

2015 - 2016 Handbook



20th Anniversary

1995 - 2015

CUSC Policies

CLUB AGENTS

Officers and volunteers are agents of the club only within the scope of duties described in the Constitution, By-Laws or Policies unless specifically sanctioned by a majority vote of the Board.

MEETINGS

Board meetings are open for 15 minutes of general business/discussion with any member(s). Referees and sponsors of the club are also welcome to attend club meetings. Meetings may be ordered closed with a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority of the board.

FINANCIAL

CUSC will follow standard accounting practices, which will include an independent audit on a minimum yearly basis.

BUDGET

A budget will be established by the Board on a yearly basis and presented at the annual meeting. Budget updates will be provided on a quarterly basis.

FEES AND EXPENSES

Tuition: Tuition is due in full upon registration. Tuition for all players is currently \$300 per season. (Please see "Discounts" section below.) Cheshire United Soccer Club offers two soccer seasons, a fall season and a spring season. Player tuition is established on a yearly basis and is based on the registration fees charged by the league, as well as costs internal to the club (i.e. costs of maintaining fields, equipment costs, costs associated with coach and player development, and miscellaneous administrative costs). CUSC has a strict rule of "NO PAY, NO PLAY".

Uniform Kits: Uniform kits are an additional expense, not included in the tuition above, and are ordered directly through Bulldog Graphics in Keene (please see www.cheshireunited.com for more details and contact information). Uniforms are mandatory and must be purchased for every fall-spring soccer year. They are expected to last for both the fall and spring soccer seasons. New uniforms are issued in the fall and should be used again for the spring season. Players that play only one season (spring OR fall) will need to purchase new uniforms for that playing season. Uniform kit costs are generally \$50-\$60 per kit which includes home and away jerseys, shorts and socks. CUSC is conscious of the costs associated with purchasing uniform kits and will make every effort to keep costs at a minimum while still providing a quality uniform for its players.

Raffle Fundraiser: CUSC conducts a fundraising calendar raffle each fall (not in the spring) to help defray the costs of operating the club. The fundraiser is mandatory. Each player will receive 12 tickets to sell at \$10.00 each. Prizes include gift cards, gift certificates, products and merchandise from local establishments. Parents have the option of "buying out" of the fundraising for \$100.00 if you choose not

to sell tickets. Siblings will only have to sell 8 per packet. Additional information will be given out at fall tryouts.

Tournaments: Fees collected by CUSC do not cover tournaments. Tournament fees will be the responsibility of the team participating in the tournament.

DISCOUNTS

Early Discount: CUSC will offer a \$50 early-payment discount for players who are paid in full prior to team registration deadlines. Generally, pre-payment deadlines will be 6-8 weeks prior to the start of the season and reflect NH Soccer Association deadlines for registering teams.

Family Discount: For multiple player families, a \$35 discount will be offered for each additional child after first full-paying child.

Referral Discount: A \$25 referral discount will be offered to new, non-family players who are referred to the club, once that player is paid in full and has been placed onto a team. The discount is offered to the referring player only, not to the referred player. There is no limit to this bonus; multiple new referrals are welcome and encouraged.

Coaches Discount: Children of active head coaches will be exempt from paying fees in recognition of their contribution to the club.

REFUNDS

Cheshire United Soccer Club has a strict “NO REFUND” policy for withdrawing from the club. However, players who are not successfully placed onto a CUSC team for any reason will be offered a full tuition refund. For example, if there are not enough players to field a team in a particular age group or if there are too many players and “cuts” need to be made. Requests for special exceptions (health, injury, etc.) may be made to the Board of Directors, will be considered on a case-by-case basis, will be prorated and will be subject to a \$50 administrative fee. Otherwise, it is the policy of Cheshire United Soccer Club that refunds are not offered for any reason.

INSURANCE

CUSC will maintain insurance separate from that provided by the league to cover all its members.

PLAYING UP

CUSC players will play with their age appropriate group based on the Age Matrix established by US Youth Soccer to ensure quality competition. The calendar date used for determination is August 1. Groups U8-U10 can be combined if players are capable.

Exceptions to the guideline are rare and will require a written request and approval by the Coaching Director. No player shall play up 2 age groups.

Groups U11 and older, players will remain age appropriate. However, if a U11 is in the 6th grade when most 6th graders are U12 and if the player is capable of selection, he/she will be allowed to “play up”. If the player is not selected this player may play in his/her appropriate age group. This is true for all ages. **Playing up on a team one season does NOT guarantee players will continue to do so.** In tournament events where guest players are allowed, having a player “play up” one year as a guest for a specific game or event is allowed, however the player that is “playing up” their first responsibility is the team they normally play for.

Why the guideline?

- * Many parents think their son or daughter is or will be the next greatest player and although we know parents love their kids, many times, parental assessments are overstated and “playing up” is needed more for the parents rather than the development of the player. In the long run, “playing up” is usually not in the best interest of most players.
- * Many times, coaches may make a selfish decision to have a player “play up” to benefit their team but it is not in the best interest of the club or the player.
- * For the most part, players are best served by playing lead roles on teams in their own age group rather than support roles on teams they are “playing up” on.
- * Most teams are reluctant to cut players who have played on their team to make room for an average player seeking to drop back down.
- * Many teams choose to “play up” together for increased competition. If a player is “playing up” on a team that is also “playing up” as a group, this results in the player competing two years up which may not be in the best interest of the players development and may also risk injury.

COACHING

At a minimum, the club will meet the licensing requirements of the state and USSF.

DISCIPLINE

At a minimum, disciplinary procedures will adhere to the State guidelines, which are provided in the CUSC handbook. Members will be disciplined as needed to maintain the reputation of CUSC.



Club Contact List and Organization Chart

Board Members:

President/Field Coordinator – Mike Acerno

Treasurer – Sarah Brewer Clark

Secretary – Sarah Brewer Clark

Coaching Coordinator – Emma Kobeski

Registrar – Tracy Summers

State Registrar – Sarah Quinlan

Parent Liaison – Michael Quinlan

Keene State College Liaison – Rick Scott

Website – Mark Belden

Board Member – Brian Shollenberger

Board Member – Tim Kenyon



CUSC Players Code of Conduct

I hereby agree to provide a positive attitude and be responsible for my participation in youth soccer by following the Players Code of Conduct.

I will attend every practice and game that is reasonably possible for me to attend and will timely notify my coach if I cannot.

As a recreational player, I will expect to receive a fair amount of playing time, in accordance with the policies of Cheshire United Soccer Club.

As a competitive player, I realize that I may not receive an equal amount of playing time and pledge not to complain to my coach about this.

I will do my best to listen and learn from my coaches.

I will treat my coaches, fellow soccer players, fans and officials with respect, good manners and common decency regardless of race, sex, creed, color or ability and I expect to be treated in the same fashion.

I deserve to have fun during my soccer experience and will let my parents and coaches know if it stops being fun.

I agree and deserve to play in an alcohol, tobacco and drug free environment.

I will encourage my parents/guardians to be involved with my team and the Club in some capacity because it is important to the club and me.

I will do my very best in school.

I will remember that youth soccer is an opportunity to learn and have fun.

I will strive to treat others as I wish to be treated by others.

I will obey the laws of the sport of soccer as taught to me by coaches.



CUSC Parents Code of Conduct

I hereby agree to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child's participation in the Cheshire United Soccer Club by following this Parents Code of Conduct.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth soccer event. This shall include refraining from any and all derogatory comments or remarks, including but not limited to "coaching" my child or others from the sideline. I will not direct any player by saying the words "go" and "shoot" which are deemed to be "coaching" from the sideline. I agree to let the coaches do the coaching.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.

I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.

If I do not agree with a coaching decision or referee's decision, I will refrain from vocalizing my dissatisfaction in an effort to promote and reinforce the positive and enjoyable soccer experience envisioned by the adoption of this Code of Conduct. I will approach the coach only after 24 hours after what I perceive to be a disagreeable coaching decision. I will approach the coach in private after a practice or game. After speaking with the coach and not receiving a satisfactory explanation, I may then file a written complaint. The Board of Directors will promptly reply to said complaint.

I will demand a drug and alcohol free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth soccer events.

I will remember that the game is for the children and not for the adults.

I will do my very best to make youth soccer fun for my child.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect, good manners and common decency regardless of race, sex, creed, color or ability.

If a coach, official or Club representative calls to my attention that my child is not treating coaches, fellow players, opposing players, fan and officials with respect, I will counsel my child on his/her need to do so and explain that failure to correct such an attitude may result in an expulsion from the Club.

I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth soccer experience by being a respectful fan, volunteering to assist the Club when needed, and providing ground transportation when available to do so.

If I fail to abide by the above, I recognize that I may be barred from attending youth soccer events sponsored by the Club, in the sole discretion of Cheshire United Soccer Club.

CUSC Coaches Code of Conduct

I will make every effort to directly address any issues relating to a player (i.e. regarding performance, status on the team or areas of improvement) as presented to me by a player. In addition, I will make myself as accessible as possible to any player.

I acknowledge that individual playing time, game strategy and the starting line-up will not be up for discussion and will be based primarily on each player's ability, fitness, openness and attitude to the start of the game, as well as practice performance and attendance.

I will to the best of my ability work to establish as positive a developmental environment as possible.

I will make every effort to encourage each child to support all team activities prior to and during the season as it relates to developing the spirit of the team.

I will encourage each child to treat all other players, coaches and referees with respect by showing positive support and will not verbally or physically abuse any officials, coaches or players at every game and practice.

I understand that I am responsible for my own actions as well as those of players and parents.

In the spirit of the game I will not run up scores unnecessarily.



Cheshire United Soccer Club * PO Box 355 * Keene, NH 03431