with an opportunity to play travel soccer. If the club does not have a spot for any player, they we will make every effort to find opportunities at another club.
18. All tryouts will be conducted by professional trainers and no parents or parent coaches will be allowed on the field during tryouts.

It is our hope that the criteria above is transparent enough and that everyone can see that we have tried to take as many players into account as possible. This year we will also not need to contend with any age change rules and anticipate a much smoother tryout process.

Thanks for taking the time to read through. If you have any questions, please email bellportdoc@gmail.com.

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