

NORTH SUBURBAN SOCCER ASSOCIATION
2018-2019 SEASON TRYOUTS

COMPETITIVE TRYOUT DATES:

Sunday, July 29 – Thursday, August 2, 2018

COMPETITIVE TRYOUT REGISTRATION FEE & DEADLINE

Registration Fee U9 – U19: \$45

Please refer to nssasoccer.org for specific tryout times for each age group.
Please note the potential for a Rain Day on Friday, August 3.

NSSA strongly encourages all players to attend both tryout sessions. Failure to make one or both session may result in a player not being placed on a team.

PLAYER TRYOUT INFORMATION

Location: University of Northwestern St. Paul Stadium, 3003 Snelling Ave. N., Roseville, MN 55113

Stadium Facility: Artificial Turf

Attire: Players should bring shin guards, cleats and water. **A tryout shirt is included in tryout fee and must be worn to both sessions.**

Check-In: Concourse on north side of stadium – please arrive 15-20 minutes before first session to check in and get your tryout shirt.

Restrictions: Parents are not allowed in stadium or in the stands to observe evaluation sessions.

– **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS** –

WHY ARE TRYOUTS HELD IN AUGUST?

Each year's tryout dates occur just after the peak of annual development. The soccer season, family vacation opportunities and MSHSL requirements dictate only a small window during the end of July/beginning of August for clubs to host tryouts. These dates are consistent with our neighboring clubs who host tryout sessions in the same time frame.

The competitive soccer "year" in Minnesota begins in August and includes a limited 6-game Fall Season commitment for U9-U14 teams.

We will set Fall 2018 competitive teams for the U9-U14 age groups. This allows these teams to play together for the Fall 2018 and summer 2019 seasons. Teams are given an important fall introduction and have winter training together before their spring season takes off, providing many more opportunities to develop individually and as a team.

WHAT LEAGUE DO NSSA TEAMS PLAY IN?

Our teams participate in both Twin Cities Soccer League (TCSL) and Minnesota Youth Soccer Association (MYSA). The league a team is placed in is based on the following criteria: competitive level and geography of opponents.

WHAT IF MY PLAYER CANNOT MAKE TRYOUT SESSIONS?

Team placement petition process is as follows: Players that are unable to attend tryouts must still complete the Tryout Registration and payment, indicating that they wish to petition for a roster spot and pay the non-refundable \$45 Tryout/Team Placement Fee.

Team placement Via Petition

- **For current NSSA players:** The petition does not guarantee a position on a specific team rather it alerts the Director of Coaching that even though your child was not at tryouts they are still interested in playing for NSSA. Players will be placed on a team based on their ability level. No player is guaranteed a roster spot on a team.
- **For players new to NSSA:** Individual player evaluations may be done at the discretion of the Director of Coaching as circumstances permit. Individually evaluated players will be placed based on their demonstrated performance.

WHY SET FALL TEAMS FROM TRYOUT SESSIONS?

The MYSA and US Youth Soccer calendar year runs August – July. Selecting teams for the full 2018-2019 season allows teams the opportunity to train together for the entire competitive year and maximize their development opportunities.

WHAT IF MY U9 – U14 CHILD HAS OTHER FALL ACTIVITIES?

NSSA's teams are formed after tryouts and includes a Fall Season for U9-U14 teams. Fall league play is a limited season with just six games on weekends.

We recognize that some players cannot commit fully to the fall season because of other activities. However as with many other sports, soccer has become a year round sport. The expectation for fall is to communicate very early with the coach and manager about games or practices you will miss and to make as many as you can. In the event of short rosters, teams can seek play-ups to ensure an adequate bench of players. NSSA reserves the right to restructure teams based on specific team needs for fall only if rosters need balancing.

PLEASE NOTE: this will not affect U15 – U18 players as MYSA and TCSL do not offer Fall league play for these ages.

HOW DOES NSSA HANDLE TEAM PLACEMENT NOTIFICATION?

Notification of placement on 2018-2019 teams will be posted on NSSA's website approximately 48 hours after the final tryout. An email including team plans and approximate fees will also go out to each team.

Results will be displayed by age group / team level. Players will be designated by Tryout Shirt Number and first and last initial. (ie. #65 --- KT). Visit nssasoccer.org/competitive for results.

HOW DO I ACCEPT MY TEAM PLACEMENT & WHAT IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER?

The 2018-2019 Season Registration will open after tryouts have been completed and team rosters are posted online. Players have 48 hours to respond and register to reserve a team roster slot for your child via the NSSA site using Sports Engine. ***Please note, after 48 hours NSSA reserves the right to offer the roster spot to another player. If you delay registration, the spot may no longer be available.***

IMPORTANT NSSA requires an initial payment of \$200 that represents a commitment to the club and to the team for the full year. This payment binds the player to NSSA for the 2018-2019 season. **This payment is non-refundable and financial assistance cannot be applied.**

WHY DO I NEED TO PAY AN INITIAL FEE WHEN ACCEPTING MY PLAYERS ROSTER INVITATION ON A TEAM?

In order to accept your player's roster invitation on a team, NSSA requires an initial payment for the 2018-2019 season. Historically, "verbal commitments" after tryout dates have not always resulted in paid registrations so many teams were left with short rosters. Under this system, teams will have their rosters confirmed and in place much earlier. This also makes planning for events such as winter training and league play much easier for the club, coaches and managers.

DOES NSSA OFFER A PAYMENT PLAN?

NSSA provides a payment plan through our web platform. If you choose, the total fee (less the initial \$200 commitment fee) can be divided into eight even payments from September through April. Full payment of club and team fees are required in order for the player to be eligible to participate in league play.

DOES NSSA OFFER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?

The NSSA Financial Assistance Policy is available online (nssasoccer.org/financial-aid). Application for assistance must be submitted and approved prior to registration.

NSSA TEAM FORMATION POLICY 2018-2019

POLICY OVERVIEW

The goal of the NSSA Team Formation process is to create an environment that advances individual player development within an assigned team.

Competitive soccer allows players to develop individual and team skills necessary to play at the player's highest potential level.

NSSA believes that individual and team development work best when players participate on teams with other players at similar ability and commitment levels.

Higher competitive level requires demonstrated higher commitment. Commitment includes, but is not limited to:

- Timely acceptance of the invitation
- Participation in all team events including winter training, team practices, team meetings, scrimmages, and games
- Timely payment of club and team fees

NSSA uses the tryout evaluation process as a critical input to the formation process. In addition to the tryout evaluations, other criteria such as coach evaluation, DOC and Competitive Director input, and player history with club will also be referred to and utilized.

The Directors of Coaching are responsible to secure and assign coaches for all competitive teams. Coaches may be hired staff coaches or qualified volunteers.

TEAM DESIGNATIONS & TRYOUT PROCESS

The North Suburban Soccer Association owns all team designations, which include:

TCSL: White, Red, Blue, Cities, State, Regional & National Divisions

MYSAs: Maroon, Gold, Premier I, Premier II, C1, C2, C3

NSSA's Directors of Coaching determine the number of teams that an age and gender group can support based on player ability levels manifested through the tryout process.

- The Directors of Coaching are responsible for leading the on-field tryout evaluation process. Tryout format is at the discretion of the Directors of Coaching with assistance from Technical Director.
- Players may be asked to compete against a group of their peers in small-sided games to evaluate them on various abilities, such as: first touch, passing and receiving, vision, movement on and off the ball, and spatial awareness. Each player will be evaluated based on how they perform in varying competitive environments with varying levels of players.

- There is an annual tryout fee for all players participating in the tryout process. This fee assists in compensating third-party evaluators, tryout uniforms, administrative/operational costs, and facility rental.

PLAYER SELECTION

All players wishing to try out for a fall/summer team for the club are strongly encouraged to register prior to tryouts. Players will not be placed on a team until the try-out fee is submitted through the online registration process.

- All teams are formed for the fall and upcoming summer season and will stay intact until the next scheduled tryout for that age group
- All teams are formed based on the evaluation process and team formation factors (see below)
- Qualifying for a specific team one year does not mean that the player will automatically be placed with that same team or coach in following years.
- Final decisions on player selection rest with the Tryout Committee (DOC & Technical Directors) with input from the previous Coach. Our “player selection” goal is to serve the interests and needs of the player, team, and the club. Team Managers or other parent volunteer roles are not involved in the player selection process.
- In instances where multiple players are ranked relatively equal in terms of commitment, attitude, and ability-level, player placement will go to returning team members.
- All players requesting to play-up must submit a written request via email to the appropriate DOC for approval
 - If approved, players must attend Day 1 & 2 of the age group trying out up for and Day 2 of their actual age group
 - Being approved to try-out up an age group does not guarantee placement within this age group.

For All Play Up Consideration, email nssadoc.fast@gmail.com

Note: If circumstances require, after the Evaluation Process is complete and prior to the next annual tryout, players may be moved/added as needed at the discretion of the Director of Coaching. A formal try-out does not need to take place for a player to be added to a team and the player(s) added may or may not have attended the annual try-out.

TEAM FORMATION FACTORS

The following factors are considered in the evaluation process (not ranked in order of importance):

- Attitude and commitment level to attend practices, training, games and tournaments, along with the player's commitment to attend the club's winter training program
- Tryout Data
- Player evaluations completed by the Directors of Coaching & Technical Directors from previous seasons
- Player evaluations completed by the Coach from the previous season
- Specific team positional needs (U13+)
- Respectful and responsible parental conduct

MULTIPLE TEAMS AT SAME PLAYING LEVEL

When multiple teams exist in one age group at the same level of play, the Directors of Coaching determines the team that will be considered the top-tiered team or whether teams will be evenly rostered.

It is assumed that every player participating in the process is trying out for the top-tiered team. He or she will be placed on a team based on the criteria noted above.

ROSTER SIZE

The number of players on each team may be a function of the number of players registering for any season and other specific team considerations as determined by NSSA's Competitive Director and Director of Coaching.

- U9 to U10 teams play 7v7 and ideally roster 10-12 players
- U11 and U12 teams play 9v9 and ideally roster 12-14 players
- U13 and older teams roster 16-18 players

Only in very rare cases will we attempt to roster more than 18 players on a team. Since over-rostering usually limits playing time for all players, we will over-roster when there are extenuating circumstances, and the development of players/team is not impacted.

PLAYING TIME

NSSA Playing Time Philosophy & Guidelines are focused on player development at the U9-12 ages and varying levels of play:

U9/10 and C3 Levels

Players will play multiple positions and generally receive equitable playing time in games over the

course of the season with a goal of 50% playing time per game. Note: some roster sizes may not allow exactly 50% for each player per game

U11/12 C1 and C2 Levels

Coaches have discretion to field the most competitive team (playing time and position) with a goal of 50% playing time throughout the duration of the entire season, and a minimum of 40% playing time throughout the duration of the entire season, not necessarily within a single game. When and where a player plays is strictly up to the coach and playing time and positions may vary from game to game.

U13-18 C1 and C2 Levels

Coaches have discretion to field the most competitive team (playing time and position) with a goal of 50% playing time throughout the duration of the entire season, and a minimum of 30% playing time throughout the duration of the entire season, not necessarily within a single game. When and where a player plays is strictly up to the coach and playing time and positions may vary from game to game.

Playing time may be reduced for reasons such as the following: missing or disrupting practices, tardiness to practice, failure to notify coaches in advance regarding absences from practices or games, failure to follow coach's directions.

MINNESOTA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION POLICIES:

7.302 When Registered

A player is registered the moment the player (or for a player less than 18 years of age, the player's parent or guardian) personally or electronically signs the registration form and submits the fees required by the Affiliate or Extraterritorial Member.

7.303 Registration Binds Player

Once registered, a player is bound to that Affiliate or Extraterritorial Member for that soccer season, except as provided in 7.

1.3.4.1 Player Transfer and Release 1.3.4.1 PLAYERS BOUND TO MEMBER CLUB.

No U9, U10, U11 player shall be bound to a club until after the 8th day after the final day of scheduled league play. In addition, U12 -U19 players shall not be bound until after the 8th day following the conclusion of the state championship game.