



## SBSC Club Travel Tryout and Team Formation Rules and Requirements

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The SBSC promotes an “age-centric-group” approach to training, player development, and managing our teams with a focus on forming competitive teams in each age group. We are committed to finding the most appropriate team for each of our children to play on in order for them to develop their soccer skills and enjoy the game of soccer while fostering competitive teams at the highest level possible.

### Tryouts:

1. All SBSC teams are formed anew each year.
2. The SBSC holds open tryouts each year in the May/June timeframe. Tryout dates are publicized on the SBSC website under “Tryouts”, and in the local papers. For each age-group, there will be two tryout dates. Players are strongly encouraged to attend both dates but must attend at least one to be considered for a team.
3. There will be separate tryouts for goalies who wish to try out as full-time goalies. Full-time goalies and goalie tryouts are for U11 and above. For U8-U10, there are no specific goalie tryouts as we look to develop younger players in all positions rather than a specific one. In order for a player to be considered as a goalie, they must attend at least one day of goalie tryouts.
4. Separate tryouts will be held for boys and girls of each distinct birth year designation as defined by NJYS. Players are considered to be trying out for SBSC in general and not for a specific team
5. Criteria to be considered in choosing Travel Teams shall include but not be limited to the following factors:
  - a. Athletic / Technical
  - b. Small-sided exercises (3v3 4v4 5v5 6v6)
  - c. Large-sided (8v8 for U8-U10, 11v11 for U11+ - as numbers permit)
6. PRE-REGISTRATION: In order to facilitate the tryout procedures, all players must go to the SBSC website and pre-register for tryouts. This will help expedite the check-in process on the day of tryouts.
7. For all age groups, SBSC hires an outside training company to organize the tryouts and evaluate each registrant.
8. PLAYING “UP”: Any prospective player wishing to try out for an older age team is considered as playing “up”. In all cases, these players are recommended to attend both the age-appropriate tryout and the higher age group tryout. In addition, in order for these players to play “up”, they must qualify based on their tryout evaluation, and be chosen to play, for the highest flighted team in the older age group; otherwise, they will only be considered for an age-appropriate team. The player selection committee will have final approval in all cases. Any player trying out for both age-appropriate and to play-up will only be offered one position. Playing-up is viewed as the preference by the player trying out. If they make the team to play-up for example, the player will not have the option to decline that offer and then accept an offer on the age-appropriate team; therefore, players trying-out to play-up must be sure they want to play-up as their first choice.
9. Players wearing **ANY** soccer club jersey will **NOT** be allowed to tryout, so please dress appropriately.
10. Tryouts for Spring Only teams will be in October/ November. All high school age players will try out as one group.

## **Team Formation Rules:**

1. The VP of Travel will serve as chairperson of the team formation committee which will include the Directors of Travel. The committee will also have oversight and guidance from one additional Board member to be selected prior to the process beginning. This committee will be charged with reviewing player evaluation information provided by the coaches, trainers and from the tryouts. The team formation committee will meet within 48-hours of the final tryout to appoint coaches and form rosters for each age group. The recommended roster size should be 12 for small-sided teams and 15 for large-sided teams and will be evaluated by the team formation committee for each team. The team formation committee will consider forming additional teams based on the availability of coaches and a sufficient number of qualifying players.
2. Coaches will be selected for their respective team based on the position of their child. For example, coaches will not automatically be assigned to the "A" v. "B" team, but rather will be placed based on their child's team placement. Coach applications must be received prior to tryouts taking place. In some instances the team formation committee will accept late coach applications only on an as needed basis and those applications will only be considered on a case by case basis. Coaches will be selected based on their past experience with the club, licensing credentials and feedback from their players (as applicable),
3. The team formation committee will meet with the coaches for each age group to finalize their rosters within 48-hours of the team formation committee completing their evaluations using the following rules:
  - a. No players ranked in the top half can be removed from the final roster unless a commitment issue has been documented prior to tryouts.
  - b. A coach is given 2 challenge for small-sided teams and 3 challenges for large-sided teams to use to replace players.
  - c. Replacements must be made from the top third of the next lower team within the age group unless the challenge is for a goalie, in which case that player must have attended at least one day of the goalie tryouts (U11 and above teams only).
  - d. Additional challenges may be allowed to replace Non-SB residents in situations that would otherwise lead to displacing a South Brunswick resident. This will be at the discretion of the team formation committee as will any additional special requests or exemptions.
  - e. Teams whose formation is outside of the above rules must be approved by the SBSC board.
3. Offers will be made to these players by email from the team formation committee and via phone by the coaches. Players will be required to accept or reject the offer within 72 hours. A player will be deemed as having officially accepted their offer upon registration and payment of the SBSC club fees as will be outlined in the official written offer. All player offers must be officially accepted (including payment) within 72-hours of the offer being made. Any player not officially accepting within that timeframe will be subject to replacement on the roster and the loss of their position. Any exceptions must be noted by the Coach to the team formation committee within the same 72-hour window and will be at the discretion of the team formation committee.
4. Once the top flighted team in each age group has been formed, the next flighted team offers will go out and so on. In each case, the players have the same acceptance policy as noted above.
5. The player selection committee will work with the coach to replace any players rejecting the club's offer, continuing to follow the rules outlined above.

## **TRYOUT EVALUATION SCORING SYSTEM**

The SBSC Board of Directors considers independent professional evaluators to be the best judges of the children's soccer skills. Accordingly, the ratings given the athletes by the professional trainers will be awarded the greatest weight in the Tryout Evaluation Scoring System. The Scoring System for current Travel Team

players will be as follows:

- 70% of the overall weighting will be the results of the tryouts. Players who attend both tryout sessions will utilize their best tryout result (the lower result will be discarded);
- 15% of the overall weighting will be based on the evaluation of the coach of the player's current team; and
- 15% of the overall weighting will be based on the professional trainer of the player's current team.

In the event that coaches' ratings are not available the scoring system will be 82% tryout results and 18% trainer ratings.

For a player trying out to 'play up' who is not currently on an SBSC Travel team and playing up, 100% of the overall weighting will be based on the results of the tryouts attended. If that player is currently on an age appropriate SBSC Travel team, their age appropriate results will follow the aforementioned scoring system.

All athletes who try out will be graded using the same scoring system: 1 is excellent; 2 is good; 3 is average; 4 below average, and 5 is poor. Athletes will be ranked according to the average of their total points.

#### **Additional Rules and Regulations**

1. All South Brunswick travel team members must be registered with SBSC and must pay SBSC registration fees before participating in any practices, training, league play or being carded.
2. Each player (or parent) registering will be required to read the Tryout and Team formation rules as part of the registration process.
3. All families are required to volunteer at the SBSC Home Tournament.