



Q&A: Transition to the Competitive League

How and when do players move from recreational programs to the competitive league?

Players in the recreational league can transition into our development program or move directly into the competitive league, depending on age and skill level. For the competitive league, players should have the attention and desire to focus at practices and work on their skills.

Some players seek competition and for others the best pathway is our recreational programs. Each player is different and CCU strives to offer an opportunity for everyone. See the CCU Player Pathway (below) to see a player's progression through the club.

How much soccer experience does my player need to join the competitive league?

At the younger ages, most players come from our recreational league or development programs and find it an easy transition. Some players may only have previous experience from camps but are able to pick up the skills quickly. It is highly recommended to have some soccer experience when registering for the competitive league.

Age Groups – birth year vs school grade

A big change between the rec and competitive leagues is *age groups for the competitive league are based on birth year (vs rec is based on school grade)*. This means that most teams consist of players from multiple grades.

Competitive age groups for the 2025-26 soccer year (which begins Aug.1). Note: U8 and U9 play together in the U9 age group.

2025-26 Soccer Year (Aug 2025-July 2026)	
Age Group	Birth Year
U8	2018
U9	2017
U10	2016
U11	2015

Can I request to play with a friend?

Team placement is based on information from tryouts, so friend requests are not available.

What age to move to competitive?

U8 is the youngest age group in the competitive league. U8 and U9 players are combined and play at the U9 age group. U7 players interested in the competitive league must get approval from the Director of Coaching to register.

Once age eligible, players can move to the competitive program at any age. We have players starting the competitive league at U8-U13 and we also have U15 players join the competitive league for the first time. However, generally players move over between U8-U13.

When are the Competitive Seasons?

CC United has Fall and Summer Competitive Seasons.

- Fall Season is for ages U8-U14. Fall begins mid-August running through mid-October
- Summer Season is for ages U8-U19. The summer season includes winter training which begins mid-November or January (depending on age and level of play) and runs through mid-July.

Are there tryouts?

The club holds tryouts to gather information on your child's current skill level and to help form teams for the upcoming seasons. Tryouts are held:

- U9-U12 Fall Team Tryouts – mid-July
- U9-U12 Summer Team Tryouts – mid-October
- U13-U19 Fall/Summer Team Tryouts – mid-July

The club uses information gathered from tryouts to help place your child on a team that meets their current skill level. If your child cannot make the tryout date, they are placed on an introductory level team.

Does everyone make a team?

The club makes every attempt to place a player on a team. If a player attends tryouts and does not appear ready for the competitive league, another program will be suggested for that player.

Teams and skill levels

The number of teams in an age group and skill levels are based on the number of registrations and the group's overall level of play. Players are placed on a team based on information gathered at tryouts. The club's goal is to place each player at the best level to promote development and enjoyment of the game.

For U9 and U10 ages, the club may field 1-2 higher level teams with the remaining teams created with equal skill levels.

Can I join after tryouts?

Yes. The club continues to add players to teams as long as there is space on the roster. If registering after tryouts, the club assigns players to a lower-level team and they will be evaluated during the first practices of the season. Adjustments are made mid-season if necessary.

What is the time commitment?

Families can expect 2-3 soccer events per week during the Fall season. Winter training can range from 1-3 contacts per week. During the spring and summer, teams can expect 2-5 contacts/week throughout the season (depending on the age and level of play).

Outline of the Fall and Summer seasons.

	Fall	Summer	
Tryouts	U9-U12 mid-July U13-U14 mid-July*	U9-U12 mid-October U13-U19 mid-July*	*Mid-July tryouts form BOTH fall and summer teams for the U13-U14 age groups
Season Dates	Mid-August through mid-October	Mid-Nov. or January through mid-July*	*U9/10 teams begin training in January. U11+ Cities teams start in January. U11+ State/Regional levels start mid-November.
Ages	U8-U14*	U8-U19	*There is no U15-U19 soccer offered in the fall as most players participate in high school teams
League Game Dates	Sept. – mid-October	May – Early July	
# Games	6	10	
Game Days	Games played on Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays	Games played Monday-Thursday*	*Summer League games can be rescheduled to any day of the week but initial schedule is Mon.-Thurs.
Tournaments	1 + end of season	2-3 + end of season	
# Practices per week	2 practices / week	2-3 practices / week*	*Frequency depends on time of season, age and skill level

How much travel is involved?

Outdoor practices take place on fields in Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, and Victoria. Indoor winter training takes place at the District 112 Dome and gym facilities.

Games: Half of the games are played at home and half on the opponent's field. Families are responsible for getting their player to games. At younger ages, the league attempts to create divisions based on the location of clubs. Examples of opposing clubs are Edina, Minnetonka, Waconia but can be clubs as far as Lakeville, Blaine, St. Michael, etc.

Tournaments: Younger age groups register for local tournaments that do not require overnight travel. As the teams get older, they may elect to sign up for an overnight tournament.

My child plays basketball/hockey/dance, can they still sign up for soccer?

Yes! We have many multi-sport players. Players are encouraged to make as many practices as possible and the club offers the option of practicing with other teams if a different time fits their schedule. We ask that you let your coach know ahead of time if your child cannot make a practice.

What is the financial commitment?

Fees vary by age and level of play. Total financial commitment includes:

- Club fees
- Uniform Kit
- Tournament fees
- Other fees – additional team expenses, travel expenses/lodging/meals

Fall 2025 club fees are \$260 and Summer club fees start at \$700 and range to \$1500 depending on age and level of play. Please visit our **Summer Competitive** page for details on fees and payment plan options.

Does the club offer financial assistance?

Yes, the club offers financial assistance to families that qualify. Please visit our website (About CCU/Financial Aid) for more details and how to apply.

Uniforms

The club runs on a 2-year uniform cycle, meaning the same style is worn for 2 years. Depending on when you join the competitive league, your child may wear the same uniform anywhere from one season to two years. The club will let you know where we are at in the cycle when you place your order. The current uniform kit costs \$170. Players must provide their own cleats, shin guards, and soccer ball.

Tournament Fees

Each team is responsible for their own tournament fees. Fees are split equally amongst all players. Fees per tournament can range from \$40-60 and are paid directly to the team manager.

Ready to register?

Registration is through your PlayMetrics account. If you still have questions about the competitive league, or any of our programs, reach out to info@ccunitedsoccer.com and a member of our staff will get in touch.



CC United Player Pathway

Recreational League

Stay close to home - learn the game of soccer in a fun and supportive environment. Ages PreK - 8th grade.



4-7 YO

7-8 YO

9-10 YO

11-12 YO

13-14 YO

15-19 YO

Development

Bridge to the competitive league.



Competitive League

Year round options for all levels of competition that focus on developing a player's passion for the game.



Opportunity for every player™

CCU PATHWAY

OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERY PLAYER™

CC United helps kids score the goals that matter with top soccer programs designed for development and play at every level—from community to competitive.



So much more

CC United also offers scholarship support for qualified families as well as additional options including:

- Progressive Technical Training & Goalie Training for competitive leagues
- Referee Training in partnership with The Referee Advocates
- Youth Coach & Volunteer Coach trainings and support
- Recreational & Competitive Summer Camps
- Adult League & Women's Summer League



WE LEAD BY EXAMPLE

PURPOSE

To inspire local sports—one player, one team, one game at a time

MISSION

Uniting players, families, and our community through personalized play and positive connections—for a lifelong love of soccer

VISION

To offer *soccer for all* with the best-in-class community club that sets the standard for non-profit sports

CCU VALUES

Champion our community first | **C**ommit to competitive development
Unite through integrity and heart

Established in 1989, CC United is a non-profit 501(c) organization that provides elite competitive and recreational programs together with top-tier, age-appropriate player, coach, and referee development. Serving Carver, Chanhassen, Chaska, Victoria, and surrounding areas, the club is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and supported by local sponsors. CC United uniquely promises **opportunity for every player™** with the only open-door policy in the state plus options for players of any age, ability, and financial status. The club welcomes Minnesotans to join in our nearly 40-year legacy of training, passion, fair play, and shared victories—both on and off the field.



MORE DETAILS
ccunitedsoccer.com