

STAR SC G.O.A.L.S. Financial Aid Policy

Purpose:

The mission of the STAR SC G.O.A.L.S. (Granting Opportunities for Achievement in Life through Soccer) program is to assist young soccer players who may be denied an opportunity to grow and develop in the sport of soccer due to a lack of financial resources. The barriers to opportunities may arise in the form of expenses for membership on a team.

Scope:

- STAR SC as a club may provide financial aid to those individuals who can demonstrate a need to the extent possible as dictated by the club's budget and augmented fund raising. STAR SC will be limited in its ability to provide scholarship opportunities based on donations and year-to-year success in fund raising efforts. In the event of an unforeseen financial hardship or unanticipated expense, STAR SC reserves the right to postpone, rescind or terminate the Financial Aid Policy for the greater good of the Club and its Members.

Eligibility:

- Eligibility will be limited to youth players, under the age of 19, who play in the STAR SC.
- All Applications for financial aid with supporting documents must be received by the entry deadline.
- There is no minimum playing experience required.

Process:

- **Individuals must make the initial request for financial assistance to the appropriate head coach/team manager.**
- **Head coach/Team Manager will provide the application for financial aid to the parent(s)** of the player. Forms must be filled out entirely and must provide a clear picture of need and circumstances relative to the need. **Head Coach/Team Manager must submit a team budget that outlines player's fees to the Club Scholarship Committee (CSC).**
- The following is an example of the e-mail the CSC will send coaches after the entry deadline (Example: Coach Jones, boys U-12, three applications received). **Coaches must use this email to confirm that all applications submitted have been received** by the CSC. In order for the CSC to accept applications after the entry deadline coaches will need to contact the CSC within 3 days of the sending of the confirmatory e-mail
- The maximum amount for a scholarship award shall not exceed the full amount of one season's worth of published budgeted player's fees.
- The CSC shall consist of two non-board members and one board member. A majority vote of the CSC shall be required for any scholarship award.
- The CSC will review and consider the application, financial information and special circumstances that contribute to the request. **Each request is considered on a per season basis only.**

- The amount of financial aid awarded and the **identity of those individuals who apply** for this financial aid **will be confidential** and only those with a need to know will be so informed.
- Financial aid recipients will be notified of the scholarship award and the amount of the award.
- The CSC will notify the STAR SC Club Treasurer of the financial aid recipients. The Club Treasurer will direct the funds to the approved player's head coach/team manager.
- **STAR Teams**, Private individuals and businesses **have the opportunity to support the financial aid program with donations** all donations will be forwarded to the STAR SC Club Treasurer.
- The CSC will maintain an accounting record of aid approved and will issue a report to the STAR SC board within the time frame established by the STAR SC Board
- The CSC will endeavor to process all applications within two weeks of the application deadline. In addition, the CSC will make budget recommendations to the Club Board.
- The CSC will request financial aid recipients to participate in Club fundraising events.