

Academy to Classic (11U) Transition FAQs

Classic is a family commitment – both parent(s) and player need to have a clear understanding of the commitment they are making to the organization and to their teammates and coach.

This commitment is significantly larger than Academy in terms of both time and money

What is the time commitment of Classic soccer?

Classic soccer is a full year commitment (both fall and spring seasons).

Players are expected by CUFC to be at every team function – regular season training/practices and games including tournaments. Parents need to understand that a player being present at trainings and games is not optional. If it is on the team schedule, the player is expected to be there.

Is being at all the games really a big deal?

In short, YES.

At 11U, during regular season league play there are no guest players allowed for games and the organization is not allowed to “dual-roster” players from the Academy.

By playing on a classic team your player has committed to being at all of the games.

If your player is not there, your team is playing “short”. There is no one else that can take his/her place.

If your player doesn't come to a game (without Notice) your team is playing short and is at risk of forfeit if you don't have enough players.

So what if we forfeit?

Forfeiting a game is a big deal. There is a \$100 financial penalty to the team which forfeits payable to NCYSA and the entire amount of the referee fees due for that game (your team plus your opponent's fees) which are currently \$84. These penalties are paid by the team dues NOT by Charlotte United.

Further, this will be posted on the NCYSA League results website as a forfeit and can potentially represent your team in a bad way to others. We do not ever want to forfeit a game.

When does the season start?

Soccer starts the first week of August.

Please schedule your summer plans in June and July such that you will be available for training starting the second week in August.

Pre- Season Camp will take place August 7th – 11th . It requires a separate registration and fee (\$125 for 2017-18). Players are expected to attend to meet their coach and to begin working as a team.

Regular season training/practices start the following week and will take place in the evening 2-3 times a week depending on level of play.

There will be a training break from mid-November until early January.

When is practice?

Typical schedules – days & times - would be Monday/Wednesday, Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Thursday from 5:30-6:45 or 6:45-8:00 or at the same times on Tuesday/Thursday. You will practice as a team and your practice time will be assigned to your team by the Director of Coaching (DOC).

Where is practice?

Central: Ramblewood Soccer Complex and/or Waddell Language Academy

Dilworth: Southside Park, Sedgefield Middle School

Matthews: Hellenic Park

Metro: Creative Player

Morrison: Elon Park

Southpark/Park Sharon: Waddell Language Academy or Sterling Elementary

How many games will we play?

Depending on the level of play and the division, your player can expect to play 9-11 regular season games in the fall season and the same in the spring season.

Will I have to travel to play games?

Classic soccer will involve travel. The extent of travel depends on the level of play (Open/Second) and the assigned division. Most of our teams play in West Division for NCYSA. The majority of the games are played in the Charlotte area including Huntersville, Concord, Weddington, Waxhaw, Gastonia. There is occasionally a team from Asheville, Boone or Hickory in the same division. This will require us to go to that location once a year, either the fall or spring.

How is it decided on what team my player is placed?

Your player has been assessed in an ongoing fashion through his/her experience with the club. These assessments along with performance at tryouts are used to determine the team offer made to your player. Remember that coming from Academy there are many players who were on the "top team" who will no longer be on the most competitive team. This does not mean we don't value your player or your player's talents. Rather it is a practical matter that we are comprised of 6 "ponds" at Matthews, Southpark, Dilworth, Metro, Palisades & Ballantyne. When we combine all our smaller ponds into one big pond, there will be more players to whom your player will be compared for team assignment purposes and more fine gradients between the players.

What happens if my player makes a team but then changes his mind?

As part of the team assignment offer you are asked to make a verbal/financial commitment to the team. Based on your acceptance you are preventing other players ranked below you from moving into your place. Please do not accept a team offer unless you plan to commit for the entire year.

If you must change your mind (moving out of town, long-term illness/injury) after you accept a team offer, please notify your coach and the DOC as soon as possible so that the team is not left with too few players. The more time has elapsed since tryouts, the more difficult/impossible it is to replace a player who cannot or does not honor his/her commitment to the club and his/her team. Please understand if your child commits to a team, then pulls out mid-summer, it not only affects your child, but your entire age group as well. This could potentially put that team at a very low roster. It also affects the age group if we then have to move players from other teams to the team where a player has pulled out.

How is it decided in which division my team will be playing?

The assignment of teams into specific divisions is determined by NCYSA. Charlotte United does not make that determination except to decide which teams are Open, Second or Select division teams.

To give you an idea of travel commitments:

Open West – Charlotte, Matthews, Waxhaw, Weddington, Asheville

Open Piedmont – Asheboro, Huntersville, Concord, Greensboro, Statesville, Kernersville, Mooresville, High Point, Winston-Salem

Second West 1 – Charlotte, Huntersville, Mooresville

Second West 2 – Charlotte, Matthews, Weddington, Gastonia, Shelby, Asheville

Will my team play in tournaments?

Teams will play in appropriate tournaments selected for the team by the DOC. Usually three tournaments in the fall and three tournaments in the spring.

Fall:

- A fall season opening tournament – around the 3rd week of August.
- A mid-season tournament – usually in September or October
- The CUFC Under Armour Cup – November 11th & 12th.

Spring:

- A spring season opening tournament – around the 3rd-4th week of January.
- A mid-season tournament – usually in March
- The United Cup – April 14th & 15th, 2018

What does Classic soccer cost?

There is a significant difference in the amount of financial commitment required to play Classic soccer. Classic Soccer will involve different fees and expenses than Academy. The 2017-18 fees are:

- Club Fees - \$1250-\$1350
- Team fees dues -\$300-\$600 – depending on the team's schedule
- Uniform cost of \$275-\$300 for a field player/\$236-\$258 for a goalkeeper every two years

What are club dues?

Club dues are paid to Charlotte United and cover the cost of club administration, coaching salaries, player registration costs, insurance, Workman's Comp, practice field rental & maintenance, etc.

What are team dues?

In addition to your club dues, you will be responsible for team dues payable to your team treasurer (usually your team manager).

Team dues cover referee fees, tournament entry fees, coach's travel & tournament expenses, and team administrative expenses (office supplies, communication charges for blast voicemail, etc.).

Explanation: Referee fees are a fixed amount determined by NCYSA and both teams playing are responsible for half of the total fee. The team pays for their coach's travel expenses for regular season matches more than 100 miles roundtrip, travel expenses for away tournaments for your coach which includes a per diem determined by CUFC, a mileage credit determined by IRS rates, and reasonable hotel accommodations.

Team dues are determined by the overall team expenses divided by the number of players on a team. All players are responsible for their team fees.

What if my child really wants to play soccer but we can't afford it?

Financial aid is available to qualifying families on a need case basis for club fees only (you will be responsible for your child's uniform cost, team fees & travel expenses). Applications MUST be submitted by June 10th along with a \$75 application fee. Applicants must meet with a member of the CUFC Board

to review their application and set up a payment plan. Financial Aid applications are available on the CUFC website www.charlotteunited.com

What if my child is going to miss a tournament? Do I still have to pay for his/her part of the entry fee and coach's expenses (if applicable)?

All players are expected to be at all team functions.

Team dues are not optional and are assessed for the year.

A player's lack of participation in a team function such as a tournament does not change the player's obligation to pay for his/her share of the team expense.

What is the Registration Fair and do I have to go?

The Registration Fair will be held on Saturday, June 3rd from 9:00am - 1:00pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5700 Westpark Drive, Charlotte, 28217. The event is a "one stop" opportunity to turn in registration paperwork, forms, pay your deposit, and check uniform sizes.

What will I need to bring to the Registration Fair?

- Completed contracts & forms downloaded from the CUFC website www.charlotteunited.com , you will need to bring a copy of your child's birth certificate or passport.
- If your child is foreign born you will need to submit an *International Clearance Waiver*.
- A non-refundable deposit of \$250 must be made online by credit card (please bring the receipt) or may be made in person by check or cash at the registration fair.
- If your residence is in South Carolina, you will need to complete an *Interstate Release Form* & submit it along with a \$10.00 check or money order made payable to SCYSA.

What if I can't come to the Registration Fair?

If unable to come to Registration Fair, please stop by the CUFC office with your player to turn in the paperwork and size the uniform that will need to be ordered through soccer.com Uniforms can vary from year to year and it is highly recommended that the player try on/check sizes every year.

When will I order my child's uniform?

You will receive an email from soccer.com in mid-June. At that time you will place your child's required uniform order online & pay for it. We highly recommend that you try on uniforms at the Registration Fair or come by the CUFC offices prior to ordering to make sure you are getting the correct size for your child. Your child's uniform will be sent directly to your home.

What does "being carded" involve?

Carding is a brief process that involves the player stating his full given name and date of birth to one of the club registrars and verifying the picture on the NCYSA player card is of him/her. It is quick and is coordinated through pre-season training at team camp and during practices in August. Your player will not be allowed to play until they are carded.

Any other questions?

Please direct coaching questions (team assignments, practices, coaching assignments) to: Steve Magee, Director of Soccer at steve.magee@charlotteunited.com

Catey Stewart, Director of Coaching 11U-14U Girls at catey.stewart@charlotteunited.com

Andrew Brown, Director of Coaching 11U-14U Boys at andrew.brown@charlotteunited.com

Please direct your administrative questions (registration, fees, financial assistance, carding, manager & volunteer opportunities) to the Marykay King at marykay.king@charlotteunited.com

Please direct your uniform questions to Jamie Hunter at jamie.hunter@charlotteunited.com