

## Methuen Youth Soccer – Travel Team Information & Tryout Schedule Spring 2018 Tryouts for Fall 2018/Spring 2019 Teams

### ***Basic Information***

Travel Soccer is the next level up from the In-Town recreational league. This level provides for a higher level of competitive soccer. Methuen is affiliated with the Essex county Youth Soccer Association, which is comprised of 30 individual cities/towns. The age groups are G4, G6 and G8. There are multiple levels of play within Essex County. Teams are scheduled to play 8 games in the Fall and 8 games in the Spring (4 home and 4 away). All regularly scheduled travel games are held on Saturdays. Away games are within the borders of Essex County.

***Each player must tryout every year. No child is automatically placed on a certain team.***  
Team assignments are for one full year, Fall/Spring.

**The In-Town recreational league is for the U5 through U13 age groups. There is no In-Town program for Eight Graders. We highly encourage current Seventh Graders to try out for placement. An attempt will be made to place all players age U14 (G8) and higher on a travel team. Their placement will depend on their travel tryout ratings.**

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION – MUST READ AND CONFIRM WITH PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE**

#### ***Player Commitment***

Playing any sport at a higher level requires an extra effort. This effort requires: devotion to the practice it takes to develop skill, the hard work and dedication it takes to hone those skills, the motivation it takes to master those skills and most importantly the commitment the children and their parents make to the other players and parents. **Each player is expected to play in both the Fall and the Spring seasons of the soccer year.** Travel teams typically schedule two 1.5-hour practices per week and attendance is mandatory. A major difference between In-Town and Travel soccer is the level of competition.

We are not asking that children choose soccer as their only sport. However, we are asking that both the child and parents make a serious commitment to travel soccer. If a child participates in multiple sports/activities at the same time, travel soccer should not be considered any less important than the other sports/activities. *Arrangements can be made with your coach to accommodate for other sports/activities on a case-to-case basis.*  
*Every effort should be made to treat all sporting activities equally.*

- **Attendance at all games is mandatory.** Excuses from this requirement include previously communicated commitments, such as family, religious or school events, illness or unforeseeable emergencies.
- Travel teams practice twice per week. **Attendance at both practices is expected from every player with a minimum of one practice per week being mandatory.**
- **The team head coach must inform the Travel Director if a player misses more than three consecutive *unexcused* practices or one game. A review and possible action (i.e. less playing time or removal from the team without refund) may be administered.**
- If a child abandons a travel team after the roster has been administered (or mid-season), he/she is no longer eligible to play for the Methuen Youth Soccer Travel Program going forward.

Methuen Youth Soccer Association's Tryout Guidelines, Player and Coach Selection and Other Important Policies and Procedures for G4, G6 & G8 can be found on [www.methuensoccer.org](http://www.methuensoccer.org)

All Methuen Parents, Players, Coaches and Spectators **MUST** conduct themselves properly. Improper and irresponsible behavior to teammates, coaches, parents, officials or opposing teams is cause for disciplinary action with removal from the team and/or suspension from further participation.

***Playing on a travel team is a privilege and not a right.***

## **Tryouts**

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The tryout process is the most important part of the selection process. We have put together a process based on years of experience and input from our own coaches and from other town leagues. No system is perfect and without flaws.

A player will receive a total of four ratings for their tryout score. These include an on-field game observation (when possible), structured skills observations, 3v3 and 5v5 practice formats and a coach's rating. The first four ratings will be used to compute a composite score to place the player in their ranking. The coach's rating will be used as a comparison to the composite. If there is an apparent discrepancy between the two, a review will take place to fairly evaluate the player.

### **The Scheduled Travel Tryout Dates for the 2018/2019 Teams:**

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Birth Dates Born on or After</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>G4</b> Boys and Girls	1/1/2008	MKS Fields	<b>Sunday, May 6</b>	4:00 Check-in 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.
<b>G6</b> Boys and Girls <b>G8</b> Goalies	1/1/2006	Hampshire Road Fields	<b>Monday, May 14</b>	5:30 Check-in 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
<b>G8</b> Boys and Girls <b>G6</b> Goalies	1/1/2004	Hampshire Road Fields	<b>Wednesday, May 16</b>	5:30 Check-in 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

## **PARENTS MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR THE DURATION OF THE TRY-OUT**

**All children who tryout may not wear uniforms of any type.**

**NOTE: If a player is unable to attend the tryout, email to [traveldirector@methuensoccer.org](mailto:traveldirector@methuensoccer.org) explaining the reason dated no later than the day prior to the player's tryout date.**

### **How we Build our Teams**

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For G4 teams is a combination of grade 3 and 4 players; G6 teams are a combination of grade 5 and 6 players and for the G8 teams are a combination of grade 7 and 8 players. We will select the teams based on each player's composite score and coach selection criteria. G4 teams play 7v7, G6 teams play 9v9 per, and G8 teams play 11v11.

### **Additional Team Information**

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If your child is not placed on a team, and wishes to continue in the sport and is Grade 7 or lower, you must re-register your child in the "In-Town" Recreational League prior to August 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Zero Tolerance Policies and Parent's Code of Conduct**

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Inappropriate conduct by parents and other spectators has become an increasing problem for youth sport organizations. Methuen Youth Soccer Association has adopted the "Parent's Code of Conduct". This code goes beyond our existing Zero Tolerance On Officials Policy and our Zero Tolerance - Physical Abuse Policy and is located in the Parent Handbook and can be accessed via [www.methuensoccer.org](http://www.methuensoccer.org) It is your responsibility to read, understand and abide by this policy.

### **Registration**

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**ALL PLAYERS DESIRING TO PLAY TRAVEL MUST REGISTER ONLINE BY JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> AS A TRAVEL PLAYER. IF NOT REGISTERED BY JUNE 1<sup>st</sup> YOUR CHILD WILL BE WAITLISTED UNTIL REGISTRATION AND FULL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED.**

**IF NOT SELECTED FOR TRAVEL A REFUND WILL BE PROCESSED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ANY LATE FEES CHARGED.**

### **Contacts**

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Questions regarding the Travel Tryouts may be directed to Amanda LaFlamme via e-mail at [traveldirector@methuensoccer.org](mailto:traveldirector@methuensoccer.org)

**Travel Team Tryout Form ( PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY )**

*Complete this Form and bring it with you to your designated Tryout location on the date noted.*

*Photos: A photo of all players trying out for travel will be taken at tryouts check-in.*

Players Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Current School \_\_\_\_\_

Current Team & Coach Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle** the Appropriate Age Group and Gender

Age Group/Gender			Birth Dates: Born on or After	Grade
G4	Boys	Girls	1/1/2008	Entering Grade 3 or 4 in Fall 2018
G6	Boys	Girls	1/1/2006	Entering Grade 5 or 6 in Fall 2018
G8	Boys	Girls	1/1/2004	Entering Grade 7 or 8 in Fall 2018

**Parent's/Guardian's Signature:** The player and I have READ the attached and we verify that we understand:

- The travel soccer information and the commitment section
- Attendance at all games is mandatory.
- Travel teams practice twice per week. Attendance at both practices is expected from every player.
- The team head coach must inform the Travel Director if a player misses more than three consecutive unexcused practices or one game. A review and possible action (i.e. less playing time or removal from the team without refund) may be administered.
- When registering this player we agree to pay the full yearly (fall and spring) fee of \$310 including uniform recognizing this is a full year commitment to play on a travel team and is non-refundable once placed on a team.
- The Methuen Youth Soccer Association "Zero Tolerance on Officials", "Zero Tolerance – Physical Abuse Policy" and "Parent's Code of Conduct" and will abide by it at all times.
- All registrations are transacted online. Payment of \$310 must be made by June 1, 2018. A non-refundable \$25 late fee will be assessed after that date and my player will be placed on the waitlist.
- If a child abandons a travel team after the roster has been administered (or mid-season), he/she is no longer eligible to play for the Methuen Youth Soccer Travel Program going forward.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's/Guardian's Signature

**THIS IS NOT A REGISTRATION FORM. ALL PLAYERS DESIRING TO PLAY TRAVEL MUST REGISTER ONLINE BY JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup> AS A TRAVEL PLAYER. IF NOT SELECTED FOR TRAVEL A FULL REFUND WILL BE PROCESSED (EXCLUDING ANY LATE FEES ASSESSED).**

THE CURRENT FULL YEAR TRAVEL REGISTRATION FEE IS \$310 DUE BY JUNE 1, 2018.  
THIS FEE INCLUDES REGISTRATION, ECYSA FEES, UNIFORM AND THE FIELD MAINTENANCE FEE.

**A \$25 NON-REFUNDABLE LATE FEE WILL BE ASSESSED AFTER THIS DATE.**

**FULL UNIFORM COSTS ARE AN ADDITIONAL \$70 (IF NEEDED).**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION GO TO [HTTP://WWW.METHUENSOCCKER.ORG/?PAGE\\_ID=201](http://www.methuensoccer.org/?page_id=201)