Programs for the 2025-2026 Seasonal Year

Our Club

We are the East Windsor Soccer Club from East Windsor, Connecticut. We are not from East Windsor, New Jersey.

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Revision History

Version 1	5/8/25 -	This document reflects our current plan as we prepare for the fall '25 and
	5/13/25	spring '26 seasons.

Contacts

Travel Director	Alex Gazis
	alex@gazisassociates.com
	(860) 810-0803
REC Director	Bryan Kooharian
	nck023@yahoo.com
	(203) 910-5872
Club President	Joe Unsworth
	joseph.unsworth@gartner.com
	+1 (617) 913-7608
Equipment Director	Mike Bartholomew
	msbart829@yahoo.com
EWSC Board of	Click this link.
Directors	

Definitions

Seasonal Year

The <u>soccer seasonal year</u> starts on September 1 and ends on August 31 of the following year.

U Level

U stands for *under*. The age of every player on the team must be under the U level. Subtract your child's birth year from the year that the seasonal year ends to determine his/her age bracket for that seasonal

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year. Example: A player born in 2012 falls into the U14 age bracket during the 2025 – 2026 seasonal year because 2026 – 2012 = 14. This player is eligible to play on a U14 team or older but is ineligible to play on a U13 team or younger. Refer to the U.S. Youth Soccer Age Chart.

Early Childhood Soccer (birth years 2021 - 2023)

<u>U Level</u>	Birth Year	Coaches/Volunteers	Policy
U3 U4 U5	2023 2022 2021		You can consider registering your player with <u>Soccer Shots</u> or other program for ages 2-4.
	2021		EWSC does not have a program for players younger than age 5.

EWSC Coed Recreational (REC) Program (birth years 2018-2020)

U Level	Birth	Coaches/Volunteers
	Year	
U6	2020	We have a REC Director, assistant coaches, and a paid professional coach to train our REC
U7		players and to mentor our volunteers. We need volunteers to become coaches and stay with
U8		our programs as their players progress from season to season.

Registration Fee

Your registration fee includes the Fall 2025 season and the Spring 2026 season. You register once per seasonal year. The fee is \$100 by August 15, 2025, and \$150 thereafter.

Uniform

A shirt, shorts, and socks are included in the registration fee.

Objective

The emphasis is on fun and getting players to like soccer so they will stick with it year after year. Coaches teach the most basic techniques and then let the players have fun.

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Location

REC teams have their practices and games at Osborn Field, 180 S Water St, E Windsor.

Fall REC Season

There are typically practices on Mondays and Wednesdays, and games on Saturday mornings.

We usually have enough players registered in the fall to form teams so they can play games on Saturdays. We hire professional coaches to run the practices and mentor our volunteers. We always need new <u>volunteers</u> to replace those who move up to older age groups as their kids move up.

Spring REC Season

We usually have a professional coach run a weekly skills and drills clinic for about 8 weeks. If we have enough players, we can form teams and have games.

How to register for REC

Click the *Register* button and you will see the option to choose the REC program if your player is in the applicable age range.

Further Information

Bryan Kooharian is our REC director. We need volunteers for Assistant REC Director(s).

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EWSC Travel Program (birth years 2012-2017)

Registration Fee

Your registration fee includes the Fall 2025 season and the Spring 2026 season. You register once per seasonal year. The fee is \$150 by July 15, 2025, and \$250 thereafter.

Travel uniform

EWSC requires Travel players to order their uniforms through <u>We Got Soccer</u>. The Travel registration fee excludes a uniform.

If you want to use the above link later, you can find it on the **EWSC Home Page** under **Helpful Links.**

Order early to ensure you get your uniform on time.

If you are ordering a uniform for the first time, or if you want to change your jersey number, you must check with your coach for available jersey numbers (not already taken by another player). If you do not know your coach, reach out to the <u>Travel Director</u> or <u>President</u> for a list of jersey numbers that are available.

If you recently bought an EWSC uniform from We Got Soccer, you don't need to buy it again unless you need replacement parts, a larger size, or if we are changing our uniform style to a significantly different style.

Volunteers are needed

We need the next generation of <u>volunteers</u> to give something back to their community and to keep the East Windsor Soccer Club going.

Each team must have a head coach and preferably one or more assistant coaches and/or team parents.

Anyone can volunteer: Parents, guardians, students who wants to earn volunteer credit, or anyone who feels good working with youths and giving back to their community.

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No experience necessary. Our staff can help you get started.

See How to Volunteer.

Head Coach Reimbursement Policy

We say thank you to our head coaches by reimbursing them the price of one registration fee if they coach all the way through the seasonal year.

Competition

Travel is a competitive program in that teams try to win and compete for the highest standing in their respective divisions. The <u>U10</u> and younger age groups are developmental. They compete against each other, but they do not compete in the CT Cup for a statewide championship. U11 and older are eligible to enter the CT Cup but are not required to do so.

Compatibility of club soccer in parallel with school soccer

There are benefits to playing for EWSC even if you also play for East Windsor Middle School (EWMS), another school that has a soccer program, or a premier club.

- 1. School teams have practices and games on weekdays. EWSC games are played on weekends.
- 2. Players get extra playing time by playing for both EWSC and their school.
- 3. Many schools offer soccer in the fall season only. EWSC offers both fall and spring. We also try to have winter sessions if we have volunteers to supervise them.

Girls are eligible to play on boys' teams.

The rules allow girls to play on boys' teams, but boys cannot play on girls' teams. If your player is a girl who likes soccer and really wants to play, and we don't offer a girls' team in her age group, she can play on a boys' team if you and she are comfortable with that.

Number of games

Each team plays five or six *league* games in each season plus as many *friendly* games as the coaches can arrange with other clubs. League games count in the standings. Friendly games do not.

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Traveling required

About half of the games are home games. Home games are played on our premium fields at Abbe Rd. behind Scout Hall. The road games are played in the <u>Central and North Central CJSA districts</u>. Some towns are nearby such as Suffield, Windsor Locks, Windsor, East Granby, South Windsor, and Enfield. Some are farther away such as Hartford, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Rocky Hill, Cromwell, Bristol, and East Hampton. Probably only two or three games will require travel to one of the more distant towns. We play teams of comparable rank to our teams.

Fun of traveling

Parents and players find it interesting to visit other towns, meet other parents, coaches, and players; see other sights, etc.

Playing Time Expectations

We are not holding tryouts, and in lieu of tryouts, and in consideration that Travel soccer is competitive soccer, we want to manage expectations and declare that less-skilled players will receive training and opportunities to improve their skills during practices but could receive disproportionally less playing time, or no playing time, during games, depending on the game situation.

Formation of teams

Once registrations are final, we will form teams and communicate them to you in early August. *Please encourage friends to Register now so we can plan ASAP for Fall, and to avoid the late fee.

We anticipate having the following Travel teams at a minimum.

U14/U13/U12 Girls

U11 Girls

U13 Boys

U12 Boys

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U10/U11 Boys

We can potentially have more teams, such as U9 Boys, U10 Girls, or a coed U9 or U10 team that plays in the Boys league, but only if **enough players register** and only if we get **volunteers to coach them**. Read about how you can <u>use networking to gather up players and coaches to form a team</u>.

Boys' Teams

<u>U Level</u>	Birth Year	Coaches/Volunteers	Policy
U9 Boys' Division (tentative)	2017		If enough players born in 2017 are on the waitlist, we will consider forming a U9 Boys' team if we get volunteers to run it . We need a head coach and at least one assistant coach or team manager. We can also pull boys born in 2018 from REC if they are interested and qualified to play Travel. Read about how you can use networking to recruit your volunteers and players.
U11 Boys' Division	2016 2015	Nick Filipone Angela Filipone Mike Parakilas	
U12 Boys' Division	2014	Mike Ellis Victor Ontiveros	
U13 Boys' Division	2013	Mirhat Berbic	
U14 and up	2012 and older		Other soccer clubs sometimes offer teams for high school age players. You can consider that option if you want.

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Girls' Teams

U9 Girls' Division (tentative)	2017		If enough players born in 2017 are on the waitlist, we will consider forming a U9 Girls' team if we get volunteers to run it . We need a head coach and at least one assistant coach or team manager. We can also pull girls born in 2018 from REC if they are interested and qualified to play Travel. Read about how you can use networking to recruit your volunteers and players.
U11 Girls' Division	2016 2015	Katie Colbeck Jessica Hallett	
DIVISION	2013	Dave Hallett	
U10/U11			
U14 Girls'	2014	Joseph Unsworth	
Division	2013	Michael Bartholomew	
	2012		
U12/U13/U14			
U15 and up	2011		Other soccer clubs sometimes offer teams for high school age
	and		players. You can consider that option if you want.
	older		

How to register for Travel

Click the *Register Now!* button. Each player will see a *division* that encompasses his *U* Level and gender. The division is a placeholder for registration purposes. We can move players to other divisions as needed.

<u>First-time registration for players born in the U.S.A. or its territories.</u>

If this is the first time you are registering for Travel (competitive) soccer in Connecticut, please have the following ready to upload:

(1) A legible image of a **proof-of-age document** from the list below.

3115 Proof of Age. Acceptable documents establishing a player's date of birth consist of:

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- a birth certificate,
- a Uniformed Services Identification and Privilege Card issued by the uniformed services of the United States,
- a birth registration issued by an appropriate government agency,
- board of health records,
- a passport,
- an alien registration card issued by the United States Government,
- a Certificate issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service attesting to age,
- a current driver's license,
- an unexpired federal, state, or local government identification card, or
- a certification of a United States citizen born abroad issued by the appropriate government agency.

Hospital, baptismal or religious certificates will NOT be accepted. (See US Youth Soccer Rule 204)

(2) A **passport-style photo of your player's face**. This photo will appear on his/her pass and will be used by referees to verify eligibility to play.

First-time registration for players born outside of the U.S.A. or its territories.

<u>FIFA</u> rules require foreign-born players to obtain approval to play outside of their respective native countries. If your player has never registered for Travel (competitive) soccer in the U.S.A. before, you must <u>complete the International Clearance procedure to get approval</u>.

If you have already completed it in another U.S. state or territory, we can try to get your records from your former soccer club. If we cannot obtain your records, you'll have to get approval again from <u>CJSA</u>.

Please send an email to registrar.ewsc@outlook.com if your player falls into this category, so that we can get a timely head start on your International Clearance.

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Further information

Please reach out to our Travel Director, <u>Alex Gazis</u>, for more information regarding the teams we hope to have this fall. You may also reach out to our President, <u>Joe Unsworth</u>, if you have other questions.

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How to Volunteer

Descriptions of Volunteer Roles

Connecticut law requires anyone age 18 and older to complete SafeSport training and submit to a background check before he/she can be on the playing field with minors (17 and younger).

Mandatory

- Both returning volunteers and new volunteers must register once per seasonal year in the division(s) in which you are participating.
- The initial <u>SafeSport training course</u> takes about 3 hours to complete. The annual refresher course takes about 1 hour to complete.
- You must provide your driver's license info and SSN when you initiate your background check. CJSA pays for background checks. They are valid for two years.
- You must upload a photo of yourself in your profile. It must be a **passport-style photo of your face and shoulders**. That is the photo that will appear on your coach pass. The referees look at that photo to verify you are eligible to be on the field with the players.

<u>Optional</u>

- Earn a concussion awareness certificate. It can be obtained from the CDC Heads Up website
- Earn a coaching certificate.
- Earn coaching licenses if you decide to broaden your coaching career.

Procedure If You Have Already Volunteered for This Season

If you already have an account, and you have already volunteered for a role, but you need to authorize your background check and/or take a SafeSport course, then do the following:

Click on *Volunteer* as shown on p. 15.



Initiate your background check and SafeSport certification course or refresher course as shown on p. 20.

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<u>Procedure for First-Tir</u>	<u>me Volun</u>	<u>teers for</u>	This Seaso	<u>n</u>			
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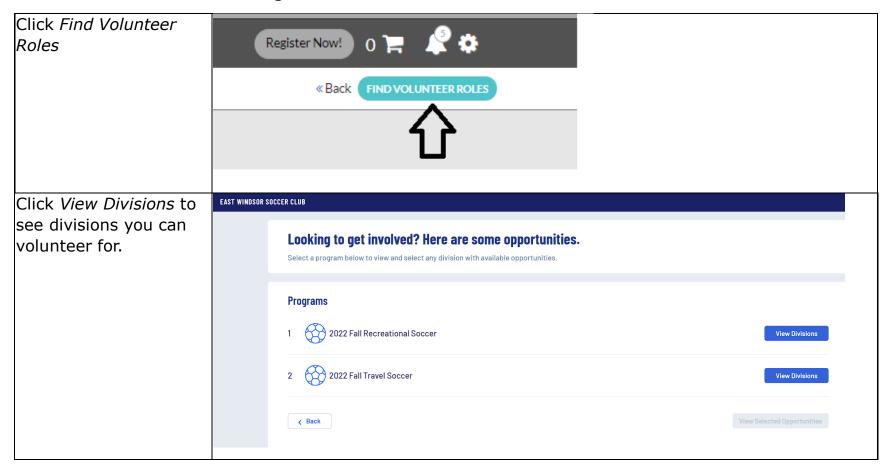
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While you are creating your account and	Position Information You can view and edit your responses to the position questions.							
entering your info, you must upload a passport-style photo	2021 Fall Travel (competitive) Societ Program Under 10- Boya							
of just your head		Contact Information						
and face. It will			Legal First Name *			Legal Last Name *		
appear on your coach's			Email Address		6	Date of Birth *		€
pass.		-	Gender*		•	Street"		
			City*	State *		ZIP*		
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Look at the menu on the left-hand side	8	My Account						
where you can choose <i>Volunteer</i> .		Calendar						
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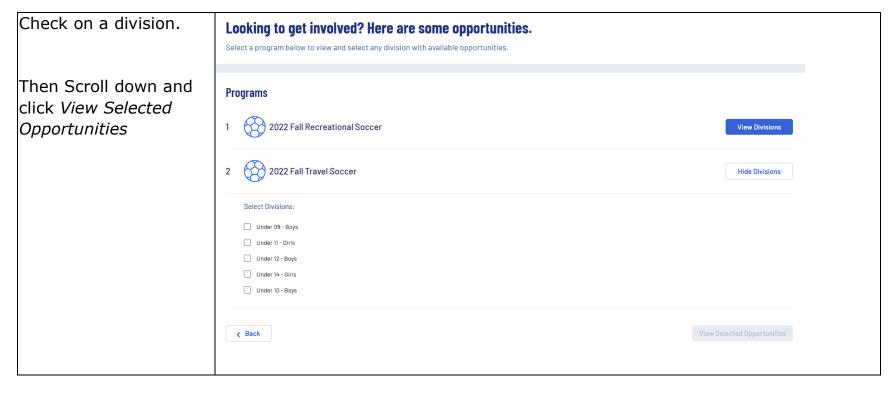
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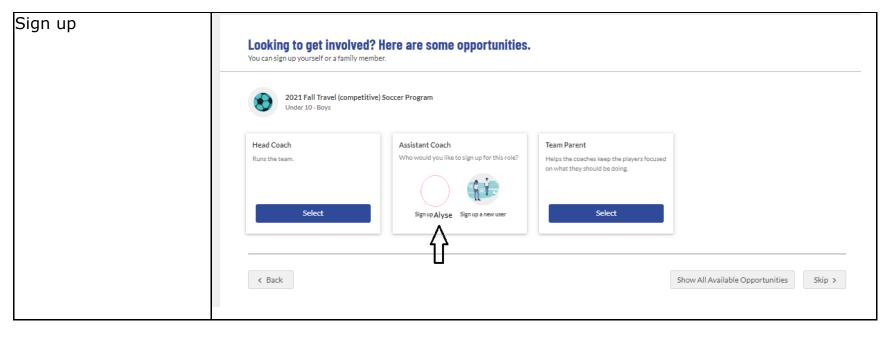
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Choose the appropriate role you are Looking to get involved? Here are some opportunities. You can sign up yourself or a family member. volunteering for, such as Head Coach, 2021 Fall Travel (competitive) Soccer Program Assistant Coach, Team Manager, or Team Head Coach Assistant Coach Team Parent Parent. Runs the team. Reports to the Head Coach, Can substitute Helps the coaches keep the players focused for the Head Coach at practices and games. on what they should be doing. Note: A team can have only one head coach. Select Select Select So, if it already has a head coach, you should not volunteer < Back Show All Available Opportunities Skip > for that role.

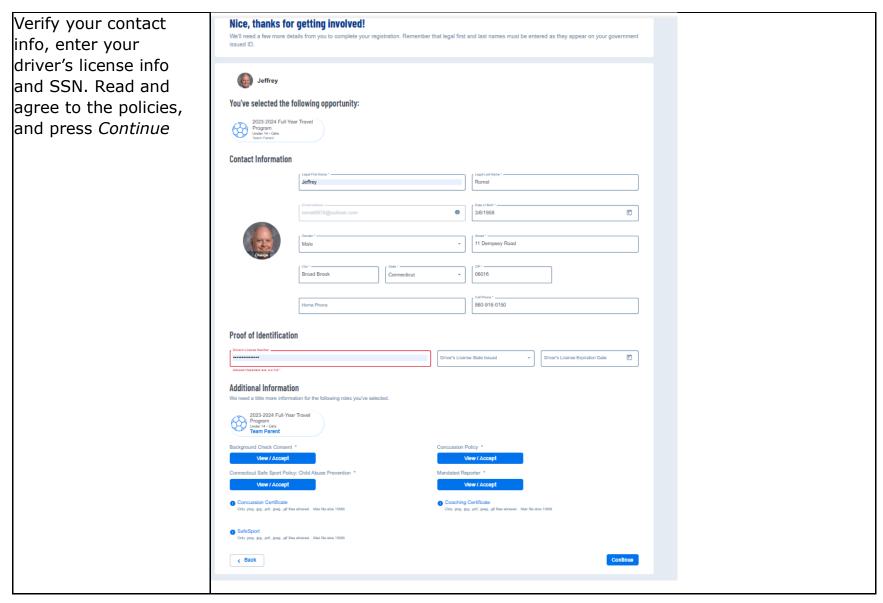
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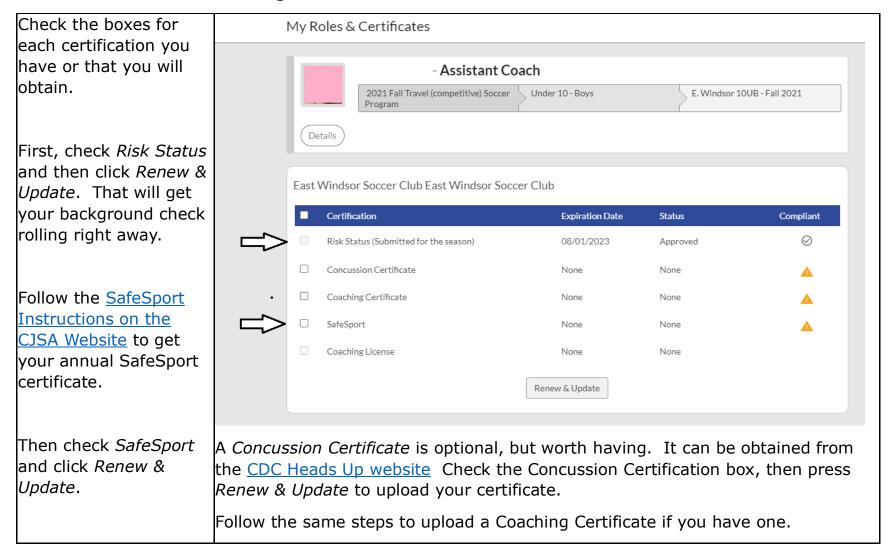
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Terms and Conditions

Parent and Player Consent and Release

I hereby:

- 1. Consent that my child can participate in EWSC Programs.
- 2. Abide by the EWSC Code of Conduct.

I understand that:

- 1. My child will play and participate after all fees are paid.
- 2. Fees paid to the club are usually nonrefundable after a player is assigned to a team.
- 3. Fees will be refunded if there is an insufficient number of players to form an ageappropriate/gender-appropriate team for my player.

EWSC Code of Conduct

Keep it all in perspective.

- 1. Players should always demonstrate **sportsmanship**.
- 2. Stay positive and upbeat during games and save the criticism for later. Everyone on the sidelines should just relax and enjoy themselves.
- 3. Youth players think they are playing to win but they are in the developmental stage of their soccer career. Gaining experience and developing skills outweigh winning and taking games too seriously.
- 4. Let the referees run the game. Respect the referees. Remember that in some cases, especially with younger age groups, the referees are beginners too. Often the referees are teenagers who recently completed many hours of training and are now earning some money. Give them a chance to develop their skills and realize they can make mistakes.
- 5. Referees are taught to have a zero-tolerance policy toward disrespectful behaviors. The number one reason why there is a shortage of referees is verbal abuse from the sidelines.

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- 6. Let the players play. Do not interfere with them during games. If you have a grievance, report it to the coach or to the EWSC President after the game. Grievances can be escalated through EWSC and CJSA.
- 7. Do not coach from the sidelines. Players are taught during practices. They have fun and apply their skills during games. Do not spoil their fun by yelling directions at them from the sidelines. Also consider that your advice might contradict what the coach has taught. Save your feedback for after the game.
- 8. Respect the coaches. They are volunteers. We are grateful for their service to the community.

Disciplinary Action

Referees are authorized to enforce proper conduct. They can eject players from games. They can eject anyone from the facility. They can ask the police for assistance in extreme cases.

The EWSC Board of Directors is authorized to enforce discipline too.

Authorization to Apply First Aid

You authorize EWSC coaching staff to perform minor first aid, such as: to clean scrapes, apply bandages, and use cold packs or ice. EWSC is authorized to call 911 for serious injuries. EWSC will share the medical insurance, preferred hospital, and emergency contact information you provided during registration.

Severe Medical Conditions

If your player has a condition that might require emergency treatment on the spot, such as a severe allergy or diabetes, EWSC requires a parent or guardian to be present at games, practices, and all other EWSC activities.

Multimedia

EWSC is a small non-profit organization, but it must protect itself, nonetheless.

EWSC may be photographing, interviewing, filming, and promoting EWSC programs, and its participants for advertising, promotional, child's achievements, or other commercial purposes. In consideration for the

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opportunity for my child's participation in EWSC, I hereby grant EWSC the right to use, adapt, modify, reproduce, distribute, publicly perform, and display my child's photograph, portrait, image, performance, visual likeness, name, nickname, signature, voice, or identifiable attributes, whether still, motion, video, digital, or in any other medium now known or later developed for the purposes of promoting EWSC and your child's achievements.

Examples: (1) Your child might appear in a photo or video that EWSC publishes on Facebook. (2) Your child might be featured on EWSC's website, such as when we publish photos of our scholarship winners.

Additionally, you acknowledge that EWSC is not responsible for photos, videos, etc. taken by spectators or others.

Playing-up

Playing-up is the term used to describe when a younger player plays on a competitive Travel team that is open to older players. The younger player may or may not be at a disadvantage depending on his/her size and skill compared to the sizes and skills of teammates and opponents. Small towns, such as East Windsor, often need some younger players to play up so that there will be enough players to form complete teams. For example, we might have a boys' Travel team with ages 7 and 8 playing together on a U9 team, and a girls Travel team with ages 10, 11, and 12 playing together on a U13 team. The opponents we play often find themselves in the same situation. If you are uncomfortable with your child playing up, you can ask us to withdraw your registration and give you a refund.

CDC Head Up

I acknowledge that I shall follow <u>CDC guidelines</u> to monitor my player for symptoms of a concussion and that I shall respond accordingly.

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Suggested Reading

Blank, D. (2012). Soccer IQ. Lexington, KY.

Blank, D. (2013). Soccer IQ vol. 2.

Blank, D. (2014). Happy Feet.

Blank, D. (2015). Possession.

Blank, D. (2017). High Pressure.

Latham, A. (2015). Soccer Smarts For Kids. Berkley, CA: Rockridge Press.

Sheldon, M. (2017, Aug. 24). Soccer as a Lifetime Sport: US Youth Soccer.

Snow, S. (2017, Aug. 31). <u>Skills School – Fundamental Ball Skills: Key Coaching Points of Each Major Technique in Soccer: US Youth Soccer Coaching Education Department.</u>

Whitehead, S. (1991). The Complete Book of Coaching Youth Soccer. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.

CJSA and U.S. Youth Soccer

Explore the <u>CJSA website</u> and the <u>U.S. Youth Soccer Website</u>, and browse through the <u>CJSA Bylaws</u> and the <u>U.S. Youth Soccer Bylaws</u> if you're interested in knowing more about the big picture of youth soccer in Connecticut and the U.S.A.

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