

Daniel Island Soccer Academy Program

Attitude and Commitment

Ages 8 -11 years old as of July 31st

The Academy Program is designed to support and guide players who wish to make the transition from recreational to competitive soccer.

- Designed for more technically advanced U10 - U12 recreational players.
- Provides training for players who have a strong desire to increase technical skills.
- Provides training for players who want to learn more about tactical aspects of the game.
- The Academy is not designed for the casual player.

Joining a Team

Players interested in participating within the Academy Program must be evaluated every year before a decision will be made regarding player placement on a team.

Training

The most important aspect of The Academy Program is training.

- Professional coaches train each team.
- Technical and tactical training provided 2-3 times per week in 1.5 hour sessions.
- Players are expected to work at home on basic technical skills and fitness.
- Players must be committed to practice because the Academy program players are more advanced than recreational players, and at this age with the correct training so much individual progress can be made.

Games, Tournaments and Travel

- U11-U12 games consist of eight players per team competing in two thirty-minute halves on an eighty by fifty yard field.
- Games for U8-U10 games consist of six players per team competing in two twenty-five minute halves on a 66X42 yard field.

Games are held locally or in other cities, such as Columbia, Atlanta, Charlotte and Greenville.

- Teams typically participate in 3 fall and 3 spring tournaments

Academy Pre-Season Soccer Camp

The Academy offers a preseason elite summer camp at Wingate University; in addition to a local camp for those wanting to stay in Charleston.

- Main focus is soccer with an emphasis on team building and conditioning
- Players are coached by professional coaches

Fees

- The Academy Program fee is \$800 if paid in full, and \$900 via monthly installments. A \$150 registration fee is due by June 6, 2009.
- Team Fees are in addition to Club fees and are typically \$200 -\$300 per year, to cover tournament application fees, coach's travel expenses, and other team expenses.
- The Academy preseason elite summer camp will be held at Wingate University. Please register your child online, www.wingatesoccer.com. Players and their families are responsible for their own travel costs.

Frequently Asked Questions

Joining a Team

Q: What is a “pool”?

A: Some Academy teams are pools. A pool is a group of about 20 players that trains together. For games, the pool players are split into groups to play at their appropriate level. The player pool is determined by the coaches and is not rostered unless traveling to tournaments.

Q: Can I still be a “team parent” for my child’s team?

A: Academy teams rely on parents to fill volunteer jobs as *team managers, team photographers and other duties assigned by the team manager*. **Team managers** are responsible for maintaining team records, tournament registration and fees and communicating information to the team.

Training

Q: Do all teams train on Daniel Island?

A: Yes. Academy teams will train on Daniel Island.

Q: On which days do teams practice?

A: Academy teams practice will be determined by the coaches.

Q: Are there ways I can be involved with coaching my player?

A: No. the professional staff trains all teams.

Tournaments and Travel

Q: Does every away game require a hotel stay?

A: No. For some games, players ride up in the morning and return that evening.

Q: Do teams travel together on a bus to away games?

A: Players are responsible for their own transportation and lodging for away games.

Q: Do all players have to stay in the same hotel?

A: Yes, the club administration arrange for out of town accommodations for the team. Staying with your team enhances camaraderie among teammates and facilitates easy communication about any changes on game day. The coaches prefer that all players stay at the same hotel.

Academy Pre-Season Soccer Camp

Q: Is the preseason soccer camp mandatory?

A: The academy encourages all players to participate in the preseason camp. Soccer camp is a great way for players to prepare for the upcoming season. In addition, it provides an opportunity for players to get to know other players on their team.

Q: Are all fees due at the beginning of the season?

A: No. Only the \$150 registration fee is due at the time of registration. Academy fees are usually paid monthly throughout the program year (July – June) and are due by the 15th of each month. The monthly installments will be automatically drafted.

Commitments

Financial

Upon accepting the position offered on an academy team, the parents are responsible for the following DISA fees.

- Training Fee of \$800 (in full) and \$900 (in installments)
- Registration fee of \$150
- Additional team fees, typically \$200-\$300 per year. This pays for tournament application fees, coach's travel expenses, and other team expenses.

Training

- Arrive on time for practice.
- Attend every practice.
- Practice at home on basic technical skills.

Parent Commitment

- Parents are asked to support their coaches and the academy program by ensuring their child attends training as listed above.
- Parents are asked to represent DISA in a positive manner with correct sideline behavior and to set a good example for their player.
- Academy parents will be asked to volunteer for team duties.

****Please note these guidelines are subject to change at the discretion of the coaching staff.*