



PISCATAWAY SOCCER CLUB TRAVEL TRYOUTS

Any changes to this schedule due to inclement weather will be posted on the PSC website: www.PiscatawaySoccer.org

Overview

The purpose of the Piscataway Soccer Club (PSC) travel team tryout process is to form teams with players who have similar soccer ability and commitment level. These procedures offer general guidelines on how the travel teams will be formed.

Travel Tryout Dates

Tryouts will be posted on the club's website

Travel Tryout Ages

Tryouts will be based on US Soccer birth year.

Registration and General Information:

- Advance online tryout registration is available through the PSC website and is mandatory. Visit www.PiscatawaySoccer.org to register. If a player does not register online prior to the tryout, they must register in person at the time of the tryout. There is no fee for tryout registration.
- Tryouts will be publicized through
 - A posting on the PSC website.
 - E-mail notifications will be sent to PSC membership
 - Flyers will be sent to all Piscataway schools.
- All tryouts will be held on a Saturday for a 1.5 hour block. The PEC may adjust the tryout sessions, based on the anticipated number of players for an age group. It is required that players attend the age appropriate session. Should a child become ill, suffer an injury or have a family emergency and not be able to attend the tryouts, notification must be submitted in writing (e-mail is acceptable) to the PEC and the VP of Travel prior to the scheduled tryout. An alternate assessment will be arranged.
- The duration of the tryout is approximately 120 minutes. Parents must stay at the tryout. Parents may not drop a child off and leave the tryout area. Parents are not permitted on the playing field.
- There should be no cheering or individual coaching during a tryout.
- All players must wear shin guards and cleats (or turf shoes) and bring water.
- Upon check-in, all players will be assigned a numbered T-shirt or training vest (pinnie) and be identified by that number throughout the tryout process.

- As per the PSC By-Laws “*the spot on a team is for one seasonal year until the next tryout process and team selection.*” There are no set teams after the Spring Season each year and players must tryout again to secure their roster spot for the following season.
- PSC is following recommendations from USA Soccer by forming teams based on the player’s birth year.

The Tryouts

- “Players” consist of any age-appropriate individual that registers for, and participates in, the PSC travel tryouts. Players will not be organized based on previous team placements.
- “Evaluators” consist of training professionals commissioned by PSC to provide unbiased, formal ratings based on age-appropriate tactical and technical soccer abilities.
- “Player Evaluation Committee (PEC)” consists of a Chairperson (nominated by the PSC President) and a Committee formed to establish and uphold procedures for the consistent evaluation of players during the annual PSC travel tryouts.
- Additional volunteers from within the PSC (board members, coaches, managers and parents) will be used during the tryout sessions to assist with check-in, registrations or any other supportive role as requested by the Evaluators. These individuals will not participate in any player evaluations during the tryout sessions.

Pre-Tryout Ratings

- Pre-Tryout rating forms will be distributed to all current Travel Head Coaches and USA professional trainers that conduct weekly training sessions. These must be completed and submitted prior to the tryout session to the PEC Chairperson and VP of Travel. These ratings will take into consideration skills, performance, attitude, attendance at training, communication, sportsmanship and other factors based on the player’s performance over the course of an entire season.
- Pre-Tryout ratings will be kept private and confidential by all parties.
- Instructional players transitioning to PSC travel will not receive a Pre-Tryout rating

Tryout Ratings

- The training professionals commissioned by PSC will provide Evaluators on the designated tryout dates. The Evaluators will be present for the full duration of all tryout sessions.
- The tryout format will be developed by the training professionals commissioned by PSC VP of Travel and the PEC.
- There will be a standardized tryout evaluation form used by the Evaluators to record and report results.

- One (1) Professional Evaluator will take the lead role and coordinate the on-field evaluation while the tryouts are in progress.
- It will be the responsibility of the Evaluators to jointly develop a single ranking for the entire age group at the end of the process. The lead Evaluator will make the decision whenever there is a disagreement over a ranking, but will strive to seek consensus among all Evaluators.
- Upon the conclusion of the tryout session, Evaluators will present to the Chairperson of the PEC and VP of Travel a single ranking (from highest-skilled player to lowest-skilled player) as the final Tryout Rating for each age group/gender as well as individual evaluator score sheets.
- The Final ranking will be determined by Evaluator, Coach and/or Trainer.
- If a player is new to the Club or transitioning from the Instructional program the tryout evaluation will be the only ranking utilized and if a current PSC player is excused from tryouts by the Travel VP then an alternative assessment will be arranged.

Goalkeeper Ratings

- Goalkeeper tryouts for ages U11 and older will take place during the scheduled tryouts and will be publicized by the PSC along with the field player tryout dates. Evaluations will be provided to the coach prior to team selection. All players who try out for goalkeeper must also participate in the field tryouts. No goalkeeper tryouts will be held for Players U10 and younger.
- Separate ratings for goalkeepers shall be made by the Evaluators and will not be factored into the player's field tryout rating.
- Any goalkeeper that is new to the club or who has not attended the weekly goalkeeper session may participate in goalkeeper tryouts. If a player is not able to make the goalkeeper tryouts they may request an evaluation at one of the other goalkeeper training sessions.

Playing Up

- Requests to "play up" an age division, must be made prior to tryouts via email to the VP of Travel (email on the website). Include the player's name, birthdate, parent(s) name and contact information, along with the specific reasons why the player should be allowed to tryout to be on a team of older players, who will play against teams that may have players that are 18 months older, depending on birthdates.

Player Selection Process

- The PEC will compile tryout rankings for each age/gender group. This must be completed no later than one week from the conclusion of all evaluations.

- The PEC provides the Head Coach of each travel team with the following upon request:
 1. Recommended teams based on try-out evaluations
 2. The rankings for their age/gender group;
 3. The coach evaluations (including instructional); and,
 4. The goalkeeper evaluations.
- The Head Coach selects:

Team Age	Game Format	Coach Selects	From Pool of Top
U8 – U10	7v7	10 – 14 players	16 ranked players
U11 – U12	9v9	12 – 15 players	20 ranked players
U13 – U19	11v11	14 – 18 players	20 ranked players

Note: The Piscataway Soccer Club will make final determination on team size. If a Coach disagrees with this decision he or she can appeal. See *Exceptions* below.

- If more than one team exists in an age/gender group, the higher-flighted team (A) will select players first, using the above guidelines.
- Head Coaches should select their proposed roster. The PEC and VP of Travel will meet with Coaches to discuss and confirm the selections and/or help to negotiate selections for age/gender groups with more than one team.
- No specific information regarding player ratings should ever be shared with parents or other members of the community due to the sensitive nature of such information.
- Coaches are encouraged to form their teams with the highest ranked available players. A Coach will be asked to justify any player skipped in the rankings. Such decisions may require the approval of the VP of Travel and the PEC Chair.

Player/Parent Communications

- Travel rosters will be finalized at the Team Selection Meeting.
- Notifications are sent via e-mail by the PEC and will include the name of the team inviting the player. Players have 24 hours to accept or decline the offered roster spot. If no response is received within 24 hours, that player is moved to the ‘waiting list.’ The coach may then select another player from the pool of available players.
- Acceptance to a team confirms a player’s commitment to that team for both the Fall and Spring seasons. Players may not switch teams during the seasonal year unless through appeal process to the Travel VP.

- Players (and parents) will not be provided an option to decline a roster spot on a higher-flighted team (A) in order to secure a roster spot on a lower-flighted team (B), when more than one team exists in an age/gender group.
- The PEC is responsible for notifying all players that are not selected for a team no later than 2 weeks after the Team Selection Meeting.

Exceptions

- Any exception to the tryout results (example: extraordinary circumstances) must be submitted in writing/email within 24 hours of team placement. The following five-person committee will make a decision within 48 hours.
 1. PEC Chair
 2. Executive Vice-President
 3. Director of Coaching
 4. Travel VP (1st)
 5. Travel VP (2nd)