



Savannah United

Academy & Select Tryouts

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Academy?

'Academy' is the name given to our competitive soccer program for players in the U9-U12 age group range. For this next soccer year (Fall 23 / Spring 24) that will be for players with birth years between 2015-2012. To be eligible for this program, players **must** tryout. To read more about the Academy Program click [HERE](#)

What is Select?

'Select' is the name given to our competitive soccer program for players in the U13-U19 age group range. For this next soccer year (Fall 23 / Spring 24) that will be for players with birth years between 2011-2005. To be eligible for this program, players **must** tryout. To read more about the Select Program click [HERE](#)

When are the Tryouts?

CENTRAL (SAVANNAH) TRYOUTS - 7221 SALLIE MOOD DRIVE, SAVANNAH 31406		
AGE GROUPS	DATES	TIMES
U9 - U13 Girls (2015-2011)	May 23 & 24 (Rainout 25)	5pm - 6:30pm
U9 - U13 Boys (2015-2011)	May 23 & 24 (Rainout 25)	7pm - 8:30pm
U14 - U19 Girls (2010-2005)	May 16 & 17 (Rainout 18)	5pm - 6:30pm
U14 - U19 Boys (2010-2005)	May 16 & 17 (Rainout 18)	7pm - 8:30pm

WEST (EFFINGHAM) TRYOUTS - 199 STAGECOACH AVENUE, GUYTON 31312		
AGE GROUPS	DATES	TIMES
U9 - U19 Girls (2015-2005)	May 25	6pm - 7:30pm
U9 - U19 Boys (2015-2005)	May 25	6pm - 7:30pm

- We suggest players arrive approx 30 minutes prior to the start time to check in

Is there a fee to Tryout?

Yes. The tryout fee is \$50 per player. Each participant receives a tryout shirt.

How do we sign up for Tryouts?

The easiest and fastest way to register for tryouts is by doing so online. Visit www.savannahunited.com and either login or create an account. Under your child's profile it will say 'Programs Available'. If your child is between 2015-2012 click on '2023/2024 Academy'. If your child is between 2011-2005 click on '2023/2024 Select'. Make sure to select the correct location i.e. Savannah or Effingham. From there, you simply complete and submit the entries. An email confirmation will be sent once completed to verify your registration.

Where do we check in on the first night of Tryouts?

A row of registration tents will be set up near Field 1 at the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex. At the West location, the registration area will be under the shelter by the playground. Please check in with the staff person assigned to your age group. They will make sure you are fully registered and direct you to the correct field as well as give you your tryout shirt.

Who is my Club Director?

CENTRAL

7v7 Format / 2015 & 2014 Birth Years: Keith Gunn (k.gunn@savannahunited.com)

9v9 Format / 2013 & 2012 Birth Years: Paul Smith (p.smith@savannahunited.com)

11v11 Format / 2011 - 2005 Birth Years: Jeff Storey-Pitts (j.storey-pitts@savannahunited.com)

WEST

Girls / All Age Groups: Robert Long (r.long@savannahunited.com)

Boys / All Age Groups: Christopher Stevenson (c.stevenson@savannahunited.com)

How do the Directors grade the players?

The same way golfers are graded playing golf and the same way swimmers are graded swimming - soccer players must be graded playing soccer! We keep the tryout process as simple as possible without any gimmicks so the coaches can spend their time watching and evaluating the players in front of them. We will start by giving the players a little time to settle in and warm up. That will be quickly followed by getting them into small sided games i.e. 3v3 / 4v4 then into larger games such as 7v7 / 9v9 / 11v11. The coaches grade the players on a number of different aspects such as: technical ability; comfort level on the ball; decision making with & without the ball i.e. movement / supporting runs; body shape; vision; flair; athletic ability; mentality; effort.

How are teams formed?

In the Academy age groups, U9-U12, we prefer to look at each age group as a large 'pool' of players on a path of long term player development. The goal is to create highly competitive 11v11 teams at the U13 age group and above. Within each age group U9-U11 we typically form approximately 3 boys teams & 2

girls teams. Most age groups will be tiered based on ability. 'Premier' is the top level. 'Blue' is the second level and 'Development' is the third level. In the Select age groups we continue with 'Premier' being the top level and 'Blue' being the second level. Instead of 'Development' teams at Select level we typically have Developmental players who may only be offered a training spot as a means to prepare them for a full roster spot in the future.

When do we get the results?

Select (Central Location) results for 2010 - 2005 birth years will be posted by the afternoon of May 22nd. Academy (Central & West) results for 2015 - 2011 birth years will be posted by the afternoon of May 29th. Select (West Location) results for 2011 - 2005 birth years will be posted by the afternoon of May 29th.

Do you just pick everyone who tries out?

No. Players must meet a certain criteria and it also depends on the numbers of players available to us. We are more forgiving in the Academy age groups and less forgiving in the Select age groups. This is because in the Academy age groups, players are still very young and in time, can develop into a much stronger player.

If my child is offered a place in the program, how do we accept it?

You will be sent an email through our registration system with an acceptance link. Simply 'accept' the position and you will then be prompted to secure your spot by making your first payment and signing any electronic forms / waivers.

Is there a deadline to accept our position and make payment?

AGE GROUPS	DEADLINE
U14 - U19 CENTRAL (2010 - 2005)	May 30
U9 - U13 CENTRAL (2015 - 2011)	June 6
U9 - U19 WEST (2015 - 2005)	June 6

Is there any travel involved?

In Academy, Premier & Blue levels travel and the schedule works out to be approx 60% home dates and 40% away dates. 1 day trips are typically locations up to 2 hours away. 2 day events can be between 1.5-4 hours away. Development level in Academy does not travel. All Select teams travel. The travel is dependent upon the level of the team.

How do I best prepare my child for Tryouts?

To best prepare your child for tryouts, simply ensure they are well nourished, hydrated and rested, going to bed the night before at a reasonable hour. This gives players the best chance to perform.