



Sporting Columbia 2021-22

Academy Program

Information Packet

Mission:

Sporting Columbia strives to serve as the premier soccer platform for Central Missouri, providing an unparalleled experience that supports the players and teams abilities to reach their full potential within the sport.

U9-U19:

The Academy programming option at Sporting Columbia is the top program in the developmental pyramid at the club. The program is aimed at providing a professional environment for the committed soccer player looking to develop their skills and abilities to a higher level. Player goals at this level range from reaching their full potential and level of achievement within the sport to playing soccer in college and beyond. These teams will be coached by professional licensed coaches who engage in year-round internal and external coaching education programming. The program is overseen and directed by the fulltime professional coaching and administrative staff of the organization.

The Academy Program

To assist in meeting our Mission Statement, Sporting Columbia developed our own Academy Program that operates as a traditional Academy would.

The Program is a year-round program created to develop technical, confident, and passionate players who have a desire to excel in the sport. The Academy Program is divided into two phases, the Youth Academy and the Senior Academy.

The Youth Academy will provide age group specific coaching standards, player skill benchmarks, and additional training opportunities for the age groups **U9-U14**.

The Senior Academy will provide age group specific coaching standards, player skill benchmarks, and additional training opportunities for age groups **U15-U19**.

The Academy Program is run by a professional coaching staff that receives ongoing education throughout the year both internally and externally. Sporting Columbia hires and retains highly qualified professionally licensed coaches, and we

support their growth through inhouse and external coaching education opportunities, knowing that our staff's growth will be passed on to the players and families which we serve.

Training

Once teams are formed training will begin in August in most cases. Teams will train twice a week (at a minimum) with additional training sessions available.

Training schedules for each team will be determined by the DOC/ Coaching Staff and will be assigned to each age group. Training will be Monday-Thursday and times will be determined as soon as possible.

Every weekend during the season (Aug-July) is a playing opportunity for the teams. Coaches and the professional staff will work with their groups to outline a year long calendar to ensure an outstanding experience and maximal player development.

Financials

Upon accepting an offer to participate with a Sporting Columbia Advanced team the following will be due:

[CLICK HERE FOR 2021-22 FEE STRUCTURE](#)

Covered in registration and club fees:

- a. **Coaching Salaries:** All Sporting Columbia qualified, and professional coaching staff fees are included.
- b. **In-House Coaching Education:** Sporting Columbia makes coaching education a priority for all staff coaches.
- c. **Additional Player Development Programs:** Goalkeeping training; College Advisory Program, Center of Excellence
- d. **USSF, USYSA, USClub Fees:** Registration, player/coach/manager cards, insurance, and other benefits with USSF, USYSA, and US Club fees
- e. **Outdoor Facility Fees:** Seasonal per player fee, lights, bathrooms, field maintenance.
- f. **Administration Fees:** Website access and support, online registration, office supplies, equipment, and administrative staff.
- g. **Sporting Columbia Professional Staff Fees:** A qualified, professional staff directs all aspects of our program.
- h. **Risk Management Oversight:** Background checks are performed on all Sporting Columbia coaches, team managers, and board members.

Not covered in fees:

- a. **Uniform Fees:** All Players must purchase current Sporting Columbia uniform Package –
- b. **Extra Programming:** Summer Camps, Futsal, 3v3, Indoor games and training sessions, and other club offerings
- c. **Tournament registration fees:** Tournament entry fees are split equally among the families on each team regardless of a players attendance. Range of cost depends on age group of team.
- d. **Additional team fees:** league fees, indoor time, additional field rentals, coach travel, referee fees for any non-league or sanctioned event.

Frequently Asked Questions:

The following is not a comprehensive list of questions by any means, but several of these are always asked regularly. If you have any other questions or need more explanation you can always contact the Sporting Columbia Staff

What is the Benefit of Sporting Columbia?

Sporting Columbia is the largest, longest serving and most successful club in the region. We strive to serve as the premier soccer product for Central Missouri. To assist in meeting this all-important goal, Sporting Columbia supports its members with the following benefits:

- *Access to a fulltime and professional administrative and coaching staff that is the most experience and qualified in the Central Missouri Region*
- *Access to professional and licensed coaches who engage in year-round coaching education*
- *Access to unique resources only available to us through our partnership with the MLS Club Sporting Kansas City.*
- *A comprehensive age-appropriate program structure that is supported by year-round individual and team training opportunities.*
- *Multiple Yearly Player Evaluations*
- *A developmental training curriculum with age specific standards, topics, and benchmarks that guides all of our individual and team-based programming.*
- *College Advisory Program for our Senior Academy Players*
- *Speed performance, and nutritional support for our athletes.*
- *Access to a professional goalkeeping coach.*

What is the time commitment involved in my child being a member of the Sporting Columbia?

- Once teams are formed training will normally start in August. Teams will train twice a week (at a minimum) with additional training sessions and opportunities available.
- Training and competition schedules for each team will be developed by the Directors/Coaching Staff. Training sessions are normally in the Greater Columbia area outside of rare and unusual circumstances.
- The advanced program is an **August to July** commitment. High School Aged players will be permitted to return to their schools to play when the HS season commences.

What is the financial commitment?

- Once a child is selected as a member of a Sporting Columbia Academy team a one-time, annual club fee will be required at registration. This registration fee will allow us to roster the player, pay for their player card and insurance.
- Uniforms are **not** included in the dues.
- Additional costs may include any additional gear you choose to purchase, tournament entry fees, travel and occasional lodging for tournaments.
- Playing time is not automatic in the advanced program. Players benefit from a professional coaching staff, year-round training opportunities, and the opportunity to be a part of a group to develop

friendships, social skills, values, and lifelong memories. Playing time is earned based on performance and attendance. Playing time is fair but not equal.

Where will games be played? What teams will we play against?

- Teams will compete in a variety of leagues available. The structure is TBD currently.

What age group will my child be in?

- The club abides by the age matrix set by the United States Soccer Federation. Opportunities to “play up” will be considered and approved on a case by case basis by the Director of Soccer. Players must file a petition to play up directly to the Director of Soccer, but must tryout in their age group in normal circumstances.

How are teams formed?

- *Team’s are formed after a formal evaluation date where new and returning players are evaluated in an open tryout process. We form teams based mainly on ability. Our professional Coaching Staff is looking for TIPS!*

Technical- ability with the ball

Insightful- Insight and understanding of the game and principals of play

Players with Personality- players ability to fill a role and be creative

Speed of Thought and Action- Physical Speed, Technical Speed, and Mental/Thought Speed.

Sporting Columbia is Age appropriate in line with the birthyear and season matrix developed by US Soccer whenever possible, but not at the expense of the player/groups experience and ability to develop.



[Birth Year and Season Matrix](#)

When determining the age group for a season, the year the season ends should be used for determining the birth year. Also note that the format “U followed by age” really means that age and younger. For example, U8 should be read as 8 and younger. [CLICK “BIRTH YEAR AND SEASON MATRIX” FOR LINK](#)

