

To: Parents

Welcome to the MTSC Travel Team tryouts. These tryouts have been designed to provide an objective evaluation of players interested in participating in a highly competitive form of soccer. Our program provides the opportunity for younger players to learn the fundamentals of soccer and teamwork, while experiencing the fun that these accomplishments can offer. As players progress in age and skill, they will be taught more advanced levels of soccer, compete at higher levels, and enjoy the self-satisfaction that this growth brings.



In traveling soccer, we ask each player and more importantly, their parents, to make a significant time commitment. To be certain you understand this commitment, the following overview summarizes the key responsibilities for each family, and should your child be selected for a traveling team:

TWO SEASON COMMITMENT: This is a one-year commitment, for both the fall and spring soccer seasons.

ATTENDANCE: Players are required to show up. The commitment to traveling soccer includes attendance at all practices, games, and tournaments. Because this level of soccer is very competitive, it is important that families are willing to dedicate the time necessary to participate and attend all required events.

PRACTICE: Generally, two practices are held each week during the fall and spring seasons. Some teams practice and play in the winter, but this is optional. Individual team coaches determine the number and time of practices.

SCHEDULE: Each team typically plays 10 games on Sundays each season, with the exception of the U8 teams that play on Saturdays. Five of the games are played at home, and five are played away within central NJ. In addition to games, teams can participate in tournaments held throughout the year. The coaches should consult with parents to determine which tournaments they will attend. Players are expected to attend all games.

TOURNAMENTS: A very exciting and enjoyable component of traveling soccer is tournament play. Each team participates in a minimum of one tournament, our Spring Kickoff tournament held in April. In addition, the club pays for teams to participate in tournaments. Each team is allotted a budget for tournaments; teams may participate in tournaments as they wish within their budget.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES: We ask that each parent actively participate in the operation of the team. For example, there are field-lining responsibilities, snack coordination, tournament involvement, in addition to ensuring that players attend practices and games. We also expect parents to be good role models by respecting all players, coaches, and referees and by always demonstrating good sportsmanship. MTSC has implemented a work bond to help ensure we get the appropriate level of parent involvement. All information pertaining to the work bond can be found online at www.monroesoccer.com.

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES: We assume that players want to learn more advanced levels of soccer as they age. This requires a commitment by the players to improve their skills and playing ability both on their own and under the direction of coaches. We expect players to respect other players, coaches, and referees and to demonstrate good sportsmanship.

COST: The fee for the 2008-2009 season is \$225 plus \$100 work bond. The fee includes referee fees, uniforms, winter gym space, professional training sessions, and tournaments.

Teams who attend additional tournaments or which seek additional professional training may require additional fees.

For our part, the Club will strive to provide a positive framework for the players to develop skills and compete, while enjoying the game of soccer. We will strive to select coaches who are interested in learning and teaching the game and who are appropriate role models for the players. In general, travel soccer does not conflict with other sports programs in Monroe Township. The only primary exception is Pop Warner football program in the Fall, which also play games on Sundays and practices several weekday evenings. We require that your children choose either soccer or football in fairness to their teams and teammates in either sport. In the spring there is the possibility of schedule conflicts with other sports practices such as softball and baseball. Typically the games will not conflict with each other. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Bill Craver, Travel Director, at craverb@comcast.net.

Sincerely,

Bill Craver
MTSC Travel Director