



General Information and Operations

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1. General Information and Operations

a. Mission and Core Values

- i. **Mission** - to be the club of choice for players and families seeking high quality soccer training and experiences in a community environment
- ii. **Core Values:**
 1. Develop players for long-term success and foster their lifelong enjoyment of soccer
 2. Cultivate a player and family-friendly environment
 3. Enhance our club and community through diversity and inclusion
 4. Invest in the quality of every child's experience in our program, regardless of their age or skill level
 5. Ensure participants will not be turned away because of financial circumstances

b. Club Hierarchy

- i. The Homewood Board of Directors ("BOD") is the governing board for Homewood Soccer Club. The BOD is responsible for the internal structure and policies of Homewood Soccer Club. The Homewood BOD will oversee the fiduciary progress and strategic goals of the Club through the leadership of our Executive Director. The Homewood Coaching Staff report directly to their program directors, who report directly to the Executive Director.
 - Executive Director - Mason Cook
 - Strategic Priorities 2022-2025 [Online](#)
- ii. The books and records of Homewood SC are maintained by the Club Treasurer in collaboration with the Club Accountant.

c. Contact Information

Office Address: 1632 Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209
Office Phone Number: 205-874-9182
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30am-12:30pm
Mailing Address: PO Box 59761, Birmingham, AL 35259
Website: www.homewoodsoccer.com

Board of Directors	
President	Julie Price
Vice President	Charles Fry
Secretary	Brian Wahl
Treasurer	Brian Berthiaume
Board Member	Sonya Heath
Board Member	Anna Sorace
Board Member	Warren Giardina
Board Member	Tiffany Davis
Leadership Team	
Executive Director and Boys Director of Coaching	Mason Cook
Assistant Director	Lee Lavette
Office Manager, Club Registrar & Recreational Director	Chris Rogers
Technical Director	Tim Tincher
Girls Director of Coaching	Katie Henricks
Player Development Coordinator and Junior Academy Director	Andy Reid

2. Programs

a. Patriots

- i. Patriots Program is an intramural program led by volunteer coaches and is the starting point for our youngest players (4U-8U)
 1. 4U-6U practice and play one night per week of the season (Tuesday or Thursday)
 2. 7U&8U practice one night per week (Thursdays) and play on Saturday mornings
 3. All Patriot Tuesday and Thursday sessions are 6:00-7:00pm at Homewood Soccer Park

- ii. Patriot players will develop their soccer skills in a fun environment to foster their appreciation for the sport
 - 1. Coaches strive to give players 50% play time of each game
- iii. Homewood SC is committed to helping educate parent volunteer coaches and providing appropriate developmental training methods and games to help players grow and develop throughout these formative years
- iv. Patriots registration and information is available [online](#)

b. Recreational

- i. Recreational program is for players 9U-19U and promotes a learning atmosphere in a fun environment. Success of the program is based on the enjoyment and development of the player
- ii. Coaches strive to give players 50% play time of each game
- iii. Recreational coaches are primarily volunteers led by our Recreational Director of Coaching who ensures coaches receive proper training and support for their team
- iv. Recreational players can expect 6-8 league games assigned by Central Alabama Soccer League
- v. Recreational players do not participate in tournaments
- vi. Recreational registration and information is available [online](#)

c. Junior Academy

- i. Junior Academy is a spring season program designed to introduce our graduating Patriots (8U) to the coaching style and player expectations of the Academy program
 - 1. Players participating in this program are interested in pursuing the more competitive Academy program and plan to attend Academy evaluations in May
 - 2. Patriot players will play their regular spring season with their Patriot team and participate separately in Junior Academy training sessions
 - 3. Program participation is not required to attend evaluations in May
- ii. Sessions are led by Junior Academy Director and staffed by Club staff coaches
- iii. Homewood SC offers 3-5 sessions per season and will send invitations via email to registered 8U Patriot players
- iv. Junior Academy registration and information is available [online](#)

d. Academy

- i. Academy program is designed to follow a program-wide curriculum which promotes player development over team development in a child-centered environment for our U9-U12 players
- ii. Academy program focuses on the development of our most competitive players in the U9-U12 cohort
- iii. Coaches assigned to this program are licensed professionals who are passionate about the development of technical abilities, tactical understanding, and fostering a love for the game
- iv. Players are selected for the Academy program through evaluations in May
 1. Evaluation dates are determined by Alabama Soccer Association
 2. Staff coaches select players at the evaluation who will benefit from the more intensive training environment in the Academy program
 3. Players are selected to join a pool of similar ability
- v. Each pool of players will participate in Alabama Soccer Association's Development League (D-League) on teams formed from their pool in their age group. 12U Pool may participate in both D-League and State League
 1. Player pools will train together under the direction of their age group head coach
 2. Rosters for league games are fluid throughout the season
 3. Teams play 7v7 or 9v9 against developmentally appropriate competition
 - a. Teams play with a competitive attitude and are coached with player development in mind:
 - i. We will not pursue the win at the detriment of one's overall development
 4. Players rotate positions, punting is discouraged, and all players are guaranteed 50% play time throughout the season
- vi. Players selected to the program make a commitment to Homewood Soccer Club for the soccer year (from the conclusion of evaluations in May through the beginning of evaluations the following year)
 1. This commitment is enforced by Alabama Soccer Association
 - a. After their 12U season, our expectation is Academy players attend Competitive tryouts in May in an attempt to continue their playing career at the Club in the Competitive program
 - i. Placement in the Competitive program for our Academy players is not guaranteed and players will receive invitations for developmentally appropriate settings based on those who attend tryouts

- vii. Academy players receive an evaluation prepared by their head coach at the end of each season (spring and fall)
- viii. Academy players will participate in tournaments
- ix. Academy information is available [online](#)

e. Competitive

- i. The Club's competitive program serves players 13U-19U who are interested in playing at the highest level of competition in Alabama and the Southeast
 - 1. Competitive teams are affiliated with US Youth Soccer and Alabama Soccer Association
 - 2. Teams may participate in Alabama State League or be promoted to US Youth Soccer National League's MidSouth division
 - 3. Homewood Soccer Club will place our players and teams at a competitive level of play that is developmentally appropriate
 - 4. Playing time expectations are set by the head coach during the pre-season meeting
 - a. These expectations vary by age, developmental level, and competition in which each team participates
- ii. Players are selected for the Competitive program through tryouts in May
 - 1. Tryout dates are determined by Alabama Soccer Association
 - 2. Players receive offers via-email during tryouts and are asked to accept their position or risk forfeiture to another tryout participant
 - 3. Players selected make a commitment to Homewood Soccer Club for the soccer year (from the conclusion of tryouts in May through the beginning of tryouts the following year)
 - a. This commitment is enforced by Alabama Soccer Association
- iii. Teams train a minimum of two times per week for 90 minutes each session
 - 1. Fall training begins late July and runs through November. Spring training begins late January and runs through Mid-May
 - 2. Additional training may be offered at the coaches discretion and after approval by the Director of Coaching
 - 3. Goalkeeping training is offered a minimum of one time per week for 60 minutes led by our Staff Goalkeeping Coach
- iv. Teams participate in tournaments and may require additional travel
 - 1. Teams are encouraged to attend two tournaments per season, which may include State Cup
 - 2. Teams may qualify for State Cup in Foley, AL or Decatur, AL

- v. Homewood SC coaches have the primary responsibility for player development, instruction, and player education during the season
 - 1. Coaches report directly to their Director of Coaching
- vi. Coaches shall provide feedback to players when requested
- vii. Competitive information is available [online](#)

f. Camps and Additional Training

Homewood Soccer Club offers camps throughout the year that focus on different ages, genders, and developmental levels for our members.

Two additional training opportunities are included in regular season player registrations:

- i. Skills Program:
 - 1. Designed to supplement weekly training sessions with training focused on the individual player
 - 2. 16 sessions throughout the year focusing on our 9U-12U Academy players
 - 3. Led by Player Development Coordinator and staffed by professional coaches
- ii. Goalkeeper Training:
 - 1. Offered for 13U and older goalkeepers during the season
 - 2. Led by local College Goalkeeper coaches
 - 3. Free for any club-registered Goalkeeper who wants to attend
- iii. Additional seasonal camps and training are listed below. More information, fees, and registration are available through the corresponding links:
 - 1. [Winter Camp](#)
 - 2. [Pre-Tryout Camp](#)
 - 3. [Summer Skills Series](#)
 - 4. [Goals for Girls](#)
 - 5. [Fun and Fundamentals](#)
 - 6. [Spring Break Camp](#)

3. Roles and Expectations

a. Coach

Coaches are expected to:

- i. Oversee all aspects of their respective team/teams (head coaches)
- ii. Make all playing time decisions in accordance with the expectations of their respective team/teams
- iii. Be responsible for training sessions and game line-ups
- iv. Be responsible for communicating with the team manager and the team throughout the season
- v. Be responsible for scheduling and conducting team meetings
- vi. Be on time for all meetings, training sessions, and games, whether it is their team or covering another Homewood SC team
- vii. Not use their cell phone during training sessions or games unless previously approved by their Director of Coaching
- viii. Not have parent meetings during their training session and must schedule them for another time that does not conflict with a team event
- ix. Offer player evaluations during the year

b. Player

Players are expected to:

- i. Be accountable for their actions
- ii. Arrive on time, with their proper equipment, for all scheduled events. It is the player's responsibility to communicate with their coach if they are going to miss any training or games
- iii. Arrive on time for game warm ups at the time specified by their coach
- iv. Wear proper attire for training and games:
 1. Patriots:
 - a. Training and games - Patriot jersey, athletic shorts, shin guards, and athletic shoes or cleats
 2. Recreational:
 - a. Training - Practice jersey, athletic shorts, shin guards, and cleats
 - b. Games - Homewood SC uniform (both tops at all games), navy shorts, white socks with shin guards and cleats
 3. Academy:
 - a. Training - Practice jersey, athletic shorts, shin guards, and cleats
 - b. Games - Homewood SC uniform (both tops at all games), navy shorts, white socks with shin guards and cleats
 4. Competitive:
 - a. Training - Training top, athletic shorts, shin guards and cleats

- b. Games - Homewood SC uniform (both tops, shorts, and socks at all games), shin guards and cleats
- v. Bring an inflated soccer ball of the correct size and water bottle
- vi. Respect the coach, Directors of Coaching, Team Manager, all Club players and the opposition and referees
- vii. Not use profanity or act in any way that will negatively impact you, your family, or Homewood Soccer Club
- viii. Strive to minimize unnecessary yellow and red cards during games
- ix. Please refer to Player Code of Conduct:
 - 1. Players are to be on their best behavior while representing the Club during training sessions, games, tournaments, and any Club event
 - 2. Players will be disciplined for poor conduct at any Club event

c. Parent

Parents are expected to:

- i. Encourage your child, their team, and their coach during training and games
- ii. Support your child and their team in a positive manner
- iii. Help make sure your child is on time with the appropriate equipment
- iv. Sit on the opposite sideline from the team during games unless otherwise instructed by the referee, coach, team manager, or field marshal
- v. Stay off the fields while the team is training or playing unless allowed by your program (Patriots parents are allowed on the field at all activities)
- vi. Be responsible for your child at all Club functions
- vii. Not use alcohol or tobacco during training sessions or games
- viii. Not coach from the sideline during training or games
- ix. Not interfere with the center referee, assistant referees, or any member of the opposing team
- x. Contact your head coach and not the team manager for soccer training or coaching issues. Parents are asked to observe the 24-hour rule:
 - 1. Immediately after training or a game is not the time to discuss issues or concerns. The 24-hour rule is in effect. This allows a 24-hour window before any communication is made between parent and coach
 - a. Step 1 - Set up a meeting with the coach
 - b. Step 2 - If no resolution with your coach, set up a meeting with your Director of Coaching, Head Coach, and player
 - c. Step 3 - If no resolution, set up a meeting with your Director of Coaching, Executive Director, and Assistant Director

2. Program Directors of Coaching
 - a. Patriots - Andy Reid
 - b. Recreational - Chris Rogers
 - c. Girls Academy and Competitive - Katie Henricks
 - d. Boys Academy and Competitive - Mason Cook
- xi. At Homewood Soccer Club, the player is the future of the club and we deeply value your trust in our ability to develop your child on and off the field

Refer to Codes of Conduct for more information.

d. Team Manager

- i. Team Managers are parent volunteers recruited by their head coach at the beginning of each soccer year
- ii. Team Managers handle communication of:
 1. Training schedules
 2. Game schedule
 3. Tournaments
 4. Rain outs
- iii. Attend scheduling meeting for competitive teams
- iv. Schedule a pre-season meeting with your head coach to cover responsibilities
- v. Review Team Manager Handbook and contact Assistant Director with any questions

4. Policies

a. Training & Game Policy

- i. Homewood players are required to attend their respective training sessions and games
- ii. Failure to attend a training session without communicating with your coach could result in limited or no playing time during games
- iii. Excused absences for missed session/games will include:
 1. Player medical illness/injury
 2. Mandatory school functions
 3. Family emergencies
- iv. Personal training is available through this link with club approved trainers

b. Player Travel Policy

- i. All players are responsible for their own travel expenses related to team activities
- ii. All Role of the Player expectations apply to travel games and travel tournaments
- iii. Homewood encourages all players to stay at the same hotel when attending away tournaments

c. Coach Travel Policy

- i. Homewood Soccer Club is responsible for reimbursing coaches for league travel, hotel stays, and meals related to Alabama Soccer Association State League and Club-approved tournaments
- ii. Coaches will not ask their team to reimburse them for any expenses during the season and any additional expenses must be approved by the Executive Director

d. Inclement Weather Policy

- i. Homewood Parks and Recreation determines if our grass fields are playable. They post if the field is open or closed online through this [link](#)
- ii. Homewood Soccer Club will communicate with our members in a timely manner in the event the fields are closed
- iii. Whenever there is a lightning strike within 8 miles of a Homewood complex, the field is vacated for 30 minutes after each strike. If the practice or game cannot resume in a timely manner, the activity will be canceled.
- iv. Homewood Soccer Club will provide a safe training environment based on current and forecasted weather conditions, which may result in the cancellation of sessions before inclement weather begins
- v. Games being held at other complexes are determined by the host organization and field status updates will be communicated as soon as possible by Homewood staff members
- vi. In the event of a cancellation, the Club strives to make up all scheduled games that are rained out

e. Uniform Policy

- i. Uniform numbers are coordinated by the Club and Team Managers

- ii. Patriots uniforms are provided at their first session. Recreational and Academy uniforms are ordered through the Club and delivered during training. Competitive uniforms are ordered online through [WeGotSoccer](#)
- iii. Competitive and Academy players may wear long sleeves under their uniforms, but it must be the same color as the jersey top. For example, a white undershirt may be worn with the white jersey top. If the shirts do not match, the referee may not allow the player to wear the undershirt
- iv. Hats and gloves are allowed during the winter months for training and games
- v. All uniforms must be purchased through the Club or our partners

f. Payment & Fees Policy

- i. Homewood Soccer Club established a payment schedule for all levels of play and programs which can be reviewed online
- ii. Payment plans are available for all programs and special arrangements can be made by contacting our Office Manager
- iii. Failure to pay within 30 days of your due date may result in players not being eligible to participate in team practices or games until payment resumes
- iv. Players receiving Financial Aid are on individualized payment plans. However, payment of these fees are required and must remain on schedule as agreed upon when establishing the payment plan
- v. No fee payment will be refunded because of absences, withdrawals, or an early release from a team. The only exceptions would be if the player experiences an injury that prevents them from playing

g. Fields & Parking Policy

- i. Please treat all of our facilities with respect. Remove trash after training and games, return equipment to assigned areas, and do not hang on or climb on any of the equipment
- ii. Do not speed in or around any of our facilities. Please be good neighbors to our surrounding neighborhoods and take care to avoid any dangerous driving
- iii. Park in designated spaces and avoid parking on curbs, sidewalks, and in walkways. Any vehicles not in designated spaces may be ticketed by Homewood Police Department
- iv. No pets are allowed inside any Homewood Parks and Recreation grass or turf facility

- v. Tents may be used, but must be staked on grass fields and weighted on turf fields
- vi. Homewood facilities used for Club training and games:
 - 1. Homewood Soccer Park
 - a. 1800 S Lakeshore Drive, Homewood, AL 35209
 - b. Parking in designated spaces only
 - c. No parking on S Lakeshore Drive - doing so may result in ticketing or towing
 - 2. West Oxmoor Park Mega Field
 - a. 123 W Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209
 - b. Parking in designated spaces only with overflow parking available at the lower baseball fields
 - 3. West Oxmoor Park 6 Acres
 - a. 121 W Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209
 - b. Parking in designated spaces only with overflow parking available at upper baseball fields
 - 4. Weygand Field
 - a. 210 Snow Drive, Homewood, AL 35209
 - b. Limited parking by the fields, but do not park across the street in the business parking lots. Ample parking is available at Waldrop Stadium

h. Lost & Found

- i. Items that are lost at any of our training facilities could be retained on-site or by your head coach. Please make sure you have your players name and information on all items.

i. Spirit Wear

- i. Homewood Soccer Club sells spirit wear through WeGotSoccer which can be accessed [online](#). Car decals can be purchased in the Homewood Soccer Office

j. Financial Aid

- i. A commitment to keep cost as affordable as possible is a pillar of our mission. We offer Financial Assistance to all levels of play and help over 150 families each year.
- ii. Players requesting Financial Aid must apply to our Financial Aid Committee, which will review requests and respond within 7 business days.

1. Requests can be submitted via email to [Chris Rogers](#)
 2. If you receive Medicaid, Free or Reduced lunch, or other assistance please reference this in your application. Players who receive a free or reduced lunch at school automatically qualify for Financial Aid
 3. Players who do not meet this criteria may apply for Financial Aid and each application will be reviewed and responded to within 7 business days
- iii. No player will participate for free, which ensures an ownership by the family to fulfill their commitment to the team for the season
 - iv. If you are interested in contributing to our Financial Aid Fund, please contact our Assistant Director for more information

k. Safety

- i. Our staff is responsible for your child's safety during training and games, but we ask that you promptly pick them up after each event to ensure they do not go unsupervised
- ii. Become familiar with your team's players, parents, and family members who are at regularly scheduled events
- iii. Familiarize yourself with the club's coaches, directors, and support staff
- iv. Please report any dangerous field conditions to Homewood staff members, including away fields
- v. Be aware of your surroundings

Player Code of Conduct

Homewood Soccer players will:

1. Conduct themselves in a manner which respectfully represents Homewood Soccer Club
2. Respect teammates, fellow club members, referees, and opponent players, coaches, and parents
3. Respect the facilities for all events, both at home and away
4. Conduct themselves online (social media, message board, etc) in a respectful manner and understand that they continue to represent their club on these platforms
5. Honor all commitments to their team and the club

Homewood Soccer players will not:

1. Use profanity or derogatory comments based on race, gender, sexual orientation, and religion
2. Harass or abuse a referee for any reason at any time
3. Participate in physical violence on or off the field
4. Use or possess of alcohol, tobacco, or any illegal substances
5. Post any inappropriate messages, photographs, or videos

Refer to Player Expectations for additional information.

Failure to comply with the Homewood Soccer Club Player Code of Conduct Agreement may result in suspension or expulsion from the club, as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director and Executive Committee

Parent Code of Conduct

Homewood Soccer parents are expected to:

1. Encourage your child, their team, and their coach during training and games
2. Show respect for the feelings and accept the capabilities of your child, your child's teammates, and players on the other team
3. Be responsible for your child at all Club functions
4. Accept defeat graciously
5. Observe the 24-hour rule. For more information, refer to Parent Expectations.

Homewood Soccer parents are expected to refrain from:

6. Expressing opinions regarding coaches or players in front of your own child or in a public setting
7. Using profane or derogatory language towards other parents, coaches, officials, or opponents
8. Physically or verbally abusing any other person
9. Coaching from the sideline during training or games
10. Interfering with the center referee, assistant referees, or any member of the opposing team
11. Using alcohol or tobacco during training sessions or games

Refer to Parent Expectations for more information.

Failure to comply with the Parent Code of Conduct could result in removal from the team, our club, a field, sanctions, and/or police involvement as deemed appropriate by the Executive Director and Executive Committee.

Coach Code of Conduct

Coaches will:

1. Honor, respect, and treat everyone equally within the context of the game, regardless of gender, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation, political belief, or economic status
2. Respect others involved in the game including officials, players, coaches, managers, staff, and spectators
3. Serve as a role model for good sportsmanship
4. Never retaliate against any players, parent, coach, staff, or other members of our club regardless of circumstances
5. Promote fair play and display high standards of behavior
6. At no time be alone with a single child where they cannot be observed by others
7. Not leave any child unsupervised and must ensure all players are picked up after training and games
8. Not use, possess, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs during any club event
9. Limit electronic and phone communications with Homewood Soccer players to soccer-specific topics. Communications should always include the player's parent(s). Social networking between adults and players is discouraged.
10. Not use their cell phone during training sessions or games unless previously approved by their Director of Coaching

Coaches are responsible for adhering to the Coach Code of Conduct and will be held accountable by their respective Director of Coaching.