



## PSC Travel FAQs for 2026-27

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## Q: What are the dates for the 2026-27 tryouts?

**A:** Tryouts will take place the week of 5/11. You must register for Tryouts.

**[Watch this video for more details about this year's tryout process.](#)**

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## Q: What is the purpose of tryouts?

**A:** The Piscataway Soccer Club (PSC) holds tryouts to help place players interested in playing competitive soccer into the appropriate levels of play. Our club values the individual development of each player in the club and try-outs are an important part of the process. Placing players at the appropriate level of play helps them maximize their potential and contribute to their team.

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## Q: What are coaches looking for?

**A:** Coaches are looking for players whose skill set aligns with the club philosophy. They are looking for players who have skills and abilities on the field that meet the demands of the game. Coaches are looking for players who show the athleticism, work rate and the desire to play the game with the skills to play soccer at a competitive level. They also look for players who are coachable and work well in a team atmosphere and committed to play.

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## Q: How does PSC select players for teams?

**A:** Tryouts are typically held in May and are open to all players of appropriate age and gender, regardless of club affiliation. Once completed, teams will be formed based on ability.

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## Q: Why is it called “travel” Soccer?

**A:** Piscataway Soccer Club offers travel soccer teams for ages 7-19. The teams are selected based on ability and *travel* outside of Piscataway to nearby towns to games throughout the Mid NJ region.

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## Q: Who can try out for a Piscataway Soccer Club travel team?

**A:** Anyone. This includes Piscataway Soccer Club recreational players, and players from the surrounding area.

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## Q: How much does it cost to play Travel and when is payment due?

**A:** The cost for PSC Travel is \$850 for the full soccer year (Fall and Spring seasons). It includes two practices per week with a professional trainer for ~11 weeks each season.

A non-refundable deposit is required once you accept your invitation to join the team after tryouts, in order to secure your spot. PSC offers a payment plan to help manage the cost. Additionally, fundraising opportunities may be available to help players lower their overall expenses.

The uniform kit is an additional \$100.

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## Q: Who runs the travel teams?

**A:** The Piscataway Soccer Club (PSC) will assist the team in its formation and will set up the administrative structure necessary for play. The PSC will select a qualified coach to teach skills, run practices, and coach games. Each team needs parent volunteers to be coaches, assistants, managers, etc. Please consider volunteering time to your child’s team!

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## Q: How do I volunteer to be a parent-coach or team manager?

**A:** Simple. You can apply online, within your account, from the *VOLUNTEER* tab. You can also reach out to our club Travel Head Coach for more information by emailing [Dennis.Espinosa.psc@gmail.com](mailto:Dennis.Espinosa.psc@gmail.com)

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## Q: When will we find out who the coach is?

**A:** Professional coaches, parent-volunteer coaches and team managers will be assigned in early August and will start to contact the team as soon as they are assigned.

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## Q: What league will my team play in?

**A:** Most of our travel teams play in the Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association (MNJYSA) league. Some teams play in the Elite Development Program (EDP) or the Suburban Youth Soccer League (SYSL).

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## Q: When do practices and games begin?

**A:** This is usually the schedule based on the season

- FALL - Practices with professional trainers usually start the last week of August.

All PSC Travel teams will participate in our Fall Classic Tournament the weekend after Labor Day. Parents are required to volunteer for 4 hours per player on either Saturday or Sunday.

The fall leagues start the following weekend and end before Thanksgiving.

- WINTER (indoor) - Coach led team practices are held in January thru early March.
- SPRING - Practices with professional trainers usually start the first or second week of March. Leagues usually start mid-March and end early June.

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## Q: Where are practices held?

**A:** PSC uses several practice locations but most sessions are at: Witherspoon Soccer Complex, Piscataway HS stadium (turf), and the Green Acres Soccer Complex. A full list of fields are on our website under the Field Status tab.

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## Q: Do you provide goalkeeper training?

**A:** Yes, goalkeeper training sessions are provided through our training partner. Contact your coach for details. They are usually held on Friday evening

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## Q: What equipment do I need?

**A:** Aside from your uniform (see the uniform section below), you will need cleats and shin guards. Goalkeeper gloves are optional.

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## Q: What happens if I have a conflict with training times or matches?

**A:** Speak to your team coach and/or manager as early as possible to inform them of the conflict. Use TeamSnap to indicate the event you will miss, and use the Chat feature to let coach and team know.

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## Q: What is TeamSnapOne and why do I need it?

All of our teams use TeamSnapOne. At the beginning of the season, coaches will invite parents to join the team's TeamSnap account. TeamSnap works on mobile devices as well as on desktops.

With it, parents and players can mark their availability for practices and games. It shows the team and coaches the level of commitment from both parents and players.

This is very useful when trying to arrange matches and communicating with your coach/manager to provide dates and times when you may have a conflict.

It is essential for trainers and coaches to design their upcoming practice and training sessions based on the number of players attending.

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## Q: When are games played?

**A:** Most Travel games are played on Sundays (although U8's play on Saturdays). Game times are not consistent and they will change based on many factors. You will be provided with a full schedule at the start of the season with dates and times via your TeamSnap app. Keep in mind that schedules are subject to change.

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## Q: Where do we play HOME games?

**A:** Games are usually played at the following locations:

PHS Turf - 11v11 (U13 and up)

Green Acres Soccer Complex - 9v9 (U11 and U12), and 7v7 (U8 and U10)

Conackamack Middle School

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## Q: How far do we need to travel for AWAY games?

**A:** Most away games are within 30-40 minutes, if not closer.

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## Q: How do I order a uniform?

**A:** Visit our website and click on the Uniform Ordering process link on the Travel tab.

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## Q: What sort of commitment is required for parents and players of the travel team?

**A:** Everyone involved in travel soccer recognizes that the commitment may be difficult for young players. However, being on a travel team requires both the child AND THE PARENT understand that this activity is a commitment. Neither the player nor the team can develop to full potential without that commitment. The commitment is for 1 calendar year and begins on 8/1 each Summer, though teams typically don't start practices for a few weeks after this.

For most travel players, only religious commitments, school, and school athletics take precedence over travel team practices and games.

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## Q: How much soccer are we talking about?

**A:** Typically, beginning several weeks prior to the season and continuing throughout the season, travel players attend practices at least twice weekly. There are approximately 10 weekend games during the fall and another 10 in the spring. The travel games are typically played on Sunday, but may be rescheduled (due to weather, etc.) to another day.

In addition, some teams may select to compete in local and regional tournaments each fall and spring. All teams participate in our PSC Fall Classic Tournament, which is held annually the weekend after Labor Day.

During the summer, teams may practice, and players are strongly encouraged to attend Piscataway Soccer Club training sessions.

In the winter, teams may practice/scrimmage indoors twice-a-week.

As teams mature, players may participate in regional tournaments.

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## Q: This sounds like too much soccer, is it?

**A:** Travel soccer isn't for everyone — and that's okay. But for the players and families who take the leap, it can be a truly life-changing experience. Skills sharpen. Confidence soars. New friendships are built. And along the way, the travel soccer journey becomes filled with memories, growth, and a lot of fun.

At Piscataway Soccer Club, winning isn't the focus — development is. We believe that with hard work, dedication, and a love for the game, success will naturally follow. And when it does, the sense of accomplishment is something players and families will treasure for years to come.

Choosing travel soccer is a big decision. Parents should ask: Is my child ready for the challenge? If the answer is yes, they'll gain more than just better footwork — they'll learn that success doesn't come easy, that hard work truly pays off, and that winning isn't everything. These are lessons that shape champions not just on the field, but in life.

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## Helpful hints for players

Look to take charge of your situation. Come prepared to work hard and play soccer to the best of your ability. Look to play positions you are comfortable with but be open to suggestions by a coach. Be prepared to ask coach questions should you have any.

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## Helpful hints for the parents

Make sure your child is prepared to play. Ensure they have the necessary equipment, have had a healthy meal, have water and are in the right mindset. This is their opportunity to engage, let them enjoy it and help them take ownership. Please do not get involved in telling them what to do or criticizing their efforts on the field. And PLEASE, no coaching from the sidelines.

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