

FC Missoula Tryout & Registration

Frequently Asked Questions

What kind of soccer does FC Missoula Soccer Club offer?

FC Missoula forms teams for participation in Montana Youth Soccer (MYSA) Spring Leagues. Teams also compete in approved US Youth Soccer (USYS) Tournaments.

When and where are the evaluations and tryouts?

Evaluations for FC Missoula both boys and girls teams will be held in September for players in the U11-U14 age groups and in November, after the high school season, for the U15-U18 age groups. Check the home page and the calendar page on our website for specific times and locations.

Does the player have to attend all tryout days?

In order to obtain a fair evaluation, attendance at all sessions is recommended. If a player is unable to attend a tryout, they must contact the coach and make alternate arrangements.

Will the club schedule additional tryout days?

If a tryout day is shortened because of inclement weather or if the evaluators need more time, some or all players may be called back.

What if the player is sick or injured or otherwise cannot attend tryouts?

Contact a coach immediately. Coaches will try to make arrangements to evaluate the player at another time.

Who can try out?

A soccer player (U11 and above) will be evaluated for the age group that corresponds to his or her birth date. The 2012 age divisions are as follows:

U18 8/1/93 to 7/31/94

U17 8/1/94 to 7/31/95

U16 8/1/95 to 7/31/96

U15 8/1/96 to 7/31/97

U14 8/1/97 to 7/31/98

U13 8/1/98 to 7/31/99

U12 8/1/99 to 7/31/00

U11 8/1/00 to 7/31/01

How does a player register for tryouts?

Online registration is available on our website at fcmissoula.com. We accept Visa and MasterCard payments online or you can pay by check. Checks for registrations submitted within ten days of the tryout date should be brought to the tryout location for payment. Registration must be completed before a player is allowed to attend tryouts in order for the player to be properly listed and insured. A paper registration form can be brought to or filled out at the first day of tryouts for the purpose of meeting this requirement but a duplicate online registration must be completed at a later date.

What will be the financial commitment?

In general, FC Missoula allows team parents a fair amount of input in decisions regarding team costs. Many of these decisions are made at the initial parent meeting for each team which is normally held before practices begin. The decisions to be made include the number of league games scheduled, distances travelled, number of home games requested and tournaments played. Although MYSA does take requests into account when completing the league schedules, there are no guarantees MYSA will be able to honor all or any of the requests. Because of the nature of Premiere level competition and because there are mandatory Premiere League games, Premiere level teams do not have the same flexibility in determining team costs as other teams have. Team costs are split equally among the members of the team. Team fees may be offset substantially if a team finds sponsors. All team members are strongly encouraged to help find sponsors. Team costs vary widely but have averaged \$150-\$350 per player in recent years.

Examples of team costs are:

Competitive Spring League team fees (MYSA league fee, bench passes)

Gym Rental (indoor practice)

Home game fees (referees, assignor, field rentals)

Tournaments (registration, coach's hotel, meals and gas)

Coach's stipend and travel expenses

Equipment (indoor balls, game balls, cones, pennies, first aid kit)

Administrative expenses (copies, postage, lamination)

Fines may be levied by MYSA on teams that do not register at least two referees per team.

Players and families will incur costs in addition to the team costs. All players must own an official FC Missoula uniform, including dark and light jersey, shorts and socks. Uniform cost is approximately \$75. Often, a player can use the same uniform for two or three years. However, if the current uniform design is discontinued by the manufacturer, FC Missoula may be forced to adopt a new design and everyone would have to buy the new uniform. Players and families are responsible for their own travel expenses and lodging, if needed, for all away games and tournaments.

Are there any other expectations of the player or family?

All parents of FC Missoula players are expected to commit their voluntary efforts in some capacity in support of the club and their child's team. Each team must have a Manager and at least two certified Referees. Other volunteer opportunities for teams include assistant manager, finance manager, coach, team photographer, equipment manager, field marshal, field preparation, fundraising and team board representative. Volunteer opportunities for the club as a whole include fundraising, camps, publicity, registration, website, newsletter, planning, promotion, sponsorship and board membership. Monthly board meetings are open to all registered members of FC Missoula, including parents and players, and attendance is encouraged. Teams are highly encouraged to have at least one team representative present at each board meeting. Many volunteer opportunities will arise from the discussions and decisions made at the monthly board meetings.

What can the player expect at evaluations and tryouts?

Arrive at least fifteen minutes before the beginning of tryouts to check in. Be dressed ready to play. Bring cleats, shin guards, soccer socks, a ball, and a water bottle. Check in and get a number. The club uses numbers, instead of full names, to give the players anonymity, in order to make tryouts fair and impartial. After receiving a number, find your age level and stretch out. Evaluators will begin the tryout once all players have been checked in and they have received their tryout rosters. Roll will be called. It is the player's responsibility to try out in the correct age group. Please speak with your evaluator if you are not sure if you are in the correct age group. Family members are asked to leave the fields after check-in and not watch tryouts, so that players are not distracted and may concentrate on their performance. The tryout will run for the time scheduled. Parents are asked to return a half hour early, in case the tryout ends early. Players should meet their parents near the registration table beside the parking lot.

When are the teams announced?

Team placement notification will be issued as soon as possible after the all tryouts/evaluations are completed, generally within a month. Some team formation may be delayed if further recruitment is necessary to fill a team.

What if a player decides not to play?

If a player drops after team selection and final rosters are submitted to MYSA, he or she will not be allowed to register and play with the club in the future. Significant work and time is spent in forming these teams. It is a major problem to reorganize the affected teams.

What follows team formation?

Coaches may develop a specific conduct and commitment policy for their team. Parent team meetings will be scheduled prior to indoor practices. Parents and players are encouraged to check the website regularly at fcmissoula.com.