

**FC WHEELING UNITED TRAVEL DIVISION  
TRYOUT AND TEAM PLACEMENT FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

• **WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF TRYOUTS?**

The purpose of tryouts is to identify each player's skill level for placement on a team.

• **DO ALL PLAYERS MAKE A TEAM?**

No.

• **IF JUST ENOUGH OR FEWER PLAYERS TO FORM A TEAM TRYOUT, DO THOSE PLAYERS AUTOMATICALLY MAKE THE TEAM?**

No. If, in the opinion of the evaluators each player is not at the skill level needed for the team, the player will not be placed on the team.

• **WHAT IS TRAVEL SOCCER?**

Generally, FC Wheeling United teams play in the "PA West Soccer Organization". See [www.PAWest-soccer.org](http://www.PAWest-soccer.org). Our teams play on Sunday afternoons in the fall and in the spring. Each season consists generally, of eight (8) games in the fall and eight (8) games in the spring with one half (1/2) of the games being "travel" games or away games. The remainder are home games played in Wheeling.

• **WHO ARE THE EVALUATORS?**

Evaluators are selected for their knowledge of the game of soccer, familiarity with the developmental needs of the level being evaluated and their reputation as objective, impartial evaluators. No evaluator will have a player interest at the level being evaluated unless there is an absolute critical shortage of evaluators for that particular session.

• **HOW ARE THE PLAYERS EVALUATED?**

Each evaluator will independently grade each player in a wide range of skills (including, technical, tactical, psychological and physical). At the end of the tryout sessions, each individual evaluator will summarize their scores. Those scores will be combined and compared with the other evaluator scores and from these results all players will be ranked and placed on the appropriate team as per their skill level and age.

• **DO THE EVALUATORS KNOW EACH PLAYER'S NAME?**

No. All players are given an assigned number. The evaluators will evaluate the player's number. It is very important that each player has the same number for each tryout session.

• **CAN A PLAYER TRYOUT AT AN AGE LEVEL ABOVE THEIR ACTUAL AGE?**

Yes. Generally, the Club may permit a player to "play-up" one age level only; for example, a U-11 player may "play-up" at the U-12 level and be placed on the "older" team if deemed appropriate by the evaluators.

• **WHO ARE THE COACHES?**

The coaches for each team are selected by the Travel Committee which consists of the President, Vice-President of Travel and other Board members of WASA/FC Wheeling United.

- **IF I PLAYED TRAVEL THIS PAST YEAR, DO I AUTOMATICALLY MAKE IT THIS YEAR?**

No.

- **CAN THE PARENTS OR PLAYERS SPEAK WITH ANY OF THE EVALUATORS DURING THE TRYOUT PROCESS?**

No, in order to maintain their objectivity, all evaluators are prohibited from discussing any aspect of the evaluation process with any parent or player until all team placements are completed. If a parent or player attempts to speak with an evaluator about the player's tryout, the player's placement on the team could be jeopardized.

- **WHAT DOES A PLAYER DO IF THEY CANNOT ATTEND ONE OF THE TRYOUT SESSIONS?**

Players are strongly encouraged to attend both of the tryout sessions; however, if a conflict occurs it is the responsibility of the player to give notice to one of the tryout coordinators that a session will be missed.

- **HOW IS THE COMPETITIVE LEVEL OF EACH TEAM DETERMINED?**

After players and a head coach are identified, a preliminary competitive level is assigned in PA West, the travel association in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. This level is based on the skill level of the players and the expected level of competition within the particular division.

- **HOW ARE PLAYERS NOTIFIED THAT THEY MADE A TEAM?**

After the tryout(s) the teams are formed and each individual player will be notified by mail. A parent or guardian must fill out the necessary paperwork and pay \$100.00 a non-refundable commitment fee by July 1, 2009. The balance of the fall cost must be paid by each individual player by August 1, 2009.

- **WHEN MUST MY CHILD MAKE A COMMITMENT TO ACCEPT A ROSTER POSITION?**

The FC Wheeling United contract must be completed and forwarded to each individual team's "team manager" no later than June 20, 2009. Every FC Wheeling United Travel Team will meet with their team manager and coach during the latter part of June in order to complete the necessary paperwork for the fall 2009 season.

- **WHEN DOES THE SOCCER SEASON BEGIN?**

The recommended fall travel soccer season is from the second week of August through the end of October. Generally, FC Wheeling United Travel Teams have indoor training sessions for either six to eight weeks, beginning in January through a portion of March. Thereafter, the Spring travel season begins in late March.

- **WHAT IS THE COST THIS FALL?**

The approximate cost is between \$200.00 and \$250.00 per season depending on the age level of the team. In other words, between \$400.00 and \$500.00 per year. However, each individual team's costs will differ depending on various issues including the purchase of new uniforms and tournaments, for example.