



### **Frequently Asked Questions and Answers**

1. Why are NRU and Valley United pursuing an Alliance at this point in time?
  - a. The landscape of youth soccer across the region has changed significantly and alliance teams allow clubs to compete at a higher level where they can maintain competitive teams at each age group and level of play. Coming together makes this possible.
2. What players are eligible for the alliance teams?
  - a. Any U13 – U19 boy or girl soccer player (birthyears between 2010 and 2004)
3. How are alliance players selected?
  - a. Alliance players will be selected by the coaching staff from both NRU and Valley United. The technical coaching staff from NRU and Valley United will also ask experienced and reputable coaches outside of the two clubs to help evaluate with the tryout process.

Players will be evaluated based on their Physical, Technical (Functional Skill at Game Speed), Tactical (Game Understanding and Player Intelligence) and Psychological (Social and Emotional Attributes) qualities as they relate to their potential and the player pool at the tryouts.

The Coaching Staff for the coming year (if decided at this point for a team), the Technical Directors, and the Directors of Coaching from both clubs will select the teams. Input can be, and often is, taken from the previous year's coaches where appropriate.

More information will follow about the specific tryout procedure and process nearer the first tryout dates.

4. Where will alliance teams practice?
  - a. It is expected that most Alliance teams will practice once weekly in Roanoke, once weekly in the New River Valley and a third practice at their home clubs' facilities.
5. Does my child have to tryout for an alliance team?
  - a. All players will tryout on the same date and locations for both alliance and home-based teams and are encouraged to attend all tryout dates.
6. If my child doesn't make an alliance team, where do they play?
  - a. Each club will work to place players that don't make an alliance team on a home-based team with training at their home club.
7. What leagues will our teams play in?
  - a. An announcement will be coming soon with regards to league placement.
8. My child is an Academy or recreation player. How does this impact them?

- a. This alliance will not have any impact on players born in 2011 and younger (U12, U11, Academy, Rec) as those programs will remain under the direction and management of their respective home clubs.