



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 24 / Spring 25) that will be for players with birth years between 2016-2013. 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 24 / Spring 25) that will be for players with birth years between 2012-2006. 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 (2016-2012)	May 21 & 22 (Rainout 23)	5pm - 6:30pm
U9 - U13 Boys (2016-2012)	May 21 & 22 (Rainout 23)	7pm - 8:30pm
U14 - U19 Girls (2011-2006)	May 14 & 15 (Rainout 16)	5pm - 6:30pm
U14 - U19 Boys (2011-2006)	May 14 & 15 (Rainout 16)	7pm - 8:30pm

WEST (EFFINGHAM) TRYOUTS - 199 STAGECOACH AVENUE, GUYTON 31312		
AGE GROUPS	DATES	TIMES
U9 - U19 Girls (2016-2006)	May 13	6pm - 7:30pm
U9 - U19 Boys (2016-2006)	May 13	6pm - 7:30pm

- We suggest players arrive approx 30 minutes prior to the start time on their first day to check in

Is there a fee to tryout?

Yes. The tryout fee is \$50 per player.

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 2016-2013 click on '2024/2025 Academy'. If your child is between 2012-2006 click on '2024/2025 Select'. Make sure to select the correct location i.e. Savannah or West. 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 / 2016 & 2015 Birth Years: Keith Gunn (k.gunn@savannahunited.com)

9v9 Format / 2014 & 2013 Birth Years: Paul Smith (p.smith@savannahunited.com)

11v11 Format / 2012 - 2006 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 at Central Location. At West Location it is common to have 1 boys team & 1 girls team in birth

year. Most age groups will be tiered based on ability. At Central Location, '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 occasionally have 'Red' as our third level or we 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 2011 - 2006 birth years will be posted by the afternoon of **May 21**.
Academy (Central & West) results for 2016 - 2012 birth years will be posted by the afternoon of **May 28**.
Select (West Location) results for 2012 - 2006 birth years will be posted by the afternoon of **May 28**.

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 within our club structure.

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 (2011 - 2006)	May 30
U9 - U13 CENTRAL (2016 - 2012)	June 5
U9 - U19 WEST (2016 - 2006)	June 5

Is there any travel involved / required?

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 2.5 hours away. 2 day tournament events can be between 1.5-4 hours away. Development level in the Academy does not travel. All Select teams travel. The amount of travel is dependent upon the level of the team (please see below for expected game schedules). Any player placed on any team that travels is expected to attend all away games / events.

What is my training schedule?

Academy Training Schedules

For birth years 2016 - 2013 please click below for the training schedule.

[CLICK HERE \(2016 - 2013\)](#)

Select Training Schedules

For birth years 2012 - 2006 please click below for the training schedule.

[CLICK HERE \(2012 - 2006\)](#)

**Note: These training schedules could change due to field space and coach availability but we will communicate any changes as soon as possible.*

What is my game schedule?

Academy Game Schedules

For birth years 2016 - 2014 & 2013 Development Level please click below for the game schedule.

[CLICK HERE](#) (FALL 2024 ACADEMY MASTER SCHEDULE)

[CLICK HERE](#) (SPRING 2024 ACADEMY MASTER SCHEDULE PREVIEW - **WILL BE SIMILAR FOR 2025**)

For birth years 2013 Premier & Blue Levels click below for the game schedule.

[CLICK HERE](#) (WILL BE PUBLISHED IN AUGUST 2025)

Select Game Schedules

For birth years 2012 - 2006 please click below for the game schedule.

[CLICK HERE \(2012 - 2006\)](#)

**Note: These game / tournament schedules could change but we will communicate any changes as soon as possible.*

How long is my commitment?

Players who accept their team placement in the Academy / Select Program will be registered for both Fall and Spring seasons. This is a year commitment.

What is my financial commitment?

Players who accept their placement are agreeing to pay the full registration fee (Fall and Spring) as well as the full team fees (Fall and Spring).

[CLICK HERE - Registration Fees](#)

Players will also purchase their own uniform package once they accept their placement on a team. Uniforms are purchased through Lloyd's Soccer. Uniform cycles last two years and the next change in uniform is Spring 2025. Orders for the new uniform package will be made in **November / December 2024**.

The current uniform package cost is **\$264**.

What are team fees and how are they collected?

Team fees cover the cost for all away games and events / tournaments with an entry fee. Part of these team fees go to our coaches so that they get reimbursed for their mileage / gas, hotel, and a per diem. The team fees for each level can be found below as well as more information on the collection process.

ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO PAY TEAM FEES REGARDLESS OF PLAYER AVAILABILITY.

This is part of the commitment to being on a competitive team.

For more information please see the link below.

[CLICK HERE - Team Fees](#)

Failure to pay team fees will result in the player being marked “inactive” and they will not be allowed to play in games until team fees are paid.

All players added to the team mid-season will pay prorated team fees and the appropriate Director will work with the Team Managers on that amount.

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.

Required Parents Meeting!

We hold a required parents meeting for the Academy & Select Programs in the evening on **Wednesday, August 7 at Georgia Southern Armstrong Campus in Savannah**. More information will be sent about this meeting following tryouts.