

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE LIBERTY ACADEMY PROGRAM

2020-21 Seasons

We came up with some common questions that we have heard from parents. We hope this helps you understand the Liberty Academy/Select program. Of course, if you have further questions, please contact our directors, **Steve Keiss 678-571-4585** and **Samantha Snow 678-876-1559**. They are always happy to assist you!

What is the Liberty Soccer Club Academy Program?

The Academy Program is designed for families that are ready to commit to a higher level of play. Individual player (technical) and team skill (tactical) development are focused on to compete against other Academy clubs in our region.

How much commitment is required?

For Academy players at all clubs, a mutual one-year commitment (Fall and Spring seasons) is expected. Regular attendance at practice sessions is expected.

When are the training sessions for Academy teams?

Teams train twice a week with each session lasting 1½ hours. Training sessions are planned by our Directors and are reviewed with the coaches. Training nights are Monday through Thursday. We do offer a third night of skills training and goalkeeping training.

Will we have to travel all over the state to play games?

No. The majority of games are played in the immediate area with other local clubs in the Metro Atlanta Area. Most are within 30 to 45 minutes of Bluesprings. Teams may participate in some local select tournaments (1-4 per season) and on occasion will play in an out-of-state tournament.

What additional training sessions do you offer a Liberty Soccer Club member?

We offer skills training once a week and goalkeeper training once a week during the fall and spring seasons.

Where is Liberty Soccer Club Academy program located?

Liberty Soccer Club trains and plays out of Bluesprings Soccer Park in Loganville, GA. The address for the fields is: *4180 Center Hill Church Road, Loganville, GA 30052*

Liberty Soccer Club also hosts skills training through Creekside Sports Center. The address for Creekside is: *3237 Krisam Creek Drive, Loganville, GA 30052*

We are pleased to have both of these facilities conveniently located in Walton and Gwinnett Counties to serve our families.

How does Liberty Academy Soccer differ from Recreational Soccer?

Academy soccer is a higher level of commitment. The season is longer, typically 14 to 16 weeks depending on the season and tournaments. Players practice twice per week with a third night optional. There are more games, we target 12 games per season but it varies depending on available competition. There are also tournaments that teams compete in. Player will play 4 to 5 times the amount of soccer as compared to the recreational program.

The Academy Program is geared to prepare players to play in a competitive environment. This is achieved through a progressive curriculum based on the Possession Principles of Play; the same curriculum used by US Youth

National Teams and US Youth Regional and ODP Teams. Both Coach Steve and Coach Sam are ODP and Regional Coaches and Coaching Instructors working within US Youth Soccer, and have extensive knowledge in developing our players and our coaches with these principles.

How are coaches selected for the Academy program?

Our coaches are selected based on their commitment and coaching skills. We have a coaching education program to continually improve our coaches. The coaches are under the direction of Steve Keiss and Samantha Snow. We also utilize former college players and professional soccer training staff to supplement our soccer program.

How are Liberty Academy teams formed?

Teams are formed by Assessments/Tryouts held in late May. Coaches select players they feel are ready to commit to play Academy soccer. Teams are formed by birth year.

Are players allowed to play up in an age group?

Yes, but this is a per player decision. Players that play up an age group have to be starters and make an impact during the game. We don't want a player to miss out on any playing time. There may be some opportunities that players may be able to play up when a team needs players.

When and where are Assessments/tryouts for the upcoming season?

Assessment/Tryouts dates for the Academy age groups are determined by GA Soccer and are the first Tuesday-after Memorial Day. We recommend attending all three days of tryouts. Tryouts dates for the **2019-2020** Season are:

Tuesday, May 26; Wednesday, May 27; and Thursday, May 28 from 6:00-7:30

What happens during tryouts?

Players will be split into their respective age groups for all of the tryout activities.

Your child will be evaluated by the coaching staff in various individual and small group activities throughout the three days of tryouts

What are costs for Liberty Soccer Club Academy program compared to other clubs?

Cost for Academy players at Liberty Soccer Club fall below the average of most other clubs in the area. Club fees are \$850 per year with payment plans available to accommodate families. Tournament fees are an additional cost. Tournament costs range from \$30-\$70 per player per tournament not including travel and lodging cost.

In addition, a uniform cost of approximately \$140 can be expected. Our club wears JOMA uniforms. The Fall 2018 was the first year of the 2-year uniform cycle. Uniforms purchased in the Fall 2018 will be worn through the Spring of 2020. Uniforms consist of: home and away kit, and training shirt. Players have the option to purchase training jacket and pants, additional uniform pieces and backpack.

Team Camp is included in your fee. This is an evening camp is for all Liberty Academy players to kick the season off!

Team Camp is August 4-6 at Bluesprings

Can my player also participate in other leagues while playing for Liberty Academy?

Registration for a Georgia Soccer Affiliated Academy program does not allow for your player to participate in other "affiliated leagues" that run Fall and Spring. This includes recreational programs. We do offer winter and summer camps as well as indoor programs and 3v3 tournaments throughout the year to keep your player's skill improving.