

## **PSC Inter-County Program**

The [Inter-County Youth Soccer League \(ICYSL\)](#) is a semi-competitive recreational soccer program. It consists of town soccer clubs based in Middlesex, Union and Essex counties. The League was founded as a way to allow children to continue to play soccer when there were not enough players within individual towns to form viable programs. Piscataway SC has been a member of ICYSL since Fall 2016.

ICYSL runs both a Fall and Spring season. Players registering are expected to play both seasons. ICYSL has boy and girl divisions for U10, U12, U14 and U17 age groups.

The U12, U14 and U17 brackets play a regular season followed by play-offs to a championship game. The U10 level play games with participation trophies awarded at the end of the season.

### **Tryouts and Age Groups**

There are no official tryouts for the PSC Inter-County Program. However, players are encouraged to attend the PSC travel tryouts in April-May of each year, in order to be evaluated. This allows us to properly place players in the appropriate teams/leagues/divisions. All interested players in the Instructional program are expected to attend tryouts.

Like other leagues, ICYSL will follow the birth year format to determine age groups. Please see both the following chart, and the birth year and soccer season matrix below, to determine the age group for your child based on their year of birth.

<b>Group</b>	<b>Game Format</b>	<b>Time per Half (minutes)</b>	<b>Ball Size</b>
U10	7v7	25	#4
U12	9v9	30	#4
U14	11v11	35	#5
U17	11v11	40	#5
U19	11v11	45	#5

### **When and Where do Teams Play**

Teams generally play 4-5 games in Piscataway and 4-5 games in other towns that are within a 30-40 minute driving radius. Games are generally played on Saturday, although there may be an occasional Sunday game due to a towns field availability.

### **Practice, Practice, Practice**

The only way to develop a better-skilled player and team is to practice, practice and practice some more. Instructional teams practice two times a week - 1 with our professional trainers and 1 with their team coach. PSC Inter-County Program provides each team with a professional trainer for 8 training sessions. Any additional use of a professional trainer will be at the expense of the team. Teams are only authorized to utilize Board approved trainers.

### **Who is Not Eligible**

If you play travel or are on the Varsity HS soccer team, you are ineligible to play in ICYSL.

## Playing Time

PSC policy is that all children will play a minimum of 50% of the game. However, that may be reduced at the coach's discretion if a player does not attend practice regularly or if there are disciplinary problems. Coaches and their staff do their best to ensure that all children receive appropriate playing time.

**Birth Year and Soccer Season Matrix**

Season Birth Year	2016- 2017	2017- 2018	2018- 2019	2019- 2020	2020- 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023	2023- 2024	2024- 2025
2019									U6
2018								U6	U7
2017							U6	U7	U8
2016						U6	U7	U8	U9
2015					U6	U7	U8	U9	U10
2014				U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11
2013			U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
2012		U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13
2011	U6	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14
2010	U7	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15
2009	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16
2008	U9	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17
2007	U10	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18
2006	U11	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19
2005	U12	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19	
2004	U13	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19		
2003	U14	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19			
2002	U15	U16	U17	U18	U19				
2001	U16	U17	U18	U19					
2000	U17	U18	U19						
1999	U18	U19							

## **Intercounty Frequently Asked Questions**

For those of you not familiar with the PSC Inter-County Program, here is a list of Frequently Asked Questions:

**Q: What is InterCounty Soccer?**

A: InterCounty Soccer is a way to play recreational soccer against other recreational teams from neighboring towns.

**Q: What age groups are available?**

A: We field teams based on player interest in the U10, U12, U14 and U17 levels.

**Q: How do you try out for an InterCounty team?**

A: Not really. We do form InterCounty teams as part of the Travel tryouts process. We will attempt to place everyone on a team if they register on a timely basis.

**Q: How much of a commitment does it take to play InterCounty?**

A: The same commitment it takes to play InTown Rec soccer. Generally there is one game each weekend and one or two practices during the week.

**Q: Exactly when will practices and games be held? Will they conflict with other sports and activities?**

A: This question is often asked and there is no way to provide specifics before the season starts. Practices will be scheduled by each team for one afternoon each week after school. Sessions generally start at 6:00 pm or 7:00 pm and run for about 60 minutes.

Games are scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays and could be at any time of the day.

**Q: Isn't there a lot of travel associated with InterCounty?**

A: There is very little travel. Half your games are played at home and the other half are played in nearby towns such as Edison, Plainfield, Cranford, Clark, Scotch Plains, Mountainside, New Providence, etc.

**Q: Is the league very competitive?**

A: As with the in-town rec program, there are varying degrees of team strength. Divisions are divided whenever possible to allow for stronger and weaker sub-divisions. There will be teams from some towns that are very strong but generally the games are quite competitive.

**Q: Do we need to purchase a PSC uniform?**

A: Yes. A full kit will be offered on the club website, which includes 2 jerseys (1 white, 1 black), shorts and socks.

### **SUMMARY**

If you enjoy the fun and excitement of soccer but do not have the time commitment to play Travel Soccer, then InterCounty Soccer is the answer for you. It combines the best of both worlds---recreational and travel soccer---by allowing you to participate in a more relaxed, less intensive, less committed environment while still enjoying the excitement and challenge of playing teams from other towns! It is basically "travel-lite" for soccer.