



Information for prospective

Henderson County Soccer Association (HSA)

CHALLENGE players and parents

Henderson County Soccer Association Mission Statement:

HSA's mission is to be able to provide the means for the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the county's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition.

Henderson County Soccer Association's Challenge Division Goals:

- To form Challenge level soccer teams that can compete with teams from associations across Western North Carolina by helping each player develop technically and tactically
- To provide the highest quality leadership, coaching, and resources in order to provide an environment that will allow players to reach their maximum potential in the sport of soccer in a competitive environment
- To promote player commitment, character development, responsibility, self-confidence, team work, and respect for all others

Player Commitment:

Player commitment to Challenge with Henderson County Soccer Association means that the player views training as an important part of their individual development and that of their team. Once selected for a team, players are expected to fulfill their commitment to themselves, to their team and to HSA for the duration of the year.

Parental Commitment:

A player's commitment to Challenge-level soccer with HSA can only be accomplished with Parental Commitment. Parental Commitment is essential to ensure that the Mission and Goals of HSA Challenge Division are met.

Parents are expected to fulfill their commitment to their son or daughter by:

- Ensuring their preparation and attendance for all training sessions, games, and team events
- Providing positive reinforcement to all players, before, during, and after training sessions and games

Parents are expected to fulfill their commitment to HSA by:

- Supporting Henderson County Soccer Association fund-raising efforts
- Fulfilling all financial obligations to Henderson County Soccer Association in a timely manner
- Being positive representatives of HSA at all games, tournaments and team events

Seasons and Training:

HSA is a member of the Western North Carolina Challenge League (WNCCL). Challenge-level teams play both a Fall and Spring season. If selected to a team, the player is expected to play both seasons. Each season lasts around 10 weeks with most games scheduled on the weekends. Teams play between 7-11 games per season, meaning there are usually that many "game" weekends. A team may also choose to attend any number of tournaments during its season, usually within the state of North Carolina.

Players are required to attend a minimum of two 90-minute team training sessions a week and are encouraged to attend any additional weekly skills sessions if offered. Players will be offered the chance to attend a team camp prior to the opening of their season, as well as any winter and/or summer training opportunities as well. These additional training opportunities are optional. There is no guaranteed amount of playing time at the Challenge level.

Competitive Tryouts:

Any player is welcome to participate in competitive tryouts scheduled in May and early June with HSA. Tryouts typically consist of two 90-minute sessions on consecutive days. Players are encouraged to attend both sessions.

How Challenge teams are formed:

HSA holds open tryouts every year to form teams from soccer players that are capable and committed. The average team has 15 - 18 players on their roster (U11 & U12 teams average 11 - 13 players). HSA coaches and trainers make all decisions on team selection. Unless excused by the Director of Coaching, every player must tryout in his or her true age group. Players will only be assigned to an older age group team for player development reasons, not for convenience, and these are exceptions. After the first team has been selected, HSA may form additional teams in any age group where enough challenge level players are available. Existing teams may select new players. Any returning players are not automatically protected by their current team status and must regain the position on the team through the tryout process. New teams may be added each year providing enough qualified players are available to form a competitive team. Likewise, HSA may not form a team if an age group does not provide enough players to form a competitive team.

Notification of Selection:

HSA will notify via e-mail all players who have been selected, not selected or those to be asked to attend a supplemental tryout at a later date. All e-mails will be sent as soon as possible after the final tryout date. It is very important that you let us know if you will accept a position, if offered, by the final tryout date. If you are undecided, please contact us. An HSA representative will help you with any questions you might have about the program.

Fees:

Fees for HSA Challenge are \$250 per season, Fall and Spring. These fees do not include tournament and camp fees. Uniforms are purchased online and cost \$125.