

Avon Lake Soccer Organization Travel Team Informational Meeting



April, 2021

ALSO President – Katie Viskocil

Also Travel Team Committee (TTC)

Director Of Coaching – Jeff Barlow

Boys Travel Director – Jim Hibler

Asst. Boys Travel Director – Open

Girls Travel Director – Matt Zakel

Asst. Girls Travel Director – Ben Hobbs

ALSO Mission Statement



Avon Lake Soccer Organization (ALSO) is a community-based organization of players, parents, guardians, custodians, and interested adults whose purpose is to educate and instruct Avon Lake youth in the game of soccer.

Our Basic Philosophy is....



- Developing the mind, body, and self-esteem through sportsmanship, education, skill, teamwork, exercise and enjoyment.
- Encourage the development of a positive team attitude through cooperative team play. The attitude and practice of winning at any cost is not acceptable.
- A commitment to benefit the majority of Avon Lake youth, not only the talented few. Thus our programs shall stress maximum participation from all athletes, regardless of ability. Our programs shall be designed to provide evenly balanced competition.
- Ensure minimal pressure on youth players from coaches, spectators and parents and encourage youth to simply do their best.

What is Travel Soccer?



- The Avon Lake travel program provides a higher level of competition against other communities throughout Northeast Ohio.
- This program is for the U9 through U15 age groups
- Teams are selected through a evaluation that occurs in May each year.
- There can be multiple teams in each age group.
- There are 8 games in the Fall and 8 games in the Spring with 4 games being played at home and 4 games played at other community sites.

What is Travel Soccer?



- Boys and Girls play in OHTSL
- Many games are local – Bay, Avon, Westlake, etc.
- Games are normally played on Sunday afternoons
 - 1-2 weeknight or Saturday games possible each season
- Two practices per week at Avon Lake fields
- Team technical training offered 6 times per season and may be separate from practice.

Cost - \$300/year



- What is included for \$300?
 - 8 Fall games and 8 Spring games
 - 2 Practices per week
 - One team practice
 - One age group practice with professional coach
 - Winter indoor training with professional coaches
 - \$900/team towards tournaments/year.

Cost - \$300/year



- What is NOT included
 - Uniforms – Two jerseys, shorts, socks (~\$120)
 - Backpack, warmups, etc. additional
 - Winter indoor games – Not required (~\$80/session)
 - Tournament Costs after ALSO limit is exceeded

Evaluation Rules



- All players must be evaluated
- There will be one evaluation time per age group.
- If a child cannot make his or her evaluation time, he or she can try out, with the TTCs approval, with the next highest age group.
- If a child does not try out with his/her group, it could adversely affect his/her evaluation number
- If a player cannot evaluation and does not make other plans with the TTC, that player does not make the team.

Items Needed Prior to Evaluations



- Register online 24 hours prior to your evaluation time
 - Link will be provided or placed on www.avonlakesoccer.com
 - Available starting around 4/4/2019
- Items needed for Registration
 - Basic Info - Name, Address, Phone, DOB, Etc.
 - Medical Release Info – Dr., Emergency contacts, Insurance, Medical conditions, waiver, etc.
 - Concussion info
 - Photo - head shot shoulders up (JPEG)
 - Birth certificate (Clear and legible PDF or JPEG)
- Online payment of \$300

Evaluation Information



- Typically small sided 3 v 3 or 4 v 4 games, keep away, etc.
- 1 – 1.5 hours long
- Location: Walker Rd. Park
- Bring shin guards, water, inflated soccer ball
- Players are assigned a pinnie
- Parents are NOT allowed to watch evaluations
 - If you need to be there (child medical issue), let us know.

Evaluators



- Two Independent Evaluators
 - College coach, premier coach, professional or semi pro player, high school coach, college player, travel coach
- Current travel head coaches (U8-U15)
- Weighted scores
 - Independent #1 & #2
 - 33% each (U09-U14/15)
 - Coaches combined
 - 34% (U09-U14/15)

Rating Sheet



ALSO Travel Tryout Scrimmage Rating - 2014 / 2015 Season

Age Group: U14G

Name of Technical Evaluator:

Rating	Low	Average			High
Scale	1	2	3	4	5

Player	Technical (0-5)	Competitive (0-5)	Tactical (0-5)	Notes	Total SRS
1					0
2					0
3					0
4					0
5					0
6					0
7					0
8					0
9					0
10					0
11					0
12					0
13					0
14					0
15					0
16					0
17					0
18					0
19					0
20					0
21					0
22					0
23					0
24					0
25					0
26					0
27					0
28					0

Technical - Properly receives ball across body prior to attack. Hits through middle of ball when passing or shooting. Bends knee during inside of foot pass. Executes change of direction. Executes pullback or scissors to change direction. Handles balls out of the air. Dribbles with ball under control and head up.

Competitive - Player is aggressive. Player demonstrates endurance. Player attempts to WIN 1 on 1 challenges. Player commands drive, determination and positive spirit. Player understands game. Player uses athletic skill to advantage.

Tactical - Player knows when to play forward and back. Player creates space through one-touch play. Player moves without the ball into supporting positions. Player pressures ball as first defender. Player positions heels on line to view field. Player positions for defense. Player makes all other players better.

Skills Weighting



Age Group	<u>Category #1</u> <u>Technical</u>	<u>Category #2</u> <u>Competitive</u>	<u>Category #3</u> <u>Tactical</u>
U9/U10	50%	30%	20%
U11/U12	50%	20%	30%
U13-U15	50%	15%	35%

Technical Skills



- Properly receives ball across body prior to attack.
- Hits through the middle of the ball when passing or shooting.
- Bends knee during inside of foot pass.
- Executes change of direction.
- Executes pullback or scissors to change direction.
- Handles balls out of the air.
- Dribbles with ball under control and head up.

Competitive



- Aggressive
- Demonstrates endurance
- Attempts to win 1 on 1 challenges
- Commands drive, determination & positive spirit
- Understands the game
- Uses athletic skill to advantage

Tactical



- Knows when to play forward & back
- Creates space through one-touch play
- Moves without the ball into supporting positions
- Pressures ball as first defender
- Positions heels on line to view field
- Positions for defense
- Makes all other players better

Evaluation Process



- Players will be divided into random groups and scrimmage(s) will begin.
- Players only known by their pinny #
- Evaluators watch scrimmage for 1-1 1/2 hours
- Players rotate through scrimmage
- Evaluation sheet
- At the end, sheets are collected and copies made (TTC Members each get a copy)

Evaluation Process



- Director of Coaching and travel directors crunch the numbers separately then they compare results/check for errors.
- *Still no names associated with the scores***
- After players are ranked on spreadsheet pinnie #'s are matched with names

Drafting Process U9&U10



- Sheets are printed and brought to the “draft”
- Head coaches, travel director and director of coaching are present at the draft.
- U9-U10 players are drafted by coaches in round robin fashion, highest to lowest ranked players, in order to make the teams as even as possible. (10-13 players)
- U10 will re-draft based on current evaluation

Drafting U11-U15



- U11-U14/15 players are drafted by their ranking. Coach may have input on the number of players he wishes to roster and TTC advises on best practices based upon the situation.
- Players are taken in the order of rank. (U11-U12 = 12-16 player rosters)
(U13-U14 = 14-18 player rosters)

Miscellaneous



- Minimum score –
 - U9-U12 = 45%
 - U13-U14 = 55%
- Coaches may or may not select a player that does not meet the minimum score.
- Options for players who don't make a team
 - Play *ALSO* recreational soccer
 - Return the next year to try again

Informing Players



- Draft will take place in mid June
- Players are not to be told what their team placement is until a week after the draft
- Players are notified via e-mail and/or phone message by coach.
- Those cut are notified by Travel Directors

Playing Up



Playing up an age group option

- Must notify TTC prior to try out
- evaluation with both his/her age group AND with older age group
- Place in top 25% of older age group
- Meet minimums in all tested/rated categories
- Current age group must not be left with less than a full team. Full team = Full field of players + 3 (U9/10 = 10; U11/12 = 12; U13/14 = 14)

Playing Up



- Above age group must not be forced to cut a player from the program, due to exceeding of allowed roster size, who has met minimum criteria in all tested/rated categories
- Other more subjective criteria can apply, as with all players trying out, such as but not limited to :
 - Maturity of Player
 - Coachability of Player
- Final recommendation will be made by the TTC and final approval will be determined by the ALSO board.
- The ‘playing up’ status is only for one year. If a player wishes to ‘play up’, he/she must go through the process each year to re-earn the permission to ‘play up’.