

Caldwell-West Caldwell Soccer Tryout FAQ:

Q. What ages are eligible to try out for CWC Soccer Club for the 2025-26 season(s)?

A. Tryouts are open to boys and girls that were born between 2017 and 2012.

Q. What are the times for tryouts on June 7th?

A. Tryout times are set after registration closes. We understand this can cause stress from a planning standpoint, but waiting until this point lets us fully digest other in-town conflicts and be as strategic as possible with assigning tryout times. **IF YOU HAVE A CONFLICT AFTER TRYOUT TIME ARE SET**, please email Travel@cwcsoccerclub.com and let them know the child's name, birthyear and that you can't make tryouts. From there, we will coordinate a make-up session. Please note, all make-up tryouts will be conducted after June 7. **Note: Regardless, if you are coming to the traditional tryout or doing a make-up, you MUST complete the full tryout registration process before the deadline.**

Q. Can I register for tryouts on the day-of at the door?

A. No. There is much preparation that needs to be done leading up to tryouts and we need to know exactly what our registration is. Beyond this, the evaluation process is "blind" so coordinating that also needs to be done by the June 4th deadline. (More on the evaluation process below.)

Q. How will my child be evaluated and who are the evaluators?

A. As you arrive at the tryout, you will check-in and receive a bib number that your child will pin to their shirt during the tryout. **(PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR CHILD IS WITH AN ADULT AT CHECK-IN.)** Each evaluator will receive an evaluation sheet where they will score players on a variety of soccer skills. The evaluation sheet will only list bib numbers and not names to remove any bias. All evaluators are Sticks N Kicks coaches and trainers that are contracted by the club and will also be hired as team coaches. No parents or non-SNK coaches will evaluate players during tryouts.

Q. What are the details for travel soccer and what is included?

A. Please visit the Travel Soccer tab of our website at cwcsoccerclub.com for all these details.

Q. I see that there is a Fall and Spring season, do we have to participate in both?

A. We recommend that players participate in both seasons, but only Fall is required. When you register for tryouts, you must select your intended level of commitment (Fall & Spring or Fall Only). A Fall & Spring selection cannot be changed after team formation. Even if a player changes their intent after the Fall season, a prorated refund will not be issued, and players will not be released from the club. Spring Only selections will be taken into account during team formation to ensure/determine the viability of teams for that season.

Q. Is there a chance my child will be "cut"?

A. One of the core goals of the CWC Soccer Club is to give as many children as possible the opportunity to participate in travel soccer. However, there are certain situations where this goal has the potential to do more harm than good. While we make every effort to find a soccer team for every child, the 2 main reasons why this would not be possible would be as follows: 1. If we have an incompatible number of tryout participants to maximum roster sizes. EG – for 9U (2017s) and 10U (2016s) teams, we look to carry no more than 12 on a roster. So, when we have a tryout number between 13 and 19, it puts the club in a position where we have to make tough decisions. 2. The second reason for a "cut", would be due to a large disparity in skill

level. From time to time the skill level gap is too vast that we would put a child in a position where they would not benefit from participating in travel soccer. In this case, we would do everything in our power to recommend soccer programming and training where they could try again at a future tryout and hopefully be a better fit. Across the board, we also recommend all children participate in in-town recreation soccer.

Q. How are teams formed?

A. If numbers allow for multiple teams at 9U (2017 birth year) our goal is to form blended skill-level teams. Meaning, after players are ranked by skill level A through Z, the teams will be formed with a combination of both higher ranked and lower ranked players. After 9U, teams are formed at an A Team and B Team level.

Q. Why is there a \$50 fee/payment for my child to try out?

A. While there is a cost to conduct the tryout to the Club, it is not paid for with the \$50 fee you are charged. The \$50 fee is more of a deposit and, more importantly, a financial assurance that your child intends to play if offered a spot. If your child **does** make a team, the \$50 is applied to your season fee cost. If you **are not offered** a roster spot, the \$50 tryout fee/deposit is refunded, in-full.

Q. My child is a 2018 birth year, but I think they are ready for travel soccer, can they tryout?

A. No. Currently, we are only registering age-appropriate children for tryouts. If more players are needed, we will send communication out that we are looking for 2018 birth years to play-up.

Q. My child currently plays for the CWC Soccer Club, will they be on the same team with the same players next season?

A. While we would love to keep teams together, this doesn't always happen. There are several scenarios where teams would potentially be shuffled, including new players trying out, fluctuations in skill level and club participant numbers at that age group.

Q. Can I stay and watch tryouts?

A. Parents are welcome to stay and watch the tryouts. We ask that parents do not interfere with the tryout process and allow the children and coaches to conduct the tryout without interruptions. To be clear, you are welcome to stay and observe, but please refrain from cheering or sharing advice to your child during the tryout.