

FC Missoula Try-out & Registration Frequently Asked Questions

What kind of soccer does FC Missoula Soccer Club offer?

The goal of FC Missoula is to create competitive soccer teams based on but not limited to: sportsmanship, coachability, skill, commitment and age group. Division II teams play 8 v. 8 sided games for U11 and U12 players, and Division I & State Cup teams play 11 v. 11 competitive soccer for U13 through U19 players.

What does FC stand for?

The FC in FC Missoula stands for "Football Club" or futbol as the rest of the world calls soccer.

When and where are the evaluations and try-outs?

Evaluations for FC Missoula both boys and girls teams will be held the first weekend of September and the first weekend of November. Players in the U11-U13 bracket will be held the first weekend of September. Players in the U-14-U-19 bracket will be held the first weekend of November. Check the front page and the calendar page on our website for specific times and locations.

Does the player have to attend all the try-out days?

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

Will the club schedule additional try-out days?

Not at this time as a club. However, if a try-out 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?

Contact the head of coaching immediately. They will try to make arrangements to evaluate the player at another time. Players must have some type of evaluation to be considered for an 'AA' team.

Who can try-out?

A soccer player (U11 and above) will be evaluated or try-out for the age group or age level combination that corresponds to his or her birth date. U division is determined by Montana Youth Soccer Association to be the age of a player between August 1 and July 31 of a particular year. The 2008 U divisions are determined as follows:

U19 8/1/88 to 7/31/89
U18 8/1/89 to 7/31/90
U17 8/1/90 to 7/31/91
U16 8/1/91 to 7/31/92
U15 8/1/92 to 7/31/93
U14 8/1/93 to 7/31/94
U13 8/1/94 to 7/31/95
U12 8/1/95 to 7/31/96
U11 8/1/96 to 7/31/97

How does a player register for spring try-outs?

Obtain a FC Missoula registration form from our website or at try-outs, fill out completely and attach a check for \$40 to FC Missoula and return to the registrar. This step must be completed before or during the first day of try-outs in order for the player to be properly listed and insured. Players with outstanding balances from the previous spring soccer season will not be allowed to try-out until their balances are paid. FC Registrar is Kim Block, phone # 251-6426.

What does the club registration pay for?

FC Missoula Soccer Club is a nonprofit organization that attempts to keep costs at a minimum. Registration fees are refundable if a player is either not placed on a team or if they withdraw prior to the third practice. Because of insurance and liability reasons, a player may not practice until registration fee is paid. The \$40 FC Missoula club registration fees are broken down as follows:
-\$25 goes to Montana Youth Soccer Association (MYSA) registration and insurance.
-\$15 goes to FC Missoula club for administrative expenses – MYSA league fees, copies, mailing, advertising, flags, balls, a portion of coaches licensing fees, etc.

What will be the financial commitment?

The following is approximate and may change. Returning players would not need to pay for a new uniform. Team fees are determined by each team and parents meeting. Costs generally run between \$150-\$250 per year depending on the number of tournaments attended, number of host games in hometown, number of coaches and number of players. Team fees may be off-set substantially if a team finds sponsors. All team members are strongly encouraged to help find sponsors. The team fee covers the following:

- 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 expense
- Equipment (indoor balls, game balls, cones, pennies, first aid kit)
- Administrative expenses (copies, postage, lamination)

The uniform fee is approximately \$75, paid in early spring, not included in above team fee. Players will be responsible for significant travel expenses for regular season away games, away tournaments (two days in length), and possibly the state tournament (three days) and regional tournament (four days).

Fines may be levied by MYSA on teams that do not register at least 2 referees per team.

Players that do not pay their balances in a timely manner may have their player cards withheld or could be dropped from the club.

Are there any other expectations of the player or family?

Besides the financial responsibilities of members and their families, the club also expects all families to volunteer their time towards their team and club. All teams are expected to provide an assistant coach, team manager(s), two certified referees, field marshals and team meeting hosts. These positions are filled at the first parent meeting. Parents are expected to attend their first parent meeting to fill volunteer positions, decide on tournaments, practice and game schedule, and decide on other team business.

If you sign up to be a referee, you are expected to watch the website for training dates and attend the training. Referees are paid positions by the referee association.

What can the player expect at evaluations and try-outs?

Players will receive two free FC tryout t shirts. Pre register on-line ahead of time if possible or print and bring to try-outs or register at try-outs. Arrive at least fifteen minutes before the beginning of try-outs to check in. Be dressed ready to play. Bring cleats, shin guards, soccer socks, a ball, and a water bottle. Check in at your age level table and get a number. The club uses numbers, instead of full names, to give the players anonymity, in order to make try-outs fair and impartial. After receiving a number, find your age level and stretch out.

Evaluators will begin the try-out once all players have been checked in and they have received their try-out 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 try-outs, so that players are not distracted and may concentrate on their performance. The try-out will run about one and a half hours to 2 hours; parents are asked to return a half hour early, in case the try-out

ends early. Players should meet their parents near the registration table beside the parking lot. Players will keep their same numbers for the second day of try-outs.

How are teams formed for the U11 and U12 brackets?

Teams of U11 and U12 players will be formed with relatively equal skill levels, based on the player evaluations. The number of teams formed depends upon the number of players for the age bracket and the number of available licensed coaches.

How are teams formed for the U13 and above age brackets?

The most competitive 'AA' team possible will be formed, based on player try-out and evaluation information, for U13 and above. The 'AA' teams will roster approximately 16 players, and the 'A' teams will roster up to 18 players at coaches discretion. The number of teams formed in an age level, the type ('AA,' or 'A') of teams, or any age level combination (i.e. U18/U19) is a function of the number of players registered for each age bracket, the depth of talent of the players, and past commitment of players and parents.

When are the teams announced?

Team placement notification will be issued as soon as possible after the all tryouts/evaluations are completed, generally with in 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 rostering, 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?

After a player receives notification of placement on a team, the following will be needed:

- a current complete and notarized medical release
- a signed conduct and liability form
- a wallet sized photograph of the player's head for player passes
- if the player is new to the club, a copy of a certified birth certificate (no hospital certificates) is also required after team formation.
- coaches may develop a specific conduct and commitment policy for their team
- team fees and payment schedule will be dependent on team plans

Parent team meetings will be scheduled prior to indoor season.

Parents and players are encouraged to check the website regularly:

www.fcmissoula.netfirms.com

Indoor practice for the new season will begin as early as the beginning of January. This is a coach/parent/player decision. Practice will move outdoors as the weather allows, generally in March. The outdoor Spring League game season begins either the last Saturday in March or the first Saturday in April and games can run through middle of June as decided by the team.

The competitive season closes at the end of June. The State Cup 'AA' tournament is usually Memorial Day weekend in May. The Montana Cup, Division I (state 'A') tournament is held the second weekend of June. The Division II (U11 and U12) tournament is generally held the fourth weekend of June. The Regional tournament is generally the third week of June. Other tournaments are held though out the year but in the Rocky Mountain states, generally run from April though the summer and attendance to these optional tournaments is a team decision.

What other programs does the club offer before the start of the spring season?

The club offers several camps throughout the summer. FC hosts the British Soccer Camp as well as a MLS camp. FC also offers scrimmages once per week in the summer. Please watch the FC website for more information at **www.fcmissoula.netfirms.com**.