

Cranford Soccer Club Travel Program



Travel Soccer Program Highlights Cranford Soccer Club 2011-2012 Season

The Club

The Cranford Soccer Club is a tax exempt, not-for profit, volunteer-run organization incorporated in New Jersey in 1980. The Club "is organized to support the development of the sport of soccer for youths and adults in Cranford and neighboring communities. To this end, the CSC organizes, sponsors and administers teams, competitions and programs to ensure the highest possible levels of soccer competence, sportsmanship and enjoyment of which it is capable." (CSC By-laws, Article II).

Club Organization

The Club is run by an elected (two year terms of office) and appointed (one year terms) Board of Directors. The Travel Program is administered by the Travel Vice President who is elected to a two-year term in odd numbered years.

Cranford Soccer Programs

The Club sponsors two seasons of play (fall and spring) for In-Town Recreational teams (Kindergarten-4th Grade), Intercountry Rec teams (5th-10th grades), and Travel teams (U-9 to U-19) with over 1000 children participating each season.

Affiliations

The Club is a member of the Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association (MNJYSA) through our Travel Program. MNJYSA is one of 15 leagues that comprise the New Jersey Youth Soccer Association (NJYSA) which, in turn, is a member of the United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA), the United States Soccer Federation (US Soccer), and FIFA (Fédération Internationale de Football Association)--the world governing body for soccer.

Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association (MNJYSA)

All Cranford Soccer Club Travel teams play in and are affiliated with MNJYSA. Over 900 teams in 80+ clubs in Union, Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon, and Essex counties play each fall and spring in six (6) divisions of play for boys' and girls' teams in U-8 through U-19 age divisions. MNJYSA sets our competition level, provides the referees, determines the home-away schedule and organizes regional and league select programs in the summer.

Divisions of Play

Teams are grouped into divisions based on the ages of the players. These divisions are based on the players' age as of August 1st before the beginning of the seasonal year. A seasonal year begins on September 1st and ends on August 31st of the following year.

Age Group	Division	Age Group	Division
U19	I	U13	III
U18	I	U12	IV
U17	I	U11	IV
U16	II	U10	V
U15	II	U9	V
U14	II		

Cranford Soccer Club Travel Program

The Cranford Soccer Club generally tries to form single birth year teams--i.e. U-14, U-13, etc. so that the players are competing against teams made up of kids in the same age/grade range. The U-16 and U-19 (high school) teams are made up of players with a wider age span. The upper age limit is set by US Soccer and no exceptions are allowed.

Player Eligibility

All Cranford residents and students in Cranford schools are eligible to participate in the CSC Travel Program. Out-of-towners are allowed to play on U-11 to U-19 teams but will only be accepted for U-10 and U-9 teams if they are needed to allow Cranford kids to play. While the number of out-of-towners playing Travel Soccer is small and the Club does not actively seek players, Cranford Soccer has always had an open tryout policy. Often they are needed to form a team so that Cranford kids can play. At other times, out-of-towners are selected to strengthen a team and allow it to play at a higher, more competitive level.

Playing Time

All Travel players must play at least 1/4 of each game and all U-9 and U-10 players must play at least 1/2 of each game with equal playing time over the course of the season also required.

Travel Tryout Selection & Policy

See www.cranfordsoccer.net

Seasons of Play

U-9 to U-14 Travel teams are full year teams that play 10 game seasons in MNJYSA in the fall and in the spring; U-15 to U-19 teams only play in the spring. Teams are grouped in flights of 6-11 teams by MNJYSA based on playing level. Teams can play against towns as close as Westfield and as far away as Hillsborough, Wayne, Flemington or Long Valley. The U-11 to U-19 flight winners in both the fall and spring receive plaques and all U-9 and U-10 players receive participation patches each season.

Commitment

Players sign up for **both fall and spring seasons** when they accept a position on a U-9 to U-14 Travel team. Practices--usually twice a week for 75-90 minutes--start in early or mid-August, run through late November, start up again in early March and end before school lets out in June. Games are generally on Sundays from 11:30 AM onward and teams can enter tournaments on almost every conceivable holiday weekend. Players are free to pursue other sports and activities but parents must recognize the time and commitment involved in Travel Soccer.

Children playing Cranford Travel soccer are not allowed to play on a Rec soccer team. The Club strongly believes that one team per child is more than enough soccer for any child.

Roster Size

MNJYSA requirements state that a team may have a maximum of 18 (14 for small sided teams) carded players on its active roster at any one time. A player can only play for the team for which he/she is registered. Cranford Travel Soccer looks to have 15-17 players per team on the U-11 to U-14 teams and 12-14 players per team on the U-9 and U-10 teams. The final number of players per team is determined by the coach and Travel VP during team formation.

Registration Fees

The full year per player registration fee for the Travel Program will be \$195.00 for all players plus a uniform fee. This covers player and team registration, secondary insurance, referees, coach and referee training costs, field maintenance, equipment and supplies, administrative expenses, etc. **The registration fee does not include uniforms**, professional training, winter soccer, tournaments, travel expenses, pizza parties, warm-ups, etc. All fees are payable at the Travel Registration Night in June.

All new Travel players will pay the full cost (approximately \$95) of their uniforms at registration. Returning players only pay for uniform pieces (jersey, shorts or socks) that they need.

Winter Soccer

During the winter, team activity varies from three months of much needed rest to once-a-week indoor training to participating in indoor leagues and tournaments. The decision on what the team does is a joint one between the coach and parents.

Tournaments

Most Travel teams participate in 2-5 tournaments each year at a cost of \$300-400/team/tournament. The most popular ones are held in Branchburg (Labor Day), Piscataway (one week after Labor Day), Parsippany/Wall (Columbus Day), Rahway (Thanksgiving weekend), Monroe (mid-April), and Chatham/Montclair/Maplewood (Memorial Day). Player participation in these tournaments, while not mandatory, is expected and is at the parents' expense.

Cranford Soccer Club Travel Program

Professional Training

Teams are free to use the services of a professional trainer on a periodic or regular basis and the expense is borne by the team. Trainers charge \$50-75 per hour and the cost per player can run approximately \$300 per year. Full-time trainers range \$800 a year per player.

Coach Selection

Coaches will be selected by a Committee of Board members. All Travel Coaches are required to have a minimum of an "F" license and concussion training <http://www.nfhslearn.com/electiveDetail.aspx?courseID=15000>.

All interested must email the VP of Travel by May 1st. Coach selection interviews will take place during travel tryouts. Existing team coaches will be reviewed on a yearly basis. Coach selections will be based on coaching history & experience, game and practice observations, feedback and parent surveys.

Head coaches may select up to 2 assistant coaches among the parents of the chosen players with VP of Travel approval. Head coaches must also select a Team Manager and SAGE representative from the chosen players.

More Information

- Contact PJ Keim, Travel VP, pjkeimi@comcast.net.
- Contact Dave Paradiso, Cranford Soccer Club President, paradiso622@verizon.net. Email the Club at cranfordsoccer.info@gmail.com or write us at CSC, P.O. Box 903, Cranford, New Jersey 07016.
- Attend the monthly Board meetings at the Cranford Community Center the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30.

Information on the Club, MNJYSA, New Jersey Youth Soccer Association, US Youth Soccer, US Soccer and FIFA can be found at the following web sites:

Cranford Soccer Club
Intercounty Soccer
MNJYSA
NJYSA
USYSA
USSF
FIFA

www.cranfordsoccer.com
www.eteamz.com/icysl
www.econatus.com/MNJYSA/prod/
www.njyouthsoccer.com
www.youthsoccer.org
www.us-soccer.com
www.fifa.com