

# Ohio Strikers United Soccer Club

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# Information About OSU

*Ohio Strikers United Soccer Club* is a premier level soccer club established in Spring 2006. We currently have the following teams: **Boys** & **Girls** u-9, through u-18. All of our coaches are licensed and experienced. Our teams and players play in the Ohio North State Cup, MRL, and CASA League. We attend college showcase events, select and elite tournaments, and ID camps. This Club is for young players seeking the opportunity to develop into complete players; high school players who want to be seen by college coaches; all players who want to play at a higher level!

We seek members who want to excel at soccer in a fun, competitive, and **friendly** environment. Our strength is in the cohesiveness of our coaching staff, the managers, and peripheral staff that work to improve our club. Our goal has always been to develop players, and provide a premier soccer experience at a competitive cost in comparison to other premier clubs. We are achieving our goal! We encourage you to compare our cost, success, and instruction, with other premier soccer organizations. Consider Ohio Strikers United premier soccer club and be a part of an organization focused on player development.

# About Premier Club Soccer

The soccer hierarchy is Rec -> Travel & Community Club -> Premier Club. OSU is a Premier Club. Families who choose to participate in a Premier Club are ready to commit their child to the highest level they can be exposed to in their age. Premier clubs span a much wider area bringing you the most committed and competitive players under one organization. Ohio Strikers United attracts competitive boys and girls from 8 different counties. Players travel up to 65 minutes to train with Ohio Strikers United. Only Premier clubs like Ohio Strikers United are admitted to higher level leagues like the MRL and NPL and provide college level opportunities and exposure for its members. Premier level clubs seek coaches who are licensed and/or have a high level of playing experience. Continuous licensing and personal growth are imperative for Premier level coaches. If you are ready for the next step beyond your local organization, make sure you consider a Premier Level Club.

# Do I choose Ohio Strikers United?

Before you consider ANY Premier level club it's important that you ask questions about: qualifications and experiences of the coaching staff, training methods, club personality, attitude of coaches and members, future direction of the club, overall and hidden cost and league affiliations. Ask someone who is associated with Ohio Strikers United about their experience with the club. Choose a club that has teams above and below your child's age. This demonstrates a level of stability and future growth within an organization. Find a club that fits your family and develops your child. Ohio Strikers United continues to have successful mergers with several clubs. Our affiliations provide advanced opportunities for players who meet the criteria and desire additional challenges.

## Strikers Coaches

We have 20 coaches on staff. They hold Advanced National, National, or National D and C licenses. Several coach at the high school and the college level. Our coaching staff are assigned to train different teams, especially in the winter.. This allows our members to experience different styles and it improves player development. Our coaches are experienced in speed and agility, technical, and tactical player development. They truly enjoy teaching the game of soccer and learning new methods of coaching.

#### Recruiting New Players – Team Restructure

We are always actively looking for players to strengthen our teams. In doing so, a team may be restructured to accommodate additional players. Our environment is competitive. If there are increased numbers in an age group, players may participate on a one team or another depending on their current level of development.

#### Soccer Seasons – Games, Trainings

We provide training and game options for players in the fall, winter, and spring. The majority of our members train & play all 3 seasons. Fall: Aug - Oct; Winter: Jan - Mar; Spring: Apr – June. Some high school players may begin their winter season in November. Players normally have 2 trainings a week in Fall and Spring, and the typically 1 training a week in the winter. Players are promised to be invited to at least 6 league games each season. Game invitations are not equal for all players because some players may play across multiple age groups. U-14/15 and below play 70% of their games on Saturdays in the fall, and U-15 and above play 70% of their games on Sundays in the spring. Expect the occasional weekday game. Spring and Fall practices are typically from 6 to 7:30 pm, while Winter practices can start between 6pm and 9pm. The majority of our league games are played in Seville, Ohio (Lodi). Some of our higher level Travel teams play in the Midwest Regional League (MRL) or Great Lakes Alliance (GLA) and will travel to: Southern Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Western New York, or Pennsylvania.

#### General Tournaments

Tournaments can include all members of a team or a select group of players from within the team or club. Not all players will be invited to a tournament. Some players will participate in league games only and not tournaments. If a player will not be invited to a tournament, they will be informed at the time when the invitation to join the club was received for that seasonal year. The distance to a tournament can typically range from 45 minutes to 4 hours. There can be an overnight stay or an out of state tournament event. Tournaments are excellent for team bonding, player development and for parents to unwind. During a tournament a team plays multiple games against other clubs in a single weekend. Tournaments are optional and fees range from \$55 to \$70. Tournament participants can be Strikers members, or guest players from other programs.

#### Showcases – Higher Level Tournaments

Showcases are elite events mainly for high school age players hoping to play soccer in college or players who are members of a high level team. A Showcase event is an opportunity for players to play against competitive opponents and to be observed by college coaches. Whether you are hoping to be a "recruited walk-on", a "scholarship athlete", or play in a competitive atmosphere, Showcases are excellent for your exposure and personal growth. Showcases are optional and fees range from \$90 to \$120 for each player. Showcase participants can be Strikers members, or guest players from other programs

# High School Players

The majority of our high school players return in November and train and/or play games until June. There is a short break in December and again in March. Players are invited to spring teams as early as December. After teams are formed, additional players can only be invited depending on the player's ability and roster space. High school players are encouraged to begin their off season participation in November. We are aware that winter high school activities may conflict. We encourage you to contact the club to express your interest in joining if you plan to play in the spring season. Several high school players train only during the winter and spring and do not play in any games. Not everyone who participates in the winter is selected for a team in the spring. Contact Ian Holford for info on high school age teams (See contact info below)

# Tryout / Selection

Players from U-8 to U-15 who are not playing high school soccer, must tryout each June. If selected, a player will have a spot on a team for 1 year. Players who have just completed a season with the club must also tryout for the following season. A player may be selected to play & train, or to train only with a team. Unfortunately, not all players who tryout are offered a spot on a team. Tryout decisions will be made 4 days after the player's tryout date. We encourage you to contact the club if you have not received a response within 4 days. Your \$75 non refundable fee is required to secure your spot upon selection. This \$75 fee is deducted from your overall season fees.

All high school teams are reformed between November and March for the spring season. Players from the previous (high school) season should not assume that their spot is guaranteed.

# **Overall Cost**

- (Fall Fees 2017) Birth year: 2009 & younger, pay \$240; 2007 & 2008, pay \$285; 2006 & older pay \$325
- (Spring Fees 2018) Same as Fall 2018
- (Winter Fees 2018) All players \$290. (Train only : No Games \$220)
- If a player accepts an invitation to a tournament their fee to participate will range from \$55 to \$70
- A \$75 non-refundable fee is due when you accept an invitation and deducted from the fees above
- Fall fees are due by August 1<sup>st</sup>
- Winter fees are due January 1<sup>st</sup>
- Spring fees are due April 1<sup>st</sup>
- New Players Only: One-time uniform cost of \$150 for 2 jerseys, shorts, 1 pair of socks, 2 training jerseys
- Uniform cycle ends spring 2017. A new uniform must be purchased by everyone for fall 2017

Winter session is Nov through March. Indoor games included if invited to play. Fee reduced \$70 if no games are offered

Winter 11v11 games in Geneva (at Spire) are \$25 for 3 games. Players are invited to participate in Geneva

MRL & GLA rostered players pay an additional \$100. Players will be invited to join the MRL or GLA team

All other league games are included in the club fees above. No additional cost for Futsal, CASA, or Force Fitness league games

Additional (optional) cost may occur for spirit wear, warm-ups and tournaments. We try to keep club soccer at a manageable cost whenever possible.

*We encourage you to compare our fees to other premier level clubs.* Members may pay online using debit or credit cards or by mailing in a check. Ask about our payment plans when needed. Players selected for MRL teams will pay and additional league fee.

# Refunds

Starting at the first day of practice, the refund policy is as follows...:

- After 5 weeks there are no refunds
- 0 to 3 weeks your refund is 75% excluding the \$75 non refundable deposit you paid to secure your spot
- 3 to 5 weeks your refund is 50% excluding the \$75 non refundable deposit you paid to secure your spot
- Refunds do not include fees paid for uniform items
- Refunds do not include the non-refundable fee paid to secure a spot
- Tournament Refunds: 50% maximum refund 10 days or less before the Friday of the tournament event

## Club Structure

Each team has a manager who will keep you updated throughout the season. The managers will answer any team or club related questions that you may have. Once the season begins, it is your responsibility to get all the latest info from the web site. All members must create a user account and sign up for all programs on OSU web site. Our coaches' sole focus is coaching your child and the team. Any concerns relating to the coach, your child's development, or problems with your child or other parents, should be discussed with Ian Holford. There is a club Administrator, Lindy Chandler (lindyj@sssnet.com) who handles all aspects of the organization.

## Academy Program: We Bring OSU to Your Community

The Academy Program is for developmental players (7 to 10); players who would like to be slowly introduced to the premier club environment. The Academy Program is for players already on a rec or travel club team and would like to add the premier club experience. The Academy Program reaches out to several communities and our coaches travel to train players in their home town. The Academy program has a lower pricing structure. For details, please contact Ian Holford at <u>ian@osusoccerclub.com</u>

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- ✤ Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/OSUsoccerclub/</u>
- Twitter: Follow us: "osusoccerclub"
- Instagram: Find us: "osusoccerclub"
- Sign Up ONLINE. Each player MUST set up an OSU account.

## Contact Info

Ian will always be accessible and willing to address all of your concerns. WE THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING OHIO STRIKERS UNITED SOCCER CLUB

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