



## 2023-2024 AJAX Information

Thank you for choosing NB AJAX Soccer Club!

### IMPORTANT DATES:

Please refer to the AJAX calendar (LEAGUES APPS **PLAY** mobile phone app), this will be your primary source of general information & important dates for your team & for AJAX throughout the year.

May 24-July 9: No Training  
July 10-Aug 4: Summer Training  
August 7-10: Required Boot Camp (additional cost)  
August 11: OneTwo Soccer Tourney (in house at Weston)  
August 14: Regular Team Training starts (Fall)  
August 12-13; 19-20; 26-27; & Sept 2-4: possible Preseason Tourneys (Junior & Senior Programs)  
September 9: First weekend of Fall games  
November 3-12: Wurstfest  
November 11-12: Wurst Cup  
November 18-19: Post-season Tourneys (Junior Program)  
November 22-26: Thanksgiving Break  
November 24-26: Texas Cup Showcase/Lonestar Boys Showcase (Senior Program)  
December 1-3: Sports Source Showcase (Senior program)  
December 13-14: Staff / Alumni vs Player games (during training)  
December 15 - January 16: Christmas Break – no training  
January 16: Regular Team Training returns (Spring)  
January 27-28: Sting Austin Showcase (Senior Program)  
February 3-4; 10-11; 17-18: possible Preseason tourneys (Junior Program)  
February 17: First weekend of Spring Games (Junior Program)  
March: Spring Break (based on school calendars)  
March 16: First weekend of Spring Games (Senior Program)  
April: National Cup Series (Directors, President, State Cups)  
May: Player Placement

### PLAYER & PARENT HANDBOOK:

The **NB AJAX Soccer Club Parent / Player Handbook** can be found online at [www.nbajax.com](http://www.nbajax.com) on the “Documents & Forms” page. The handbook contains detailed information regarding AJAX policies & procedures. All players & their families are expected to abide by policies & procedures in the handbook. If you have additional questions, please contact your head coach, team manager, or the AJAX Administrator.

### VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT:

Each AJAX family is required to commit five (5) hours during the seasonal year as a volunteer in support of Club events & needed requests. Please refer to the Volunteer page on the AJAX website for a complete list of approved events and/or activities that qualify for service hours. **These hours are tracked & it is your responsibility to ensure proper credit is received.** Volunteers are not automatically assigned. Prior to a need, a request for volunteers will be sent by email. Most volunteer opportunities do not require knowledge of soccer. Volunteers can be any family member & all hours are credited toward the family requirement.

Parents/Families choosing not to volunteer will pay a **Buy-out fee of \$75**. Parents who do not buy-out & do not fulfill the five (5) hour requirement will be **billed \$75** at the end of the seasonal year.

#### **AJAX SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:**

There are many children in the New Braunfels area who possess the ability & desire to succeed in soccer, however, lack the financial means to play select soccer. To help address this need, AJAX provides need based financial aid. Money raised for the program provides reduced fees for qualified families. Last season (22-23) approximately 20-25 players (10-15%) qualified for varying amounts of financial aid. Awards are based on economic need using the Federal Poverty Guidelines & State of Texas Reduced & Free Lunch Program. Awards are reviewed & made by our Scholarship Committee. Awards will not be based on talent.

As a part of our annual giving campaign, we offer families the option to make a one-time payment in an amount of their choosing, to be credited to the NB AJAX Financial Aid Program. Please consider donating to help our financial aid program provide soccer for deserving players.

If financial aid is needed, the **Scholarship Application** is due in the AJAX Administrator at [nbajax@live.com](mailto:nbajax@live.com), by **June 15, 2023**. A written decision will be emailed prior to the August 1 payment due date. Payment of the \$300 or \$400 commitment fee is required at the time of acceptance/registration. The commitment fee cannot be included in financial aid considerations & is non-refundable. For questions concerning Financial Aid or player payments, please contact the AJAX Administrator at [nbajax@live.com](mailto:nbajax@live.com).

When applying for the Spring season only, limited funds remain for financial aid. However, applications are still available & are reviewed.

#### **EXPECTATIONS & REQUIREMENTS:**

All players are expected to meet a high standard of commitment. Players are expected to attend all practices & participate in all league games & tournaments. Although we strive to provide quality playing time for all players, there are NO guarantees of playing time. The Academy league is the only league that requires 50% playing time. Coaches will make every effort to play each player at least one-half of each game, except when players are injured, ill, absent from training, or for disciplinary reasons. All players should expect to play in several tournaments, possibly on holiday weekends, including Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Memorial Day, &/or others.

#### **BIRTH CERTIFICATE:**

Once your player has been assigned to a team, you must submit a copy of a birth certificate to verify their legal name and date of birth, if you have not already done this in a previous seasonal year. There is a secure link on the website registration page to upload the copy.

#### **Annual 2023-2024 FEES:      Commitment fee is required plus monthly payments:**

	D2, Super II	D1, NPL, SCL, Premier,
<b>Total Annual Fee:</b>	\$2250	\$2350
<b>Commit Fee:</b> (Due in June)	<b>\$300</b>	<b>\$400</b>
<b>10 Monthly Installments:</b>	\$195	\$195
<b>Sibling Discount (applied after registration)</b>	<b>\$10 per month per player</b>	<b>\$10 per month per player</b>

## **PAYMENT & POLICY SCHEDULE:**

The commitment fee is \$300 (D2, Super II) & \$400 (D1, NPL, SCL & Premier, or Dual Rostered players). Each player must pay this fee.

AJAX charges an annual fee. If selected at registration, the annual fee can be broken down into monthly installments.

**AJAX does not charge a monthly training fee & does not discount for missed training days, weeks, or months.**

All accounts must be paid in full by May 15 each year. If a team/player moves up in level of play during the seasonal year, they will pay the higher fee & if a team/player moves down a level during the seasonal year, the fees are prorated accordingly.

Monthly installments are set up to process automatically on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month and can be paid using MasterCard/Visa/Discover/American Express through League Apps. A \$40 fee will be charged for any NSF check or declined credit/debit card.

***Failure to pay your monthly fees for sixty (60) days, will launch the "NO PAY- NO TRAIN" Club Disciplinary Policy. Players will not be eligible to participate in team practice until payment issues are resolved.***

Annual fees include all coaching/training fees, annual league fees (i.e., qualifying tournaments, Spring Cups, etc.), individual player registration fees (membership, insurance, etc). Additional costs include non-league tournament fees (determined by Ajax Coaching Staff), all player travel expenses, & out of Austin/San Antonio team travel costs for coaches at these events. Fees remain the same regardless of the number of days your player attends training, the number of weeks for training, days missed due to weather or number of games in the season. During the season if the player's division status changes, fees will be adjusted accordingly. ***Fees will not be refunded or forgiven due to player absences, withdrawals, or early release from a team. The only exception to this policy is if the player provides the office with documented proof of an injury that prevents them from playing for a at least 6 weeks. Prorated refunds for documented injuries can be arranged.***

## **ORDERING YOUR UNIFORM:**

Following your team assignment, you will receive an email with a link to our AJAX uniform page with Soccer.com. Follow the link to order your player's uniform. Uniform numbers (#) are chosen by the player after confirmation with the AJAX Administrator. If your child will be dual rostered or play in multiple leagues or multiple teams, AJAX reserves the right to assign a jersey number to minimize unnecessary & costly number changes and/or jersey purchases throughout this uniform cycle. You will need to choose each required uniform piece; once you have all required uniform pieces, please check out & complete your order using your credit card. Be sure and include your mailing address, as your uniform will be shipped directly to your address from Soccer.com. Please plan for a four to six (4-6) week delivery timeframe. ***UNIFORM DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS JULY 1 each year.***

Samples of the uniform kit pieces for sizing can be available at the Field Office at Weston during scheduled training times throughout July (sample availability schedule will be in the AJAX app). Please contact AJAX Administrator if you need assistance.

## **MANDATORY UNIFORM PACKAGE:**

The cost of the New Balance uniform kit is approximately \$345 (can be less for youth sizes) (shipping charges will apply after July 1, 2023). The select uniform package must be purchased through Soccer.com.

The New Balance REQUIRED uniform package includes two (2) game jerseys, two (2) pairs of game shorts, two (2) pairs of game socks (1 black, 1 white), one (1) training shirt, one (1) warm-up jacket, one (1) pant & one (1) backpack. Additional uniform pieces, logo wear, soccer balls, etc. are available online through Soccer.com.

**GOALKEEPER (GK) UNIFORM:**

There are optional Goalkeeper uniform items available for order on the Soccer.com order link online. However, AJAX does not require GKs to purchase these items. GKs can purchase GK jerseys wherever they would like. GKs are REQUIRED to have an approved jersey number on the back of their jersey & an AJAX logo patch on the front, left breast of the jersey. Numbers & patches can be heat sealed on the jersey at a couple local shops. Please contact the AJAX Administrator Jen Raley, at [nbajax@live.com](mailto:nbajax@live.com) for instructions & details.

**INITIAL SCHEDULE:**

In August, our Ajax coaches work with opposing clubs/coaches to schedule the entire year's games. Approximately 7-10 before the season starts, the schedule will be published by the league & is considered official. After the games are published, any changes to games (that are not caused by weather) require an agreement by both teams to a new date/time, approval from the home team's field assignor, a fee to be paid, & a form submitted for processing to the league at least 10 days in advance. *If a team does not play a game after all these steps are met, then that team will forfeit the game. There is a \$250 per forfeit league fee which is the parent's responsibility to pay.*

**RAINOUT GAMES:**

If a game is rained out, the same process as above must happen within 72 hours of the original game date – but no fee is due.

**WEATHER POLICY****GAMES & TRAINING:**

AJAX wants all games & training sessions to happen as scheduled. As a staff & board, we wait to make decisions about field status until we are confident our decision is best. Fields are closed when it is felt that the safety of the players is in question, that traveling to the complex puts families in danger, or that the damage to the fields could provide an unsafe playing surface. Most decisions will be made in the mornings for weekend games, or as soon as we can for weeknight games. On training nights, our weather policy targets 2:00 pm as our decision deadline. Sometimes the decision will be to move training to an alternate site (Soccer Zone or NBMS). AJAX makes every effort to make sure that training is not cancelled. AJAX will only communicate cancellations to the membership.

**League Apps: PLAY mobile app:**

This is the primary communication hub/app for the club. Parents & players are asked to download the app to their phones or tablets to ensure that they receive timely & accurate club/team information. "HOW-TO" information is available during tryouts & meetings can be set up during the year.