



# CENTRAL VIRGINIA UNITED SOCCER

## Travel Acceptance and Expectations 2022-2023 Season

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### **I. Welcome**

Congratulations on your placement in the CVU Travel Program for the 2022-2023 soccer season! CVU has over 40 years of excellence in developing soccer talent and we look forward to helping you grow and reach your goals as a competitive soccer player. Please carefully read the following pages and documents as they provide pertinent information regarding our program and expectations. We look forward to seeing you on the fields for a great season.

### **II. Player Information**

#### **Travel Program Placement**

- Placement of players is based on tryout evaluations which include player skill, commitment level, and attitude. Historical performance will be considered for any returning players.
- Travel positions may be offered at any time subject to available positions. Prospective new players are welcome any time of the year – Spring, Summer, Fall, or Winter – at the discretion of the CVU Executive Director.

#### **Travel Commitment Requirement**

- Players are required to attend all training sessions and matches. If a player is unable to attend a session or match, parents and/or players are expected to communicate with the team coach. Reasons must be provided for all absences.

- Participation levels/attendance history may be considered in roster composition, playing time, and offers to continue with the travel program the following season.
- Players must arrive before all matches in time to participate in pre-match preparation activities. The arrival time for matches will be determined by the coach. Players and parents should expect an arrival time of 45 minutes to an hour before kick-off time – depending on match circumstances.
- Team commitment includes participation in a specified number of tournaments determined on a team-by-team basis.
- Although the level of involvement may vary among age groups and teams, the level of commitment should not.

**CVU expects each and every player to:**

- Have a growth mindset, competitive and industrious spirit, and positive attitude
- Commit to the program and the game

**Participation in School Soccer**

- CVU fully supports high school soccer for our players in grades 9-12. It is great to watch our players thrive and excel on the pitch as they represent their schools, community, and CVU.
- All players in the 2007-2004 age groups are committed to CVU for the Fall season.
- All players in the 2012-2008 age groups are required to make an annual commitment and participate in both the Fall and Spring seasons. The Spring commitment is no different than the Fall.

**Rosters**

Players/parents should not expect roster composition to change dramatically within the course of the year, however, there are factors which may result in changes to rosters:

- Leagues and tournaments embracing the “Club Pass” rule will allow a number of changes to base rosters for associated matches in an ad hoc manner. CVU may utilize the rule to provide opportunities for players to play with other teams within the club, for developmental and/or supplemental purposes.
- State Cup and Tournament rosters may vary in composition from league rosters for developmental and/or supplemental purposes.

**Playing Positions**

- U11 to U13 Players should expect to spend some time over the course of each soccer year playing in all areas of the field as deemed appropriate by the coach – back, midfield, and forward. Players interested in focusing on the goalkeeper position are given regular opportunities to do so.
- For U14 and Older, coaches and players are permitted to begin the process of finding positions that best fit each player’s skill set and preferences. Players interested in focusing on the goalkeeper position will be allowed to do so.

## Playing Positions

- With U11-U13 Teams, coaches should target a minimum of 50% playing time for all players over the course of the season. Positional rotations and roster size may affect the coach's ability to provide 50% playing time in every match.
- For U14 and Older, playing time will be provided for all players, but player performance and tactical considerations will also be taken into account. Rosters are selected to be competitive within the squad as well as against outside competition and strive for 50% playing time for each player over the course of the season, however, the amount of playing time in league and tournament matches will be determined by the coach.

## III. Parent/Guardian Information

CVU families and supporters play a major role in facilitating a productive and enjoyable training and match environment. Our CVU parents/guardians are asked to:

- Understand that, as a team program, CVU strive to win, but greater importance is placed on the development of the players and of the team.
- Be positive role models by encouraging good sportsmanship and demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans and officials at all trainings and matches.
- Support the coaches' decisions as they relate to the players and the team.
- Refrain from sideline coaching as this creates a chaotic and confusing soccer environment for the players – refer to the Parent/Supporting Sideline Conduct Outline below.
- Respect the decisions of the officials.
- Support a player development environment that is highly structured, challenging and competitive.

## Communication Guide

Parents/Guardians should expect **to receive** the following communication from CVU Coaches and Directors:

- Program and coaching philosophy, expectations of players and parents, schedules for trainings, matches, tournaments, and other team functions.

Parents/Guardians should **provide** the following communication to CVU Coaches and Team Managers:

- Notice in advance for all absences and late arrivals, any concerns regarding their player, and whether or not your player will be attending upcoming tournaments.

\*It is NOT appropriate for parents to discuss the following with coaches: players other than their child, training structure and activities, tactical decisions during matches (positions, substitutions, systems, style of play, etc.), or team strategy.

Parents should follow the steps below to arrange discussions/meetings with coaches and/or CVU Directors:

- I. Contact the coach at an appropriate time to request a meeting. This should not be immediately before, during, or after a training or match. Coaches and parents are encouraged to follow a 24-hour rule of waiting after a match for any questions or concerns that are not pressing or urgent in nature. Email is the preferred method of communication for all staff and coaches.
- II. If you are unable to reach the coach, contact the CVU Executive Director to facilitate a meeting with the coach.
- III. If, after meeting with the coach, the issue is not resolved, contact the CVU Executive Director to request a meeting. The Executive Director will communicate with the coach and parents to facilitate the situation.

## IV. Central Virginia Regional Soccer Complex (CVRSC)

The CVRSC is your home for soccer and an exceptional place to train and compete. As CVU members, you have access to the facility to practice and train at any time that it is available. This includes regular training times, weekend game days, and upon request. We strongly encourage our players to take advantage of open space and nets when appropriate by notifying CVU staff and ensuring that goals and training spaces are safe and open for play.

### **Please note the following rules for the CVRSC:**

- Possession of firearms, consumption or distribution of alcohol, smoking, and use of abusive or foul language are prohibited at all times and are justifiable reasons for immediate dismissal from the facility.
- **NO PETS ARE ALLOWED AT THE COMPLEX AT ANY TIME.**
- Help maintain the facility by bringing reusable beverage containers, staying off of damaged or saturated turf, and cleaning up trash and belongings in your area as much as possible.
- Please drop off any found items to our lost and found box located near the concessions building or to the office if a staff member is present.
- Do not allow children to play on or around unanchored goals!

## V. 2022-2023 Scheduling

### **Training Schedule**

- All teams will need to train 3 times per week during the Fall and Spring seasons. Training sessions will be 1.5 hours in duration for U11-U13 and up to 2 hours for U14 and older age groups.
- All players are expected to arrive at training before the scheduled start time with a ball, shin guards, long socks, and no jewelry of any kind.
- Players are required to attend all training sessions unless excused by the coach.

## **Fall Training**

- Players are strongly encouraged to attend CVU's Season Kickoff Camp from August 1st through August 4th, 2022.
- Regular team training begins during the second week of August continuing through the second week of November.

## **Spring Training**

- Spring team training usually begins the second weekend of February continuing through the end of May. Typically, teams train on weekends until resuming normal mid-week training after Daylight Savings Time.
- Training over spring break is optional per each coach's decision.

## **Match Days**

- Matches typically occur once per weekend in the Fall and Spring seasons.
- Generally, matches take place on Saturdays. Some matches may be played on Sundays as schedules necessitate.
- Occasionally 2 matches are played in a given weekend.

## **Fall Matches**

- Fall league play is scheduled to start in late August/early September.
- All teams typically end league play around the second week of November.
- Premier & Classic Travel Teams may choose to participate in additional tournaments based upon additional per player costs – typically \$60-70 per event, per player.
- Tournament selections are determined at the discretion of the CVU Executive Director with input from CVU Coaches.

## **Spring Matches**

- Spring league matches start in March and end around Memorial Day in May. Rain-outs and make-ups may be scheduled through the first week of June and players must remain available for these dates.
- No matches will be played the weekend of Easter Sunday.

## **Player Evaluations**

- U11-U15 players will be provided 1 written evaluation per year from their coach after the completion of the Spring program.
- U16 and older players will be provided 1 written evaluation per year from their coach at the end of the Fall program.

## VI. Team Managers

The Team Manager serves as the administrative representative for the players, parents, coach, and the club. Supporting the players and coaches is their highest priority above all else.

Team Managers provide details regarding schedules, hotels, training, travel and other pertinent information, updates, and reminders.

## VII. Payment of Fees

Upon accepting a roster placement, all club members will be asked to pay their seasonal Travel Player Fees. At the time of registration, members will have the option to pay in full or pay an initial deposit and select a payment plan.

**Members that do not live up to their financial obligations may be prohibited from participating in all future CVU activities. CVU will take the necessary steps to collect outstanding fees including prohibition of training or match participation and contact from the CVU Board of Directors.**

The successful operation and growth of the club is dependent upon timely and accurate payments. Up-front, one-time payments are greatly preferred. Questions regarding payments may be sent to the office at [cvuadmin@cvuclub.com](mailto:cvuadmin@cvuclub.com).

### Refunds

**CVU HAS A NO REFUNDS POLICY.** This includes player fees, uniform costs, etc. Exceptions may be made in rare circumstances such as season ending injuries. All decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

### 2022-2023 Program Fees

CVU's Board of Directors and Staff have worked to maintain a stable fee structure and limit expenses to our constituents. We have minimized our costs and expenditures, streamlined income collection, improved our facility, and maximized support of our capital gifts, grants, and scholarship programs as much as possible.

Fees have been adjusted for all travel programs as seen below:

2022-2023 Travel Fees	Premier	Classic
U11-U15 Fall & Spring Season	\$1,200	\$880
U16+ Fall Season	\$875	\$700

Members may pay in full or select the following payment plan:

- Initial \$200 Deposit
- Remaining fees divided out over the following dates:
  - August 1st
  - September 1st
  - October 1st

## Volunteerism

**ALL FAMILIES** are **REQUIRED** to provide a minimum of 3 hours of service/support to the club each season by a mature family member. If you cannot meet this commitment, you may pay an opt-out fee in lieu of volunteering.

## Payment Plans and Scholarships

Families with demonstrated financial hardship can request personal payment plans or scholarships by contacting the CVU Administrator. Those interested in applying for a scholarship will need to complete a CVU Scholarship Application.

Please note that CVU has *limited funding available and we cannot offer scholarships to everybody who applies*. The CVU board members' selection panel looks at who is in most need of support. CVU cannot cover uniform or hotel/travel expenses as part of our scholarship program.

Families seeking financial assistance through a CVU Scholarship should:

- Accept the team invitation and complete the online registration process.
  - Choose to pay in installments and submit payment for the \$200 deposit.
  - Contact the CVU Office for a Scholarship Application or download it from our website.
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- **Mandatory Service/Support:** All families requesting scholarships must agree to provide service to the club. Detailed information is included in the scholarship application. All required scholarship service hours must be completed by November 1st.