



Frequently asked questions:

Q: My child has little or no soccer experience. Should I still sign them up?

A: Yes, definitely. The ASC is a RECREATIONAL soccer program and our charter is to provide soccer playing opportunities to all eligible players regardless of skill, experience or gender. There are no tryouts. There is no selection process. Our motto is that "Everyone Plays!"

Q: When are practices and games?

A: In-Town Rec players will practice once or twice during the week, at the coach's discretion, usually on a weeknight, and games are played on Sundays between 11:00 - 4:00 at Abe Stone Field. Travel players will practice twice each week, usually on a weeknight, and games are typically played on Saturdays. Practices and home games are usually held at the Ansonia Nature Center.

Q: I have a scheduling conflict that prevents me from getting my child to his/her practices. What should I do?

A: Discuss the issue with your coach. It is the player's responsibility to inform the coach in advance of every known missed practice or game. If the conflict is a recurring issue that will prevent the player from attending one of the two weekly practices that are scheduled, then the coach can make accommodations for an excused absence. If the player will miss more than half of their scheduled practices then they should probably be withdrawn from the program.

Q: What equipment will my child need?

A: Players will need shin guards, outdoor soccer cleats, and a soccer ball to bring to practice. These items can usually be purchased as a kit at most sporting goods stores (Dick's Sporting Goods / The Sports Authority / Modell's). They are sometimes also available as used equipment at many thrift stores.

Q: What size soccer ball will I need?

A: Players ages 4-5 will use a size 3 soccer ball. Ages 6-12 will use a size 4 ball. Ages 13 & up will use a size 5 ball. Player ages are determined as of August 1 of the seasonal year.

Q: My child played on a team in the fall. Will they remain on the same team in the spring?

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A: Each player plays 2 full seasonal years (fall & spring) in each division before moving up to the next age group division. The soccer seasonal year runs the same as a school year (fall - spring). The age group divisions are: Div 1 (ages 4-5), Div 2 (ages 6-7), Div 3 (ages 8-9), and Div 4 (ages 10+). Players will remain on the same team as long as they remain in the same division.

Q: Can my child play/continue to play "down" a division?

A: No. All players must progress to their age appropriate division. Every division in the ASC is considered to be instructional and every coach is expected to teach every player the fundamentals of soccer regardless of skill or experience. So no matter what age group your child is assigned to, their coach will always be expected to adjust their instruction to the specific skill level and capabilities of each player.

Q: How much playing time does each player get?

A: The ASC schedules an average of 10 games per season for each team. Weather and other factors may have an affect on the number of games actually played. It is ASC policy that every player participates in at least 50% of each game if possible. If this goal becomes logistically difficult for the coach to maintain, then the coach is expected to ensure that an even amount of playing time is allocated to each player throughout the season. Players that have unexcused absences, are missing equipment, or violate the terms of the ASC Code of Conduct may be restricted from play.

Q: Will I stay with the same coach and players as I move up to the next age group/division?

A: Probably not. It is the policy of the Ansonia Soccer Club that players be re-assigned to new coaches and new teammates as they progress. This is done to encourage an even distribution of skills and to provide players with an opportunity to develop new skills and make new acquaintances.

Q: Can I request a specific coach or team to play for?

A: No. The Ansonia Soccer Club does not hold tryouts and has no player selection process. Therefore, team assignments are mostly random and are intended to maintain an even distribution of gender and age. Special requests will not be honored.

Q: How far does the Travel team have to travel for games?

A: All travel games are played within New Haven County. Our furthest destinations are typically to Oxford to the west, Madison to the east, Stratford to the south, and Cheshire/Southington to the north.

Q: How often does the Travel team play at home and away?

A: We usually try to schedule 50% of our games at home and 50% away. But this will often change depending on field and referee availability.

Q: My child is 10 years old but I do not wish to travel to other towns. Does the ASC offer an in-town program for my child?

A: No. Our club does not offer in-town playing programs for players over the age of 10.