

## **GENERAL TRYOUT INFORMATION U9-U13**

### **OUR CLUB**

The Club was created to promote the development of premier youth soccer in this area. Playing competitive soccer requires a financial and physical commitment by the players and their parents, as well as a significant amount of your time. However, the rewards are great!

Our Club participates in the Coast Soccer League ([www.coastsoccer.com](http://www.coastsoccer.com)) and is affiliated with the California Youth Soccer Association – South ([www.calsouth.com](http://www.calsouth.com)). Information on these organizations can be found on their websites.

### **TRYOUT SESSION**

Tryouts are one way in which the club evaluates an individual player's skills (physical, technical, and mental) against each team's current needs. Our philosophy is that no player's position on any team is guaranteed from one year to the next, as new players join the Club and returning player's abilities change. While team continuity is important, the Club is looking to put together the strongest teams possible.

Roster selection will be done by several coaches within the Club, including the senior coaching staff and the specific team's coach. Some age groups may have up to three teams. Second and third teams are formed when the talent pool is deep enough that the Club determines those teams would be competitive in the selected age bracket.

You will be contacted by the head coach shortly. At that time you may be offered a position on a specific team, be asked to return for additional evaluation or practices, or be informed that a roster spot will not be offered. Some players may be asked to participate in tryouts outside their actual age brackets, in order to evaluate their potential, or to accommodate those with conflicts.

### **THE COACHING STAFF**

Our coaching staff is the finest in the South Bay. Our senior coaching staff has dozens of years of coaching between them including NCAA, Olympic Development Program, high school, and club as well as professional, US National Team, and collegiate playing experience. The senior coaching staff works closely with each team's head coach to help them establish goals and training/tournament schedules to meet those goals. They also work with the trainers and coaches to help individual players meet their full potential.

Many members of the Club's staff have experience coaching at NCAA Division I and II levels, Olympic Development Programs, and other universities, high schools, and clubs. Many have also played at the highest competitive levels, including professional, US National teams, NCAA, NAIA, and even internationally.

### **CLUB/TEAM COMMITMENT**

While the Club expects each player to develop individually, a team's strength comes from combining the individual team resources under the right leadership. Developing this strength requires that coaches, players and parents work closely together through the whole year.

Our club's strength comes from each team being strong and committed to the Club. This commitment means adhering to the club's policies and procedures regarding activities and finances. The Club has several important club fundraisers and teams are expected to participate in these activities. We are a non-profit organization and are dependent upon member fees, fundraising and sponsorships to continue to develop and administer the premier youth soccer program in the South Bay.

It is the Club's expectation that each player and parent honor their time and financial commitments to their team and to the club.

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### TIME COMMITMENT

Each team will have a different schedule following general club guidelines. Higher level teams may have a more intense practice and tournament schedule than other teams. The "season" will generally begin shortly after tryouts and continue until tryouts for the following season.

Each team typically practices two times a week beginning in April/May and extending through the State/National Cup Tournament in February/March of the following year. In preparation for certain games and tournaments, there may be additional practice and training sessions. There will generally be a break in early summer (June/July) and during the December holiday season. August is a very important practice and tournament period in preparation for the beginning of the league season in September. The Coast Soccer League season runs from September through mid-December. January is an important practice/tournament period in preparation for the State Cup tournaments for all younger teams (U9 – U13). At the completion of State/National Cup, teams will continue to train in preparation for the following season's tryouts. Each player is expected to attend every practice/training session as directed by the coach.

Travel is an important part of competitive youth soccer. Depending on the individual team's bracket, away league games may require travel of 20-90 minutes. Many tournaments (including League and State/National Cup) require travel beyond the local area. League schedules will not be available until late August. A typical schedule for a team in the Club may look like this:

<b>Period</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comments</b>
March	Tryouts/team formation/training	Possible Spring League
April	Training	Possible Spring League
May/June	Regular practice/training schedule	Possible Spring League/Tournaments
June/July	Break	Determined by Club/Coach and team
July/August	Regular practice/training schedule	Tournaments
Sept/Oct	Regular practice/training schedule	Season play
Nov/Dec	Regular practice/training schedule	Season/League Cup play/Thanksgiving Tournament
Dec/Jan	Two week Holiday Break	Happy Holidays!
January	Regular practice/training schedule	Club Sponsored Tournament
February	Regular practice/training schedule	State/National Cup Tournament

### FIELDS

The Club practices and plays home games at various fields in Manhattan Beach and Torrance, as well as a few others in the South Bay. Each team will be assigned practice fields and times as appropriate. During the summer months, many fields are closed for maintenance in anticipation of the fall season. During the summer, it is possible that practice locations and times may vary.

### FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

There are financial commitments to both the club and the team. Along with knowing the time commitments, this financial information will help you make an informed decision about further participation.

There is a \$1,300 annual fee for the U9 and U10 ages and \$1500 for U11 through U19 ages to be a member of the club. This fee covers: coaching salaries, field costs, league fees, group training sessions, and other operating expenses. The first payment of \$300 is required upon registration. Partial scholarships are available to a limited number of players. Payment terms and scholarship information will be available at a later date. The cost of uniforms will not be included in the Club Annual Fee. Uniforms will be ordered through Soccer Central and will be paid for by each individual team directly to Soccer Central. There will be a uniform coordinator at the Club level to help each team with the sizing and ordering process.

In addition to the club fee, each team will incur costs for tournaments, referee fees, coach's travel expenses, warm-ups/bags and other discretionary activities. These additional team costs vary, but can range from \$300 to \$500 per player, per year. Teams are encouraged to fundraise to offset some of these costs. Additionally, you may incur personal expenses throughout the year as you travel to games.