



Butte United Soccer Club Parent Handbook

Welcome!

Whether your family is a new or returning member, welcome to Butte United Soccer Club! We sincerely hope your involvement in our soccer program will result in positive experiences and memories for you and your children.

BUSC endeavors to provide our players with a nurturing developmental environment and constructive athletic program which helps build their self-confidence while enhancing their awareness of the importance of cooperation, teamwork and fair play. Consequently, we believe BUSC offers participants an opportunity to learn a few of life's important lessons, make lasting friendships, and understand the benefits associated with establishing and working toward the fulfillment of goals.

Since we all lead busy lives, we must prioritize the use of our time. You have already made a good choice by involving your family in BUSC. Participating in BUSC is a positive and rewarding way to show our children that their happiness and development is our priority, and that we care and want to be involved in their lives. Together we can make this a year our children and each of us will remember as the best of times.

Much of our organization's success depends upon the level of volunteer support we receive from our members. We could not exist without your help, and we hope you will pitch in to make it possible this season. During game-day excitement, please remember that soccer is supposed to be both fun and, more importantly, a constructive learning experience for our children. We ask that you remain supportive of the Club and your team, respectful of referees, association officials, and other teams, and patient and understanding when concerns arise.

Thank you in advance for your time, interest, and support in making your Butte United Soccer Club's upcoming season a success!

Sincerely,
Butte United Board of Directors

Position	Name	Contact Information
President	Luis M. Moreno	gripmoreno@yahoo.com
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Registrars	Cristi Tellechea Mindy Puritz Alexandra Renoud	registrar.butteunited@gmail.com mindyregistrar.butteunited@gmail.com alrrenoud@gmail.com

Tryout Calendar

Tryouts are conducted at the beginning of each year. All players must try out at their appropriate age level (birth year). Players may be invited to try out for an older team by the Director of Coaching.

Tryouts	May & June
Fall Registration	May & June
Fall Season Begins	1 st Saturday after Labor Day
Pictures	September
Fall Season Ends	Mid-November
Spring Registration	November, January
Spring Season (U6 to U19)	Late March – Mid June

Competitive Season

Each team will play in a league consistent with the developmental goals of the team. Our club is affiliated with US Club Soccer and the United States Soccer Federation. Our teams compete in the NorCal Premier Soccer League, one of the most competitive youth leagues in the nation. The main competitive soccer season begins each September on the weekend after Labor Day and continues through Thanksgiving. Your team may compete in tournaments or state cup, which will extend your season beyond November. In the event your team qualifies for post-season competition, we expect you to fulfill your commitment to your team through the end of that competition regardless of your status with the Club for the following year. A few teams may also choose to compete in the Spring league as well. Decisions to play outside of the fall league are up to the individual teams, after discussion with the parents and coaches.

Fees

- Registration: \$400 for all players
 - Registration fees must be paid in full by **August 1st**. No registration fees will be refunded after **July 1st**. No exceptions, unless approval is granted by the board.
- Uniform: \$165
 - Uniform payment is **non-refundable** and paid online
- Monthly training fees: approximately \$40-\$60/month per player (determined by coach and approved by team)
- Tournament Fees: as determined by each individual team

Training

All BUSC teams must attend two regular team training sessions each week. Length of training session is dependent on age appropriateness. Date of team trainings will be determined by the coach. Additional sessions are optional and should be requested through your team coach who will direct you to the appropriate session/s.

Goalie Training

The club provides a one-day per week training session for goalies.

Uniforms

All Butte United teams will utilize the official Butte United Uniform. Uniforms will be used for a two year period. New players to the club will be able to order uniforms after registration. Information about uniforms can be obtained from your team manager.

All Butte United players are required to:

- Attend all practice sessions, arrive on time and be properly attired.
- Arrive 45 minutes prior to game kickoff for team warm- up.
- Notify their respective coach if they will miss or will be late for a training session or game.
- Be prepared for all training sessions and games.
 - Proper uniform for training and games
 - Cleats for training, practices and league games
 - Unaltered, full length shin guards covered fully by socks are required for games and practice
 - Bring a soccer ball and water bottle for practice
- Maintain and uphold the standards set forth by Butte United Soccer Club on and off the field of play.
- Respect the coach, DOC, Team Manager, all other Butte United players and staff, the game day opposing team, and referees.
- The use of tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs at any Butte United function is strictly prohibited.

Butte United Player Guidelines

The youth players of the BUSC represent the sole purpose of the Club's existence. We expect players to respect and honor the game, coaches, parents, officials, teammates, and opponents. We ask you to advise your child of the league rules pertaining to player behavior and also adhere to the following when playing:

- Show respect for the team coach and listen during all team activities.
- No swearing or abusive language on the bench or on the field.
- No lashing out at any official no matter what the call. The coaching staff will handle all matters pertaining to officiating. Anyone being called on a penalty will not say anything to the official and walk away from the play unless requested to speak with the referee about the play directly. If the referee requests a player to come forward, he or she will calmly approach the referee to hear what the referee has to say.
- Under no circumstances will bullying of another player be tolerated during any practice or game. No fighting of any kind will be tolerated.
- The player will conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all facilities (practice, field, restaurants, hotels, tournaments, etc) during all team functions.

When a player behaves inappropriately they can be penalized, warned, carded and/or ejected from practice or games. More serious infractions may also include game suspensions from the league. The club also takes this seriously. If we hear of situations where a player is acting in contradiction to our stated goals and the guidelines set forth herein, we reserve the right to suspend them or expel them from the Club. This can be in addition to the penalties that are required by the league. We want everyone involved to be proper role models and a good reflection of BUSC.

Butte United Parental Behavior Guidelines

All parents and authorized guardians of players within BUSC are members of the Club. As such, they are expected to behave in accordance with the Club's philosophy of Positive Coaching: Respect, Good Behavior and Honor for the Game. Poor parent behavior is detrimental to the ability for youth players to play soccer within the Club and to the reputation of the Club. To ensure that BUSC remains an organization where children receive the highest level of coaching to play competitive soccer in a positive and supportive environment all parents are asked to do the following:

Show respect to the team

- Have players dropped off and picked up on time for all club and team activities.
- Pay all dues and fees owed in a timely manner.
- If the player is going to be late to a team activity, notify the coach and manager.
- If there are unavoidable conflicts, notify your coach and manager as soon as possible. • After games or practices, ask your child if he or she had fun; please don't dissect the game or critique. A good question might be, "what was the best part of the game for you?" or "did you have fun?" • Parents are not allowed on the player sideline or behind the goal during games or scrimmages (this is a league rule).
- Please respect every player on the team; do not make critical remarks to others about specific players on your team. Negative comments overheard by the players or their parents are hurtful and foster an unhealthy team environment.
- Please do not criticize or express disappointment (groan) when players make mistakes. The players are well aware of their mistakes, and we believe learning from mistakes is integral to improvement.
- Please be respectful and courteous to the opposing team's parents and players. You will have games against the same teams for years to come. Please model appropriate behavior.

Show respect to the officials

- Please respect the officials; they are an integral part of the game and at the younger ages, important teachers. Some of our referees are players in our club. The coach is the only person who should make any comment to the officials.
- Parents should not talk to or at officials before, during, or after the game.

Show respect to the coach

- Please respect your team coach and do not make negative remarks to others about coaching decisions.
- If there are coaching decisions or instructions that you do not understand or agree with, do not interrupt the coach during practices or games. If you need to discuss something with the coach, make an appointment. They are willing to get feedback, take suggestions, and hear issues that you may have, but do not distract them from their appointed tasks. It is neither appropriate nor respectful to interrupt your own or a following team's practice.
- Parents, as always, feel free to communicate any questions or concerns with the coach; it helps if you ask your child first (even our youngest players will understand coaching decisions and can explain them to their parents) and encourage child – coach communication.
- There will be no coaching by parents on the parent sideline. "Go" or "Shoot" or "Send it" are interpreted as instructions and are not helpful to the team or the player. Your positive encouragement is welcome after good play by either team ("Go team").
- In order to learn effectively, players must not be distracted. For this reason, the Club requests that the coach, assistant coach and DOC be the only coaching "voices" during games and practices.
- Thank the coaches for their commitment and effort.

The success of players is our highest concern, and players will not be penalized by the Club for the actions of their parents or guardians except as a last resort. Nevertheless, the Club has a duty to protect its Officers, Contractors and Members, as well as its property, and will reserve the right to take such action under law as may be deemed necessary. In serious cases of parental misbehavior, and if there is no alternative recourse, then the Club reserves the right to prevent a player from registering with the Club after the end of the playing season. Players will not be 'dropped' from rosters in mid-season due to parental behavior, although parents may be barred from attending club events or activities for 30 days for serious misconduct.

Role of the Team Manager

- The team manager is the main contact for all relevant team information. The manager's main source of communication is via email or text.
- The manager is responsible for team coordination of activities through direction of the team coach. • Any soccer related issues including playing time and/or tournament scheduling should be directed to the team coach.
- Team managers are not debt collectors. Note that failure to pay tournament fees, travel expenses, and misc. team expenses (i.e. tournament expenses, coach travel reimbursement, brochures, referee costs for scrimmages, etc.), in a timely manner to team managers, could result in disciplinary action to the respective player. Please be prompt with manager's requests.

Role of the Coach

The Butte United Soccer Club coach will oversee all aspects of his/her respective team during the seasonal year.

- The coach will make all playing time decisions.
- Players who are overdue with their player fees will become ineligible, upon notice via the Butte United Administrator, to participate in any Butte United Soccer Club activities or events. • The coach is responsible for the training session and the game lineups.
- The coach is responsible to meet the goals of the Butte United mission and vision. • The coach is responsible for communicating with the manager of the team any issues that may arise with the respective team.
- The coach is responsible for calling and presiding over team meetings.
- The coach is to be on time for all meetings, training sessions and games.
- The coach is to provide player evaluations at the end of the fall and spring seasons.

In addition, coaches and all club members (parents and players) are required to abide by the Nor Cal Code of Ethics, which can be found on the Nor Cal website (www.norcalpremier.com).

Conflict resolution:

In the event of a conflict, please review our conflict resolution policy found at www.butteunited.com.

The Butte United Board of Directors

The Butte United Soccer Club Board of Directors (“BOD”) is the governing board for the Butte United Soccer Club in Chico. The BOD is responsible for the internal structure and policies of the Butte United Soccer Club. Every year, Butte United Soccer Club holds its Annual General Meeting (AGM) to elect Executive Board members for vacant positions and/or expiring terms. Those eligible to participate and vote at this meeting are coaches, team managers (elected by their individual team), and the sitting Executive Board members. In September or October, the Board of Directors requests candidates for next year's available positions. Members may place a name in nomination for any Board position by contacting the Secretary of the Board of Directors in writing at any time during the year. At the General Meeting, all nominees are asked to briefly tell about themselves and why they are running for a Board position. In the absence of opposing candidates, BOD members may be seated by acclamation. The Board of Directors have at least one Board Meeting every month. These meetings are open to the public. Board meetings are held the last Wednesday of each month at the Round Table Meeting room at 964 Mangrove Ave., Chico, CA 95926 (meeting dates and locations are subject to change, pending room availability). Meetings start at 7:30 p.m.