



WINCHESTER UNITED TRAVEL SOCCER

New Player/Parent General Information

The Winchester Youth Soccer Club, Travel Division of The Blue Ridge Youth Soccer Association, Inc. Member VYSA, NCSL, and ODSL. Serving the soccer needs of Frederick County, Winchester City, and the surrounding area since 1999.

WHAT TO EXPECT IF YOUR

COMMITMENT

The commitment expected for travel soccer is very different from recreational soccer. Expectations for this elite team of players is very high. Practices are ninety minutes, 2 days per week and it is expected that your player attend all practices all weeks.

Off season practices may be scheduled and players are expected to work on their soccer skills (footwork drills or juggling) at home in addition to practice.

When your player is selected for a Winchester United team, it is a one year commitment for both the Fall and Spring seasons. Tryouts for the following year are generally held in May.

PLAYING TIME

Unlike in recreational leagues where playtime is evenly distributed, Winchester United travel soccer offers no guarantee of playing time. Your player's attendance and performance in practices and games determines playing time.



GAMES

There are generally 8 games each season beginning in March/ April and August/ September. Four of these games are home (primarily at Sherando) and four are away. Away games are generally a 40– 120 minute drive. Game schedules are announced about a week prior to the beginning of each season and can be either Saturday or Sunday. Most are on Sundays and are anywhere from 9 AM to 6 PM.

SKILL IMPROVEMENT

Playing with and against higher skilled players, your child will quickly show advancements in soccer and strategy skills. A player's game will improve tremendously.

R CHILD MAKES THE TEAM

TOURNAMENTS

Most Winchester United travel teams commit to 1-3 tournaments each season and these may be over a holiday weekend. Tournaments may be local or may be out of town and require an overnight hotel stay.

COST

The fees for each individual season can be expected to be around \$600 and are generally collected in 3 installments due on the 25th of June, July and Aug for the Spring season and Jan, Feb, March for the Fall season. Fees are inclusive of all local, regional and state league fees, training and field development fees. Included in the seasonal fees are activity and/or tournament costs and equipment.

New players will be responsible for purchasing a team uniform that costs approximately \$105. This will be in addition to the seasonal fees.



TRANSITION

The initial transition from recreational leagues to travel

soccer is tough on both the players and the parents. Many parents express “adjustment shock” because their child may have been one of the top players of their recreational teams. They now will have teammates who ALL have superior abilities and adjusting to being somewhat “average” is very humbling for both players and their parents.

Please prepare your player in advance with positive encouragement so they come prepared with realistic expectations of the level of play. For many players, the first few weeks and the first few games are very overwhelming in a travel soccer environment. Play is very fast and skill levels of both teammates and opposing players are so much higher than ever before experienced.

TRYOUT Q&A

WHEN WILL I KNOW IF MY CHILD MADE THE TEAM?

Coaches generally contact the parents within two weeks of try-outs. If selected, the parents will also be contacted by the team manager regarding details about the initial team meeting and the necessary requirements needed for registration.

CAN MY CHILD PLAY A FALL SPORT IN ADDITION TO TRAVEL SOCCER?

If the other sport prevents attendance at travel soccer practices or weekend games, your child should not agree to play travel soccer.

WHAT DO ALL OF THESE INITIALS MEAN?

The initials you may be seeing and hearing reference the leagues and associations Winchester United belongs to.

Local Club:

WYSC – Winchester Youth Soccer Club

Regional Leagues:

ODSL – Old Dominion Soccer League

NCSL – National Capital Soccer League

State Association:

VYSA – Virginia youth Soccer Association

AGE GROUP MATRIX

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