



NB Ajax Soccer Club
Academy
Welcome Packet

WWW.NBAJAX.COM

Parents,

Welcome soccer with the NB Ajax Soccer Club. Our goal is to provide your player with the best soccer experience possible. We strive to create a positive, fun, educational and competitive environment for your player. We also will focus on creating a family environment, guiding our young players to treat each other with respect and good character.

We hope this welcome packet provides you the tools to help your player have a successful soccer experience, while also providing you information that will help you understand what to expect throughout the year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact any of our staff (listed below) by phone or email.

On behalf of all of us, thank you for entrusting your children to Ajax. Have a great season!

See you on the fields,

NB Ajax

NB Ajax Soccer Club Contacts

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Director of Select
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Director – Academy
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Business Manager
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NB AJAX SOCCER CLUB MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY

NB Ajax Soccer Club will provide an Academy Program that strives to create an enjoyable, family environment for your player to develop a true passion for soccer. Our Ajax Academy Program will develop confident players on and off the ball to help set the foundation for a well-rounded player. Along the way, our positive environment will help teach these young players about good character and hard work.

- Training sessions are the key to true development of a strong foundation. Commitment to regular attendance is most important.
- We use weekend games to continue the player education process and to give the player opportunities to take what they have practiced and use them in games. The result (win or loss) of the game is not our focus;
- Ajax coaches will strive to provide a fun, yet competitive, learning environment;
- Training will be designed to help create confident players on the ball with well-rounded knowledge of the game;
- We strive to create confident, respectful, young players that show great character on and off the field.

CLUB VALUES

Ajax soccer should be **fun**.

Ajax soccer should be **accessible**.

Ajax players, parents, and coaches should **show great respect for each other and show good character on and off the field**.

Ajax players, parents, coaches, and staff should recognize that winning is important, but **player development is our focus at the younger age groups**.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS IN NB AJAX SOCCER

We want to create the most positive environment for everyone to develop at their OWN rate. The main reason behind this is so all our players will be confident in themselves as a soccer player. This means being confident in their own ability to perform with any coach, any team, and any game-like scenario. We are preparing each individual player for the future.

For this to work, we need the Parents help in creating this positive environment. The total soccer experience includes parents, the coaches, the referees, their teammates and the opposition. At this age, we need to be role models for the players by acting properly on and off the field (i.e. training, games, trip to and from) by **HONORING THE GAME**. This means **respecting** yourself, kids and anyone involved (i.e. players/parents on both teams, the referees and the coaches). This includes any decisions made by the referee or coach.

Our focus should be on the process over the years not the result on the weekend. **“WITH SPORT COMES COMPETITION.”** The individual player will create the competitive environment on their own development time frame.

NB AJAX SOCCER CLUB CONFLICT RESOLUTION

All questions and concerns regarding your player should be directed towards the Director of Academy, Mike Abalos. This is to help our coaches focus on what is most important, training the kids.

Uniforms and Equipment

Uniforms

All Academy team uniforms are available for purchase on our website www.nbajax.com (under Registration & Forms). Cost for a game day kit is \$85 and is kept by the player until they enter select at U11.

All players will wear a club endorsed t-shirt for training that will be provided at sign up.

U9/U10 Ajax Academy players will wear a uniform package consisting of a Black jersey, a Light Blue jersey, Black shorts, and Black socks.

U7 / U8 Ajax Academy players may purchase a uniform package if they chose (it is not required). A uniform kit would be needed in the case a player is asked to play with one of the older teams on game day or at a tournament.

Jersey numbers are assigned by the Business Manager, Jen Carr, and are subject to availability.

Equipment

- All players are REQUIRED to wear shin guards at all practices and games. Shin guards should be worn under socks.
- Soccer cleats are also required. No metal cleats are allowed.
- U8-U12 use a size 4 ball, and U13 and older use a size 5 ball.
- Water should be brought to each practice and to all games.
- Players should bring warm outer layers to practice during colder months.
- All items should be clearly marked with the player's name.

Ajax Academy U7/U8

Our U7/U8 players will play 4v4 (and some 7v7) and they will have everything "in-house" at Weston Soccer Fields to help cater to creating the most positive environment for the players. The groups will get 2-3 weekends with games versus clubs in the area that will require travel. The whole idea behind doing everything "in-house" is to minimize travel and to maximize the amount of touches this age group will receive. Individual development at these age groups is the only focus.

U9/U10

Our U9/U10 age groups will participate in the league with Alamo Area Youth Soccer Association, AAYSA. AAYSA will oversee the league and will abide by United States Soccer Federation, USSF, rules of play. Clubs in San Antonio and surrounding areas will register teams and AAYSA will create schedules based on registration. Each player should play anywhere between 8-10 games per season, two (2) seasons a year, Fall and Spring. Travel will be a part of the league (San Antonio, New Braunfels, Kerrville, Pleasanton and in between). At the U9/U10 age groups we begin focusing on small group play to help expand game knowledge and continue focusing on the individuals' development.

Academy seasons:

July- December ---games occur September – November, expect 8-10 games

January – May ---games occur late February – May, expect 8-10 games

Games are usually played on Saturday. Some Sunday games are possible due to rainouts or the need to fit more games into the weekends available for play.

- U7/8 – Gender Specific/Co-Ed 4v4
- U9 – Gender Specific 7v7
- U10 - Gender Specific 7v7

Training Information-

Mon/Wed 5:00pm-6:00pm (Boys)

Tues/Thurs 5:00pm-6:00pm (Girls)

**Each player can make up a missed session on their opposite night (boys can train on Tues/Thurs for extra training and girls can train on Mon/Wed for extra training). Or, players may attend the opposite night to add additional sessions to their individual training. At least two sessions a week is recommended. (One session recommended for U7/U8 players) **

ALL SESSIONS AT WESTON SOCCER FIELDS (254 DOEPPENSCHMIDT RD, NB, 78132)

*****If you have any questions or concerns please email (mbabalos87@me.com). *****