2026 - 2027

Club Handbook

Bavarian United Soccer Club
700 West Lexington Boulevard | Glendale, Wisconsin 53217
www.bavarianunited.com

Document Updates

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This handbook is a living document and may be revised at the discretion of the Board of Directors to reflect changes in club policies, procedures, or activities. Each new version supersedes and replaces all prior versions in their entirety. The most current version is always available on the club website; members should refer to that version as the official handbook.

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The Bavarian Way

To develop players. We focus on creating an inclusive developmental environment to produce talented players of character and integrity equipped to succeed on and off the field.

Who We Are

We are one of the oldest soccer clubs in the United States. Our Club was founded by German American immigrants originally from the province of Bavaria on July 29, 1929, at Milwaukee's Lake Park under the name Fussball Club Bayern (Football Club Bavaria) as a multi-sports association.

Steeped in history and tradition, Bavarian United Soccer Club has thrived on a pioneering and innovative spirit that has existed throughout its nearly 100 years in existence. While society and

soccer have changed during this time, Bavarian United has always offered a sense of community for its members.

How We Work

We develop intelligent soccer players who, through our philosophy, methodology, curriculum, and coaching, can solve problems that the game presents with creativity, skill, speed, vision, and awareness.

What We Represent

Our values are our constant. They guide our conduct as players, coaches, parents, and supporters. Together, we foster the growth of our players into young men and women that will positively impact their communities based on our core values:

- **Belief** – We believe in ourselves and one another. We are determined. We persevere through adversity, never giving up or giving in regardless of the size of the challenge.
- **United** – We are one club. We develop every player because every player matters. We endeavor to create an inclusive and safe atmosphere where all members feel they belong in a strong community of equals. Through our commitment to each other, we believe that anything is possible, uniting our desire to win with the ability to succeed.
- **Success** – We strive to succeed as players and people on and off the field. We understand that we all have a role in contributing to the success of the Club. We play to win.
- **Confidence** – We are courageous, and we embrace challenges. We aim high and dare to dream, welcoming the pursuit of excellence and the dedication required to achieve our goals. We trust in our ability to rise to the moment.
- **Respect** – Our Bavarian United roots run deep, but we welcome all and ensure everyone feels welcomed, respected, supported, and valued. We honor those that paved the way throughout the proud history of our Club. We respect our opponents, match officials, and opposing supporters.
- **Humility** - We appreciate the opportunities we have been given. We accept our limitations and are not afraid to make mistakes, knowing that errors offer meaningful opportunities for learning and growth. We stay grounded and work hard to achieve success.
- **Accountability** – We take ownership of our actions and do not offer excuses. We play for one another and stand shoulder to shoulder. We demand top performance from our players, our staff, and ourselves.

Player Enrollment Policy

New players are always welcome at Bavarian United. The Club is committed to fielding teams at every tier and age level with multiple teams where sufficient interest and resources exist. Parents and players are advised that continued participation in any of the programs is specifically subject to the following conditions. The failure to adhere to any of the following can lead to suspension or dismissal from any of the programs at any time.

- Fostering an attitude of sportsmanship, club involvement and commitment so that your child reaps the greatest possible return on their invested time
- Prioritizing punctuality and preparedness for training and games
- Showing respect for coaches, directors, staff, board members, and game officials
- Fulfilling financial obligations

Recreational Program (U6-U15)

Rec players are placed on teams with classmates and friends. Volunteer parent coaches teach the fundamentals of soccer while placing the focus on having fun, learning the game, fitness, and fair play.

- Fall: Typically one (1) practice and one (1) game per week (September - November)
- Spring: Typically one (1) practice and one (1) game per week (April - June)
- Uniform kit included (jersey, shorts, and socks)
- Must purchase cleats, shin guards, and soccer ball
- One Friday Night Lights game at Bavarian United Soccer Complex

The cost for the *full season* is $470 with an early bird discount ($490 after June 30). The cost includes a program fee ($345) and a club fee ($125). The $125 per family club fee can be earned back after volunteering 4 or more hours with the club.

The cost for the *spring only* participation is $335. The cost includes a program fee ($210) and club fee ($125). The $125 per family club fee can be earned back after volunteering 4 or more hours with the club.

Academy Program (U8-U10)

Academy is designed for dedicated players seeking a more competitive platform to accelerate their development in a more advanced training program overseen by our professional coaching staff. Academy focuses on technical development and tactical awareness for the committed

younger player. We recognize that player development is fluid, so pool groups are formed each June during an open house for the following season.

- Fall: Two (2) practices per week + games (September - November)
- Winter: One (1) practice per week + games (January - March)
- Spring: Two (2) practices per week + games (April - June)
- Two individual development plans (IDPs) throughout the season
- Tournaments

The cost is $1,135 for U8 and $1,450 for U9 and U10. The cost includes a program fee ($960) and a club fee ($175) for U8 and a program fee ($1,275) and a club fee ($175) for U9 and U10. The $175 per player club fee can be earned back after volunteering 4 or more hours with the club. Pay in full or pay in installments.

Uniforms are *not included* in fees and must be purchased by families.

Premier Program (U11-U19)

Premier teams are for players focused on soccer and interested in continuing their development.. Emphasis is placed on tactical, high-speed training. All interested players must attend tryouts for consideration.

- Fall: Three (3) practices per week + games (September - November)
- Winter: Two (2) practice per week + games (January - March)
- Spring: Three (3) practices per week + games (April - June)
- Two individual development plans (IDPs) throughout the season
- Tournaments

The cost is $2,035-$2,325. The cost includes a $175 per player club fee, which can be earned back after volunteering 4 or more hours with the club. Pay in full or pay in installments.

Uniforms, coach travel, and personal travel costs are *not included* in fees and must be paid by families. Reimbursing coaches for travel (mileage, lodging, and meals) will add an estimated $50-$150.

National Program | MLS NEXT Academy Division (U11-U19)

MLS NEXT Academy Division includes regular season play, regional and national events, coaching education, and talent ID programs in the winter and spring. MLS NEXT Academy

Division strengthens player pathways, optimizes club resources, and elevates the overall level of competition.

- Fall: Three (3) practices per week + games (September - November)
- Winter: Two (2) practice per week + games (January - March)
- Spring: Three (3) practices per week + games (April - June)
- Two individual development plans (IDPs) throughout the season
- Tournaments

The cost is $2,410-$2,670. The cost includes a $175 per player club fee, which can be earned back after volunteering 4 or more hours with the club. Pay in full or pay in installments.

Uniforms, coach travel, and personal travel costs are *not included* in fees and must be paid by families. Reimbursing coaches for travel (mileage, lodging, and meals) will add an estimated $300-$500.

National Program | MLS NEXT Homegrown Division (U13-U19)

MLS NEXT is one of the top youth soccer platforms in the United States. Teams travel regionally and nationally and train for 10 months. This program is for the most serious and dedicated soccer players fully committed to their development.

- Fall: Four 4 practices per week + games (September - November)
- Winter: Three (3) practice per week (January - March)
- Spring: Four (4) practices per week + games (April - June)
- Tournaments
- Two individual development plans (IDPs) throughout the season

The cost is $3,475 and includes a $175 per player club fee, which can be earned back after volunteering 4 or more hours with the club. Pay in full or pay in installments.

Uniforms, coach travel, and personal travel costs are *not included* in fees and must be paid by families. Reimbursing coaches for travel (mileage, lodging, and meals) will add an estimated $500-$750.

Refund Policy

Academy/Premier/National Program, Camp & Clinics, and Events Refund Policy

Bavarian United Soccer Club **does not offer refunds**. Under extraordinary circumstances (e.g. season ending injury, family relocation out of the region), partial refunds or credits may be granted at the discretion of the Bavarian United President in consultation with the Executive Director.

Recreational Refund Policy

- **Full-year Rec players**: Players withdrawing prior to August 1 of the fall season will be issued a full refund minus Bavarian United administrative fees of $125. Players withdrawing between August 1 and August 31 will be issued a refund of half the program dues. After August 31, no refunds will be issued.
- **Spring-only Rec players**: Players signing up on or after January 1 and withdrawing prior to March 1 of the spring-only season will be issued a full refund minus Bavarian United administrative fees of $125. Players withdrawing between March 1 and March 31 will be issued a refund of half the registration dues. After March 31, no refunds will be issued.

Financial Aid

Bavarian United has a limited amount of funds available to provide need-based financial assistance to rostered Bavarian United players. To apply for financial aid, submit a completed application, prior year federal tax forms, such as Federal 1040, for income and household size verification. The deadline for application submission is **July 1** for Rec, Academy, Premier, and National programs for elementary school players, middle school players, and high school girls. Applications for Premier and National high school boys' programs will be accepted on an ongoing basis, however priority will be given to those submitted before the **November 15** submission deadline. Need-based financial aid applicants will receive an application decision approximately two weeks after the application deadline.

Volunteering

Bavarian United relies on volunteers to keep membership and playing costs affordable for all families. Opportunities are available throughout the season and include recreational coach, assistant recreational coach, team manager, concession stand, festivals, fall and spring clean-up, open house, tryouts, subcommittees, social media content, and more.

Refund Amounts

- Recreational Program: $125 per family (club dues)
- Academy/Premier/National Programs: $175 per player (club dues)

Required Hours

- Recreational Program: 4 hours per family
- Academy/Premier/National Programs: 4 hours per player

Refund Policy

- Families with multiple players must complete the required hours for each player to qualify
- Partial refunds are not issued
- Coaches, team managers, board members, and subcommittee members must complete WYSA Risk Management prior to receiving a refund
- Refunds are processed twice per season, typically in December and July, and will not be issued after July for the completed season

How Club Dues Refunds Are Issued

The refund method is based on the timing of your most recent payment:

- If your last payment was made more than 90 days ago, you will receive a check by mail
- If you have an active payment plan, your remaining installments will be adjusted to reflect the refund
- If your last payment was made within the last 90 days, a refund will be issued to your credit card on file
- Unique payment configurations may receive a combination of the above

All refunds are tracked and reconciled manually by the administrative staff to ensure accuracy and proper record-keeping. If you believe you've completed your volunteer hours but have not received your refund, please contact us at info@bavarianunited.com.

Uniforms

The player uniform is included in Recreational costs and is *not included* in Academy, Premier, or National costs. Competitive players must order and pay for their uniforms.

- As part of enrollment players participating in the Rec program will receive a Bavarian United uniform of shirt, shorts, and socks.
- Academy, Premier, and National uniforms follow a two-year cycle, 2025-2026 and 2026-2027.
- The club assigns player numbers as part of our ordering process to avoid duplicate numbers across the various age groups. **No exceptions.**

Bavarian United SC Program	Mandatory Uniform
Recreational (U6 - U14/15)	Included
Academy (U8 - U10)	Not included
Premier (U11-U19)	Not included
National (U13-U19)	Not included

Travel Expenses

U.S. Travel

Program fees **do not** include travel. Families are responsible for their own travel costs and for their share of coach and director travel, including airfare, mileage, parking, lodging, rental vehicles, and meals.

Players who commit to a team that travels to away tournaments or league games are expected to be available on those dates.

Estimated travel costs per player, per season:

- Premier Program: $50-$150
- National Program, MLS Next Academy Division: $300-$500
- National Program, MLS Next Homegrown Division: $500-$750

International Travel

It is our goal to provide an international travel experience for club members each spring as part of our development philosophy we may encourage international team travel.

Individual Player Development

Individual player development (IDP) is a document to review individual player development initiatives or targets twice per year, once at the end of the fall season and once prior to open house or tryouts.

Recreational

- No player evaluations.

Academy, Premier, & National | U8-U19

- Written player IDP will be sent to players electronically.
- Coaches will supplement written player evaluations by offering scheduled in-person or electronic meetings with the player and parent/guardian to review the evaluation.
- Parents/Guardians must be present within sight or hearing distance.
- Two individual development plans (IDPs) throughout the season.

Code of Conduct

Code of Conduct | Player

Bavarian United has a proud tradition in the soccer community, including many national titles and amateur club success in the adult ranks, as well as thriving youth programs for younger players. The Club strives for continued success, which is defined by team and individual player excellence and, importantly, sportsmanship, dignity, and respect for the game.

Our players, coaches, families, and fans are ambassadors of the Bavarian United to the rest of the soccer community. The following Code of Conduct is a common sense set of guidelines and club expectations. Our goal is that all of you, as Bavarian United ambassadors, demonstrate unparalleled sportsmanship and excellence in soccer. Our club's reputation, perhaps our most valued asset, is dependent on the participation, and cooperation of all persons involved with the club to enhance our reputation through the thoughtful adherence to these guidelines.

Upon accepting, a player is expected to participate in all activities of his/her team. Players acknowledge that attending practice and training sessions as well as league games is crucial in

the development process, and therefore attendance is considered important. All players agree that they will comply with all club policies and will not:

- Use controlled or illegal substances
- Use tobacco or vaping products
- Carry or use weapons
- Commit any act of vandalism
- Commit theft
- Tamper with property
- Engage in prohibited sexual activity
- Engage in criminal conduct
- Use abusive or insulting language
- Engage in harassment based upon race, religion, or national origin
- Commit sexual abuse (includes contact behaviors and non-contact behaviors)
- Commit physical abuse
- Commit emotional abuse (includes bullying, harassment, and hazing)

Code of Conduct | Practice and Games

- **Come with a properly inflated soccer ball**
- Arrive dressed a minimum of 45 minutes prior to the game or based coach direction
- Greet staff and teammates upon arrival at practice or games with a handshake
- Follow coach and club guidelines regarding attire and equipment
- Notify coaches of attendance for each training session and game in the PlayMetrics app.

Code of Conduct | Parent

The Bavarian United Parent Code of Conduct aligns with The Sideline Project Take the Pledge from Soccer Parenting. Youth sports belong to the players.

- I pledge to honor the youth sports experience of the players with supportive, not distracting, behavior.
- I pledge to eliminate hostile behavior targeted towards players, coaches, parents, and most notably referees.
- I pledge to honor players, to respect referees, and to Make Youth Sports Better.
- No coaching from the sideline (your player or any other player)
- Consume alcoholic beverages in a respectful manner in the appropriate location.

Referee Abuse Prevention Policy

Effective March 1, 2025, U.S. Soccer implemented an updated Referee Abuse Prevention Policy (Policy 531-9). The revised policy provides clearer definitions of physical and non-physical abuse and introduces stronger suspension penalties for reported incidents of referee abuse. For a full understanding of the disciplinary consequences, please refer to the penalty overview outlining applicable sanctions and suspension guidelines.

Key Takeaways

- Soccer should be a safe environment for everyone, and protecting those who serve the game is a shared responsibility.
- Physical and non-physical abuse are unacceptable and will not be tolerated at any level of play.
- Disciplinary actions may include game-based suspensions, time-based suspensions, or a combination of both, depending on the severity and circumstances.
- Players, coaches, and spectators are strongly encouraged to report any instances of abuse.

Zero Tolerance Policy

Bavarian United is committed to maintaining a competitive and daily developmental environment free from all forms of discrimination, including harassment, on the basis of any legally protected status.

Bavarian United has a zero-tolerance policy for abuse or misconduct. Accordingly, Bavarian United does not permit any form of harassment, discrimination, or intimidation on account of race, skin color, ethnic, national or social origin, gender, disability, language, religion, sexual orientation, age, marital status, ancestry, citizenship, veteran's status, pregnancy, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law.

This policy also prohibits harassment on the basis of the protected status of an individual's relatives, friends or associates. Bavarian United is also committed to maintaining a competition and daily developmental environment free from all forms of sexual abuse, sexual misconduct, emotional misconduct, physical misconduct, bullying and hazing.

The Bavarian United Code of Conduct is binding on all members, including its players, parents, coaches, club and team administrators, directors, individuals traveling as a member of a team delegation, and any individual affiliated Bavarian United.

Disciplinary Action

Bavarian United reserves the right to take appropriate action based on any infraction of the Club Handbook at its sole and absolute discretion. Violations of the Club Handbook that take place off the complex but while players are registered members of the Club are subject to review and could result in disciplinary action.

Image Waiver

All participants agree they are bound by and will execute the Bavarian United Photo, Audio and Video Consent, Permission and Release during the registration process.

Questions and Concerns

At times, questions and issues will come up that cannot be answered or dealt with at the team level. If an issue arises, the matter should first be addressed to the team coach. If the issue is not resolved by the team coach, please the following chain of communication: