

Jr. Irish Soccer Club

11U – 12U Youth Program Overview

It is the mission of the Jr. Irish Soccer Club to develop and promote premier youth soccer throughout the Michiana area. It is also the aim of the Youth Program to help develop a foundation of values on and off the field to prepare our players to become successful personally and athletically as they grow as individuals and function within a group setting.

Our Youth Program's primary focus is the development of players in small groups playing the game within the team. We offer age appropriate training dedicated to individual skill and tactical development stemming from a curriculum which ensures all players and teams are developing together, building toward the future. During competition, Players should be provided opportunities to play a primarily position and secondary position in our regional league and tournaments outside of our immediate region which enables players the opportunity to develop individually as well as within the team as it evolves toward the 11-aside game. Rotating through a couple of positions provides players a holistic approach to their development as well as the Teams' growth.

We hold tryouts in June for the following year August through May. However, we have a rolling registration which provides anyone at any time the opportunity to request an evaluation for placement during our calendar year. We attempt to field 2 teams per age group averaging 12-14 players. The players are placed by ability, and team registered in our league which strikes a balance between the challenge for development and an eye on promoting confidence playing the game individually and collectively. We believe that rosters are fluid so we can adjust based on a players' development and success in the games. We utilize club passing in order to give players added experiences throughout the year.

We run a 10-month soccer curriculum. Our fall season begins in early August and runs through mid-October. The 5-week Winter Training Program is held at Soccer Zone in Mishawaka In and we will offer a Jr. Irish Futsal program at an additional cost. Our spring season begins in April and ends at the end of May. We expect players to participate in 2 practices each week during the Fall and Spring Seasons, and 1 training per week during the Winter Technical Training Program. Additional practices are possible, either "Free Play" or "Skills Training" during the Fall and Spring Seasons. We also offer basic Goalkeeper Training separate from Team Training. We expect players to attend all schedule matches and events. Traditionally we play on average 8 to 10 league matches and participate in 1 tournament per season in addition to our Labor Day and Memorial Day Invitationals as well as the State Cup competition. Over the course of the year, your old Child will participate in about 70 hours of training and play 25 to 30 games over the course of the Calendar Year.