

FARMINGTON SOCCER CLUB 2019/20 Fall/Spring Travel Team Tryout FAQs

Q. When are the Farmington Soccer Club travel soccer tryouts?

Tryouts will be held at Tunxis Mead Park or at the IAR School on the dates outlined on the tryout schedule for each age group. The schedule will be posted on the web site as soon as it is available.

Q. Who should try out for travel soccer?

Travel soccer is for players looking for more of a challenge and/or further development as a soccer player. Travel soccer involves a time commitment from both players and parents throughout the fall and spring seasons. You should be willing to commit to 2 practices per week and 2 games on the weekend in Farmington as well as other towns in the Central and North Central Districts. Practices are typically 90 minutes in duration. Travel soccer is intended to be fun and developmental in nature. Outside of the Farmington Soccer Club program, many teams also continue to play as a team indoors during the winter months to maintain and further improve skills. Please check with your specific coach for plans outside of the required fall and spring seasons.

Q. What age group does my child tryout for?

The Connecticut Junior Soccer Association (CJSA) determines the age requirements for each League Division as shown below. We following the US Soccer Birth Date Mandates:

Season	2019-2020
Birth Year	
2014	U6
2013	U7
2012	U8
2011	U9
2010	U10
2009	U11
2008	U12
2007	U13
2006	U14
2005	U15

Q. What is the procedure for tryouts?

Parents must register their child on-line via <http://farmingtonsoccerclub.org/> before the first tryout of their respective age group. On day(s) of tryout, please arrive 30 minutes prior to scheduled tryout time to check in; wear cleats, shin guards, bring a properly inflated soccer ball and water bottle. Please **do not** wear a uniform jersey or shirt with number on it. The player will be given a sticker with an ID number or some other way of identifying the players at the tryouts.

Q. What if my child cannot attend scheduled tryouts?

We suggest attending both scheduled tryouts as this provides the best opportunity for being evaluated effectively. However, we understand there are conflicts, so if a player cannot make both scheduled tryouts for his/her age group, the parent must notify the coach of your age group prior to the tryouts.

Q. My child is already on a travel soccer team. Is it necessary for him/her to tryout again?

Yes. All players must tryout out for the new travel season.

Q. When and how will we be notified if my child has made a team?

Parents/Players will be notified via phone call or e-mail from one of the coaches involved in the selection process after the tryout results are determined. Please verify the email address and phone number entered during the online registration process is correct as this will be the main means of communicating the results.

Q. If my child attends tryouts, makes a team and then decides not to play, do I get a refund?

Upon notification of making a team an offer decision (decline or accept) will be needed by the parent/player within 48 hours. This will be done through the Farmington Soccer Club website. A program fee is not charged until a position is accepted or a uniform has been ordered. Once registered or the uniform gets ordered, there will be no refunds.

Q. What are my options if my child is not selected to participate in the travel program?

Another option would be to register for an age appropriate the Farmington Soccer Club recreation league via the Town of Farmington Recreation Department web site.

Q. Is there a fee to try out?

No.

Q. How many teams will there be in each age group? How many on a team?

At the U9, U10 and U11 age group the game format is 8v8 so the goal is to form 2 teams with typically 12-14 players per team for each age/gender group. At the U12, U13, and U14 level, the game format is 11v11 so the goal is to typically form 16-18 players per team for each age/group.

Q. Who will be coaching each team?

Most coaching selections are in place prior to team selections however, there are some situations where a coach may shift from one team to another based on need. In some cases a B team coach may not be selected until the tryouts are finalized.

Q. When are practices?

There are typically two practices per week during the fall and spring seasons held during the week. All practice dates & times will be determined by the coaches or the Farmington Soccer Club and may occur at a variety of different fields around Farmington. Each team manager will communicate when practices will occur to his/her team.

Q. How many games are played during the weekend?

In the fall and spring seasons, two games per weekend are scheduled - one friendly game on Saturday, one league game on Sunday.

Q. Does my child have to play both fall and spring season?

Farmington Soccer Club's travel soccer program is comprised of both fall & spring seasons as this allow for the best opportunity to develop as players. Our registration fee will cover BOTH fall & spring seasons however, all travel soccer players are also required to pay a separate registration fee to the Farmington Recreation Department in each of the spring and fall seasons.

Q. What do the travel registration fees cover?

Farmington Soccer Club Travel player registration fees cover Connecticut Junior Soccer Association (CJSA) team fees, CJSA player/manager/coaches insurance, CT Cup fees (if applicable), various certification/training (i.e. first-aid, goalie training), equipment needs/updates, field maintenance, and referee fees for every home game. Separate Tournament or indoor soccer fees are paid directly by the members of the team to participate.

Q. Are uniforms provided?

Uniforms are required to play and are included in the \$125 FSC travel soccer team acceptance registration fee. Players are also required to register for the Town of Farmington and pay the town fee each fall and spring. The uniform kit will consist of a home jersey, away jersey, shorts, and socks. Other items such as a backpack, jackets & pants are optional and are to be purchased separately from Team Sports. Cleats are to be worn at all outdoor practices and games and individuals will also need to purchase shin guards for additional protection since it a required part of your safety equipment.

Q. Where do travel teams play?

Farmington Soccer Club is a member of the CJSA Central District. We play league games with other towns within an hour drive, in the fall and spring seasons. Typically half of the league games (approx. 5) are played at home fields in Farmington, and the other half are played away. The distance a particular team will travel will depend on the town teams in their League. Friendly games are also scheduled with surrounding town teams. If a team is entered in the CT Cup (U11+), these games may require travel outside the local area.

Q. What is the Connecticut Cup?

The Connecticut Cup (CT Cup) is a statewide, single-elimination tournament typically played on Saturdays over the course of a season for U11 and older teams, if the team decides to enter the tournament.

Q. Can my child try out in a different age group?

Players cannot tryout or play in an age group for which they are too old. Even if they miss the cutoff by one day, they cannot play 'down' in an age group. The Farmington Soccer Club policy is that a player may try out to "play up" above his/her soccer age-level if the player attends school in the higher grade (e.g., U9—third grade, U10—fourth). A player may also try out in an older age group, with the express written permission of the Director of Travel Soccer, if in the opinion of the coaching staff, the player's soccer development needs are not being met at his/her natural soccer age-group. For a player to try out in an older age group, that player must also attend at least one tryout session in his/her natural soccer age group. The coaching staff realizes that certain players may wish to try out and play in an age group that is older than their soccer age group. They acknowledge that, for a select few players, it may be in the best interest of a player's development to 'play up'. Because the mission of Farmington Soccer Club is player development and competitive soccer, the coaching staff strongly encourages players to play in the age group that affords them the best opportunity to play on a top level team. When the technical staff believes that a player currently playing in an older age group would be better served by moving to their natural age

group, the player's coach and the Director of Travel Soccer will encourage the player and the family to do so.

Q. How are players evaluated and selected for travel teams?

Players are evaluated using several criteria. The three most important areas of evaluation are technical ability, speed and character.

1. Technical - Can a player handle the ball technically under pressure and in tight spaces?

2. Speed - a. Pure Speed - Is the players fast from point A to B? b. Technical Speed - Can the player handle the ball under pressure? c. Tactical Speed - Can the player make fast decisions with and without the ball?

3. Character - a. Does the player like to compete? b. Is he/she a positive influence on the group? c. Does the player possess a high work rate? d. Does the player bring passion and energy to the game?

Players are evaluated in these and other areas and, if selected, placed on teams that best meet each player's developmental needs.

Q. When and where do travel teams practice?

The travel club is allocated fields throughout Farmington by the Town of Farmington. These fields are then assigned to travel teams based on team needs and coach preference. Each travel team will have a different practice schedule. Travel teams generally practice a minimum of twice a week during the season, for 1½ hours per session. Other programs for player development are also available to players within the Travel Club. I.e. Farmington Soccer Club Goalkeeper Academy