

## **Piscataway Soccer Club – Premier Soccer**

### **Is Premier soccer for you?**

Premier soccer is for serious soccer players who want professional instruction and who desire a more competitive environment with other players who share the same goals and skill level. Most Premier soccer players tend to be those who want to play for their high school and even possibly in college. They should tryout because they really love to play soccer, want to learn to play at a more advanced level, and are willing to commit the time and effort required to become the best soccer player possible.

### **Premier Soccer Level of Commitment**

At PSC, Premier teams will train 2-3 times each week for 1.5 hours each session. Goal keepers are required to attend goal keeper training weekly (TBD). Scrimmages, practice games, and tournaments are an integral part of the commitment. Scrimmages or practice games may be scheduled during the week in addition to regular training. Teams enter 2-3 tournaments each season which will require weekend travel. Beyond the added training, games and tournament requirements, Premier level players are truly challenged to perform at a higher level both technically and tactically, individually and as a team.

### **Are background checklist completed?**

Yes - Our coaches undergo extensive background checks in compliance with all New Jersey State Youth Soccer Association best practices for youth soccer programs.

### **Can my son or daughter “play up”?**

Yes, but this is up to the discretion of the evaluators. A player will not be allowed to play up in age unless he/she is able to start and play most of the game on the older team. A player's development is the priority of Premier soccer (not loyalties to teams or pursuit of winning). A player in our Premier Program will play up if it benefits the player; that is our priority.

### **When does the season start? Practices start?**

**Teams below HS Age** will train during most of the summer in preparation for the fall season, and players are certainly excused for family vacations. The season generally starts with a Labor Day tournament, although some teams also do an August tournament. Leagues start the weekend after Labor Day. Teams are active during the winter with league/practices and most teams do involve some level of a spring commitment, although at the younger ages this may be scaled back to take into account multi-sport athletes.

**Teams with players HS Age (U15 and up)**-- will train during June and July in order prepare players for their High School tryouts and seasons. Teams at this age will not play a fall season as they will be playing for their high schools, but we will encourage those teams to get together for a practice once every week, or every other week, to keep fresh as a team so they are ready for an end of fall tournament and the beginning of winter league play.

## **Tryouts**

Annual tryouts begin in April of each year for each age group. Online registration for those tryouts will be up on the website.

## **Seasons**

These tryouts will form teams for 2017 Fall play. All teams will start training during the summer (August). The older teams (U15 and up) will train in the summer and then take a break until the high school season is complete, though we would encourage the older teams to train a few times a month to stay connected as a team.

## **Costs**

Premier soccer at this level is more expensive than "recreational" and "travel". That is unavoidable, but we will do our best to keep it as reasonable as possible while still providing the player development experience sought by families when they come to PSC Premier. Below are the areas to look at for costs:

**Club Dues** – Premier players pay club fees of approximately \$1,195.00 for the year. This covers the expenses of operating a club. Our expenses include providing fields, training, postage, field equipment, maintenance, insurance, marketing, technology/phone/internet, accounting services, and much much more.

**Uniform Kit** - Every other year, the player is required to purchase a complete uniform kit that includes home and away jersey, shorts and socks, backpack, warm ups, and training shirts. The kit is estimated at \$300.00.

**Travel to games**- Each player is responsible for their travel costs to tournaments and games. Some tournaments may require overnight stays. Travel costs will vary from team to team. At older ages, it can be common that only the player travels or carools with others.

**Fundraising** – PSC Premier will require all teams to conduct various fundraising efforts throughout the year to offset club costs. Individual teams can offset their team dues by carrying out team fundraising as well. This is encouraged, especially for teams that travel extensively.

## **League Play**

PSC Premier teams will play in EDP, Region I and EDP Futures.

## **Summary**

Our emphasis is player-centric with player development the number one priority. We will focus on the technical, tactical, physical and psychological development of individual players on a pathway towards maximizing their full potential. All players should conduct themselves at all times in accordance with the PSC Premier Team player code of conduct and all players will be treated as equals.