

Crofton Vikings Select Soccer FAQs

1. What is the difference between the Travel and County teams?

Depending on the number of players and their ability Crofton Athletic Council (CAC) will sponsor three different levels of teams:

Premier - National Capital Soccer League (NCSL)

Classic - Baltimore Beltway Soccer League (BBSL)

County – Anne Arundel Youth Soccer Association (AAYSA)

	Premier Travel Team	Classic and County Team(s)
General	For boys born between August 1, 1996 and July 31, 1997. The CAC travel team plays in the National Capital Soccer League (NCSL). This is the premier youth soccer league in the Virginia, DC, and Maryland region. The travel team will consist of the age group's most skilled players.	For 10-11 year old boys - specific age related rules can be found in the Anne Arundel Youth Soccer Association (AAYSA) website. CAC will sponsor one or multiple county teams based how many boys register for fall soccer. The best county team may play in the BBSL league. County teams will be placed in one of multiple divisions by AAYSA. The divisions are established, by skill level, to accommodate all participating teams
Commitment	The travel team requires a one-year commitment spanning from the Fall 07 season through the Spring 08 season. This includes two indoor sessions during the winter.	Players need only commit to the team one season at a time.
Positions & Playing Time	Players will be placed in the positions that best help the team succeed. The positions will be designated by the coaching staff based on team needs, an individual player's skill set, and what is seen in practice throughout the year. The travel team will have a roster slot devoted to a full-time goalkeeper.	Players will be placed in the positions that best help the team succeed. The positions will be designated by the coaching staff based on team needs, an individual player's skill set, and what is seen in practice through the year. A minimum of 50% playing time.
Games	Approximately 9 games are played in the Fall and Spring seasons. Generally played on Sundays throughout the Washington DC metropolitan area. Note that for the 4-5 away games per season travel time may exceed 60 minutes.	Played throughout Anne Arundel County. Travel time rarely exceeds 30 minutes.
Tournaments	The team typically participates in 3-4 competitive outdoor tournaments and 1 indoor tournament. A team trip to Europe is planned for the summer of 2008 or 2009.	Typically none.
Winter	The team plays two indoor soccer sessions during the winter in nearby facilities.	Not supported by CAC. Based on interest and availability of a coach.
Summer	A one week soccer camp is held for the team in early August. This brings the boys back to soccer after the break and gives them a chance to socialize.	None.

2. How do you register players?

Registration is done on-line at the CAC website: <http://www.croftonsports.com/soccer/>. When to register varies on the season and team. Parents should monitor the CAC website to stay in

tune with club registration information and deadlines. CAC makes every effort to accommodate all interested players. Please note that other local programs are only concerned with their premier team and will leave the remaining kids to their own device.

3. How are the teams formed?

The travel team is formed through a tryout/placement process which are typically held in early June before school is out. Coach Jesper believes that the foundation of a successful soccer player is based on four corner-stones: 1) Love of the game; 2) Technique; 3) Understanding; 4) Physical ability. Coaches and evaluators will base their selections on this list of skills. A positive attitude is naturally of great importance. Players will receive notification of their tryout results within a few days after the last tryout session. Players not selected for the travel team will be placed on one of the several county teams sponsored by CAC.

4. What should be expected?

Practices and games are run in a fun supportive atmosphere. The selected boys are expected to spend time with friends playing their favorite sport – soccer. Enjoyment of the game is paramount to building a successful team.

Team Building - many of the boys play from year to year and may end up playing with the same teammates and coaches throughout several years. The travel team is put together with one eye towards the current skill set and the other eye towards potential development over a five to ten year period. As the boys mature and the competition stiffens, team chemistry and continuity will play a major role in the team's success.

5. Can you play other sports?

Yes! However, in the case of a scheduling conflict select sport is expected to be of first priority. For the Premier Travel team the boys are expected to participate in at least one practice per week, all games, as well as all tournaments.

6. What will it cost me?

Registration and family fees are typically ~\$275 per year. The player registration fees are listed on the Crofton Athletic Council website and the total annual costs of the program.

Premier Travel team players should account for additionally \$100 per year for tournaments, \$40 for a team bag and shirt, and \$150 per year for indoor.

As with soccer programs across the country, travel teams are more expensive than non-travel teams. Parents should be aware that similar NCSL programs annually collect between \$1,000-\$2,000 per player for the registration.

7. What are the age group/team rules?

Players on all the teams within the age-group are expected to show respect at all time for:

- The game
- Teammates
- Opponents
- Referees
- The coaching staff

The boys are expected to:

- Be positive at all times

- No bad words or derogatory comments is tolerated;
- Players should be modest and generous.
- Never give up

8. When will the placements/tryouts take place?

Typically the tryouts/placements are held in early June before school is out. The information can be found in local newspapers, through E-mail, the CAC website:

www.croftonsports.com/soccer/, and the Crofton Vikings website: www.CroftonVikings.com.

It is not necessary to attend all placements/tryouts but boys should plan on attending as many sessions as possible to ensure evaluators get a fair look the players. Travel team will be announced shortly after the last session.