

# WBSA UNITED TRYOUTS

## FALL 2018- SPRING 2019 CYCLE

### What is WBSA UNITED?

WBSA UNITED is the club's Select & Academy program led by our DOC and USSF licensed instructors. The program offers affordable but highly credible opportunities geared at attracting, developing, and retaining the best players in our community.

UNITED teams prioritize "total player development" - empowering leaders on and off the field - above all else. Coaches collaborate to strengthen the program for every player, not just their own rosters. The program preaches a possession-heavy philosophy and the same unrivaled culture that differentiates our recreational programs.

Unlike recreational soccer, Select & Academy programs (by definition) consider technical ability and other intangibles when forming rosters. While every player may not be ready for advanced opportunities presently, the club will work tirelessly to find a great environment for every child.

### What is the investment and what's included?

The following are the board-approved fees for the upcoming cycle:

| ACADEMY<br>7U-10U        | DIVISION 2<br>11U-19U    | SUPER 2 / D1+<br>11U-19U |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| \$450<br>PER <b>YEAR</b> | \$550<br>PER <b>YEAR</b> | \$650<br>PER <b>YEAR</b> |

These prices include all of the following benefits at NO additional cost:

- Game and practice uniform kit
- Seasonal tournament stipends
- Winter and summer indoor / futsal
- Goalkeeper Academy (2 per roster)
- TeamSnap mobile communication
- Discounted b-ball / v-ball camps
- Injury prevention eval (BETA)
- ODP tryout stipend (BETA)

Unlike other clubs, we also charge \$0 for commitment fees, \$0 for volunteer buyout fees and \$0 to take advantage of monthly payment plans. Families can use that savings to purchase warmups, backpacks, and other optional club gear if they choose.



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### What teams will be formed and at what levels of play?

The following diagram shows the UNITED teams we are projecting this cycle.

|         | AGE | BIRTHYEAR | BOYS                    | GIRLS         |
|---------|-----|-----------|-------------------------|---------------|
| ACADEMY | 7U  | 2011      | ACADEMY (B) ACADEMY (A) | ACADEMY (B)   |
|         | 8U  | 2010      | ACADEMY (A)             | ACADEMY (A)   |
|         | 9U  | 2009      | ACADEMY (B)             | ACADEMY (A)   |
| SELECT  | 10U | 2008      | DIV 2                   | SUPER 2 DIV 1 |
|         | 11U | 2007      | DIV 2                   | SUPER 2 DIV 1 |
|         | 12U | 2006      | DIV 2                   | DIV 1         |
|         | 13U | 2005      | DIV 2                   | SUPER 2       |
|         | 14U | 2004      | DIV 2 SUPER 2           | DIV 2         |
|         | 15U | 2003      | SUPER 2                 | DIV 1         |
|         | 16U | 2002      |                         |               |
|         | 17U | 2001      |                         |               |
|         | 18U | 2000      | DIV 2                   |               |

### What are the next steps after tryouts?

Families will be contacted within 24 hours of the final session. If invited to join the UNITED program, players then have 24 hours to commit for the Fall/Spring cycle by completing the registration process on the WBSA website. Remember, payment plans are available at no cost and we don't charge a commitment fee. We appreciate your timely registration (or communication of refused offer) to help us set proper expectation with every child and those potentially on the waiting list. We plan to host a mandatory UNITED Orientation in early June to welcome everyone to the program.



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### **What if we don't make a UNITED roster?**

We are committed to identifying the best development environment for every child. We strongly encourage players that do not make a UNITED team to consider recreational opportunities within the club.

### **What are the basic expectations if we join?**

Soccer is a two season sport. Joining a UNITED team implies a commitment for the entire Fall/Spring cycle. South Texas Youth Soccer Association (STYSA) requires a formal Player Release - signed by the player, parent, and coach - if there is a request to leave early.

We want to avoid player burnout and understand families balance a lot. We want children to enjoy their summer / winter breaks and believe that exposure to a breadth of academic and extracurricular activities fosters overall development.

That said, as with any advanced youth program, continued player development is essential. To keep pace with engaged teammates seeking an advanced environment, players are expected to return each season at a level comparable UNITED peers.

This definition will vary slightly based on the division of play (i.e. D1 vs. D2), so parents are encouraged to discuss expectations with coaches. As a general guideline, players must attend greater than 50% of all DOC-approved team activities during the offseason to maintain a UNITED roster spot. Players should communicate a self-guided development plan to coaches if this expectation will not be met due to excused absences.

Game and practice participation is an expectation for all UNITED players. Unexcused absences will be considered a disciplinary issue, which can limit playing time (up to but not exceeding 50% of allotted time per absence). The same goes for unexcused tardiness.

### **When and where will practices and games be held?**

Teams are assigned practice times for both the offseason and regular season, most commonly at the new Wells Branch Soccer Complex (WBSC). We make every effort to provide training pools no less than 25% (ideally 50%) of their game-sized pitch. Teams typically play 50% of matches at home. The expected travel footprint for away matches varies by division and age. Most away games are a 15-30 minute drive from the WBSC, but UNITED teams typically play at least 1-2 matches per cycle (more for WDDOA teams) at locations as far as 90 minutes away.



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### What is a “Player Pass” and do UNITED teams utilize that tool?

Select & Academy teams are allowed to “pass” 3-4 players (depending on age group) between rosters for games. A player is not permitted to help more than 1 team on a given match day and they must always “pass” to a team in the same (or higher) division of play / age group. This system is intended to give advanced players unique development opportunities.

Most UNITED teams have been using this system with great success. The expansion of the UNITED program - now covering virtually every age group - only empowers even more opportunities for our players. Please let our DOC know if your child would like to be considered for Player Pass.

### What if I have additional questions?

Please reach out to DOC Nick Marquez ([director@wellsbranchsoccer.com](mailto:director@wellsbranchsoccer.com)), President Steve Wilson ([prez@wellsbranchsoccer.com](mailto:prez@wellsbranchsoccer.com)), or VP/Registrar Chris Connell ([vp@wellsbranchsoccer.com](mailto:vp@wellsbranchsoccer.com)) if you require assistance or would like to contact a specific UNITED coach with questions.

***Thank you for supporting your child’s continued growth and our club’s commitment to TOTAL PLAYER DEVELOPMENT above all else.***

Regards,  
Coach Nick



Nick Marquez  
WBSA DOC  
512.239.8378

