



Bloomington United Soccer Club
Competitive Team Formation Policy

Date approved: 8/23/2026

Purpose: Bloomington United Soccer Club forms competitive teams in compliance with [Twin Cities Soccer League \(TCSL\) rules](#) and in alignment with our mission and vision. Our goal is to place all interested players on a team and to form teams that maximize development of individual players and competitiveness of teams.

Tryouts: U9-19 teams hold tryouts in July for the full year (Fall and Spring / Summer seasons). Attendance at both tryout sessions is highly recommended so players receive a complete score from evaluators. An additional tryout may be held in January or February for Spring team formation.

Evaluation: A combination of player's evaluations from the most recent season (for returning players) and performance during the tryout session will be used to determine relative competitive level of all players. Both evaluations will consider technical skill, tactical knowledge, physical and mental aspects for all players. For tryouts, we have 1-2 coaches who did not coach players in their most recent season completing evaluations to obtain multiple perspectives.

Team formation decisions: The Director of Coaching is responsible for gathering inputs from coaches and tryout evaluators to make team formation decisions. Teams are formed based on these scores and may involve position specific considerations particularly when it comes to goalkeepers. As a competitive soccer program, parent input is not factored into decisions unless a parent is the team's coach in which case tryout evaluations are more heavily weighted than coach evaluations.

Players will play at their designated age level as dictated by our governing body US Soccer. The only exceptions include:

- **Academic Exception:** Players born in August or September who are placed academically in a higher grade may request to be placed on an older team with their classmates. BYSC aims to accommodate these requests; however, it is dependent on availability of an appropriate team for that player.

- **Performance Exception:** Performance exceptions are identified and granted exclusively by the Director of Coaching. Input, requests, or petitions from players or parents will not be considered in these decisions. To qualify for a performance exception to play on an older team, a player's individual abilities must exceed the top team at their current age level, and they must be expected to perform in the top third of the older team.
- **Roster Needs:** Players may be placed on an older team if additional players are needed to form a full team (examples: inviting U9 players to fill a U10 team).

These exceptions are not guaranteed and decisions may change from one season to the next based on team availability and individual player needs.

Notification and acceptance: Families will be notified of team placement via the email address provided at the time of intent to play tryout registration. Placement on a team must be accepted within 48 hours of notification by completing the initial or full payment for the upcoming season.

Note: Teams that compete at higher levels of TCSL will have higher attendance and participation expectations such as winter training, additional tournaments, etc. which should be considered when accepting a roster spot.

Late Registrants or Missed Tryouts: Players who register after teams have been formed and those who missed tryouts will be placed on the lowest level team, assuming the team does not already have a full roster, except under 2 circumstances:

- Returning players: The player's coach evaluation from the immediate proceeding season clearly suggests they should be on a higher level team.
- New players (including returning players who did not play the immediate proceeding season): If the player's performance in initial practice sessions suggest a Performance Exception may be warranted, they may be evaluated for the higher level team. If the player is expected to be in the top 1/3 of the higher level team, and the team does not have a full roster, the player will be moved. If the higher level team has a full roster, the player will be invited to train and guest play with the higher level team on an as-needed basis.

Tryout and/or team formation questions: Please contact the Director of Coaching with any questions.