

**ACS Travel Soccer
2024/2025**

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How many tryouts does a player need to attend?

A: All players are expected to attend both nights of tryouts. Attending all tryouts provides coaches more opportunity to evaluate the player.

Q: What if I am unable to attend one or both of the tryouts?

A: Email the Director of Soccer, Julio Penalillo, at julio.penalillo@acsandhills.com

Q: How do I register for ACS travel tryouts?

A: All players must register for travel tryouts via our online registration process. There is a \$20 fee. To access the registration link, visit [acsandhills.com](https://registration.teamsnap.com/form/5875) or click here: <https://registration.teamsnap.com/form/5875>

Q: How old must a player be to try out for a travel team?

A: Players are offered the opportunity to participate on a travel team beginning as a U9 player, with a birth year of 2016. (some 2017 birth year players may be considered) The oldest age group for 2024/2025 will be U18 boys born in 2007 and U17 girls born in 2008.

Q: What happens if a tryout is canceled?

A: In the event of inclement weather and a tryout is canceled, a rain date will be substituted. Parents should check the Club website before attending all tryouts.

Q: How do I request for my player to play in an older age group?

A: Each player will attend all tryouts in their age group (see age group chart). There is an internal process in place for players to potentially try out for an older age group, if it is best for the player's overall development. All decisions will be reviewed by the Director of Soccer, the coaches and the parent before approving this option.

Q: What do I need to bring to tryouts?

A: Please bring a signed NCYSA waiver (found under travel forms on the website), cleats, shin guards and water to each tryout. A birth certificate will also be needed for all players that are not currently playing with ACS. (This can be uploaded when registering for tryouts.)

Q: How much does it cost to participate in ACS travel soccer?

A: Fees for travel soccer are available on the website at acsandhills.com. Uniforms are purchased by the families outside of the Club and Team fees every two years. The 2024/2025 season will be the first year of a two year uniform cycle.

Q: How are teams selected?

A: Players will be evaluated based on how they perform using the following criteria: technical ability, tactical awareness, speed, attitude, decision making, work ethic, and ability to play under pressure. No player is guaranteed a spot on the team after the tryout process.

Q: What is the level of commitment required for ACS travel soccer?

A: At the travel level, teams and individuals put in a significant amount of time in training to play at this higher level. The length of the season for the 2010 age group and above will be approximately five months, and the length for the 2011 age group and below will be approximately ten months. The best results are achieved when the players are fully committed and dedicated. Also, with travel soccer, expenses are greater due to licensed, paid coaches, as well as other expenses associated with this level of play.

Q: Which league does ACS participate in?

A: ACS competes in the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association, NCYSA. Our teams beginning with the birth year 2014 and up are all considered Classic teams within NCYSA, and within this league, we have a combination of first, second and third division teams. Our academy teams with birth years 2016 and 2015 all compete with other academy level teams from other clubs.

Q: When and how will I be notified of the tryout decisions?

A: Following the completion of tryouts, the team's coach will be reaching out with the results within 2-3 days.

Q: How do I accept a roster spot on a travel team?

A: After the coach has offered your player a position on the team, you will have 48 hours to either accept or decline the offer. Failure to respond within 48 hours could result in the spot being offered to another player.

Q: My child has accepted a place on the team. What happens now?

A: An email will be sent to you from ACS, with further information as well as instructions for additional documents that will need to be completed.

Q: When will the travel teams begin to practice?

A: Training will begin the first week of August for our older players and our younger players will start the second week. Players and teams looking for additional training may consider registering for any one of the summer camps that ACS has available. More information can be found here: <https://www.acsandhills.com/camps>

Q: When and where are the games?

A: Games are generally on Saturdays or Sundays, with an occasional Friday evening game as well. Games are split as evenly as possible between home games in Aberdeen and away games at locations based on the clubs that are in the team's division. Many away games are played in

the Raleigh/Holly Springs area, as well as Greensboro, Sanford, Fayetteville, Charlotte, and an occasional game with a club on the coast.

Q: When and where do they practice?

A: The U12 teams and younger will practice two nights a week, and the U13 and older teams will practice three nights a week. All travel soccer practices are currently held at the Aberdeen Ransdell Sportsplex.

Q: How long is the season?

A: All U9 - U14 teams will have both a fall and spring season. The fall season will start in early August and generally end by early to mid November. The spring season will start early January and end by mid May. The U15 and older girls will have only a fall league season and the U15 and older boys will have a spring only league season. ACS may offer additional, optional training opportunities if there is interest during the off season.