

Birth Year Change: Parent Email

Dear Union KC Families,

We want to share an important update regarding youth soccer age group alignment beginning with the 2026–27 season. U.S. Soccer and its affiliated organizations—including ECNL, Girls Academy, DPL, NPL, US Club Soccer, and US Youth Soccer—will transition from a calendar-year registration model to a school-year age group alignment (August 1 – July 31).

Union KC has been proactively preparing for this nationally driven change with a clear, player-first approach. The purpose of this shift is to better align soccer with school environments, reduce long-term roster challenges, and support healthy, long-term player development across all levels of the game.

What families can expect from Union KC:

- Clear timelines and transparent communication
- Thoughtful, development-based player placement decisions
- Ongoing support from our coaches and directors throughout the transition

This structural change does not define a player’s ability, value, or future pathway. As always, our priority remains placing each player in an environment where they are appropriately challenged, supported, and positioned to grow both on and off the field.

For your convenience we have created a page on the [Union KC](#) website for additional information and resources. We will continue to share additional details, timelines, and resources as they become available. Thank you for your continued trust as we guide our players and families through this transition.

Sincerely,

Union KC Soccer Club