



## **USL Youth - Summer Program FAQ**

### **Contents**

10. USL Youth program (formerly Super Y League)
11. Who can participate?
12. When are USL Youth tryouts?
13. What if my player cannot attend the USL Youth tryouts?
14. Player offers
15. Team creation
16. USL Youth program cost
17. Coaching staff & USL Youth rosters
18. USL Youth Finals bids
19. USL Youth Finals

### **10. USL Youth program**

The Super Y League – a nationwide youth soccer summer league founded in 1999, operated by the United Soccer Leagues (USL), and comprised of approximately 500 clubs nationwide – was re-branded in 2024 to USL Youth (<https://www.usl-youth.com/>). The league operates during the summer months of mid-June and July, potentially through the first week of August, with teams competing for a chance to qualify for the USL Youth Finals, which take place each December in Tampa, Florida. The USL Youth offers elite-level play, with participating teams and clubs also involved in other national platforms that similarly focus on development during the traditional off-season.

Participating clubs are not required to field a team for every birth year or gender, resulting in varied divisional geography from team to team. Each team will compete in 6 to 8 games, which may be played locally or at neutral site locations that are drivable distances in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan Ohio or Wisconsin. Summer 2025 neutral site locations and dates have not yet been announced by the league. Teams should expect to travel two weekends each summer, depending on the other teams placed in their division. Game schedules are typically finalized by the middle of May.

Teams are scheduled to practice twice a week, with head coaches determining the days, times, and locations. Coaches typically aim to avoid scheduling training on Mondays and Fridays to ensure adequate rest after game weekends, player safety, accommodate travel for away games and allow families to enjoy long weekend vacations whenever possible. Typically, the week of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is taken off, if possible.



### **1.1. Who can participate?**

This opportunity is available to players both within and outside the club's annual program. All families should consider any potential conflicts before committing to a USL Youth team. Current non-Evolution players may participate with our club without any obligation to join the annual program.

### **1.2. When are USL Youth tryouts?**

Our club is offering FREE pop-up ID sessions as tryouts for our USL Youth teams. Invitations to join a USL Youth team will be sent through our club's registration and payment platform, Playmetrics.

### **1.3. What if my player cannot attend the USL Youth tryouts?**

We recognize that some players may miss designated USL Youth ID sessions. If this applies to you, please make sure that your child is registered for the USL Youth tryout via Playmetrics.

Also, current non-Evolution players wishing to tryout will be invited to participate in a team training session during the winter months, while current club players will be evaluated internally by our coaching staff.

### **1.4. Player offers**

Our professional coaching staff will be responsible for selecting rosters with each head coach making the final decisions.

Players may receive one of two potential offers: (1) USL Youth full-time player, or (2) USL Youth training player. The full-time player position allows your child to attend all practices and games throughout the USL Youth program, whereas the training player position means your child is not invited to games but can participate in all summer training sessions. Training players may have a USL Youth player card issued and may receive invitations from their head coach to attend USL Youth games.

### **1.5. Team creation**

The USL Youth program operates at an elite level of play, and our team creation and selection will reflect this standard. We aim to ensure that the experience is both challenging and positive for all participants; therefore, please understand that the club will not enter teams solely for the sake of participation. Each birth year and gender category allow for up to two teams to be entered by the club. A third team at an age-level would require league approval.

### **1.6. USL Youth program cost**

The full-time player position is \$595 per player, which covers all league, referee, field and coaching fees, and issuance of a USL Youth player card. If any team qualifies for the USL Youth Finals in December 2025, PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED, but there is no additional fee for participation, this is your team's reward!

The training player position is \$395 per player, which includes issuance of a USL Youth player card, enabling participation in games if invited by the player's coach.



## **Extras:**

Uniform kit are extra, \$109 includes a Nike white jersey, Nike red jersey, Nike black shorts and Nike black socks to be used for games and practices. Unless there is a conflict with another current Evolution player, players will keep their existing jersey numbers, while new players will receive unique numbers.

All coaching costs and personal travel expenses will be the responsibility of the participating players.

### **1.7. Coaching staff & USL Youth rosters**

Current head coaches will have the first right of refusal to continue with their annual birth year teams. Players will be assigned to teams by Evolution SC staff, with emphasis on player's personal technical and tactical skills development the primary factor. Teams of similar ages will train frequently at the same time and the same fields to maximize opportunities for players to gain a range of experience as well as be observed by multiple coaches.

The maximum game day roster sizes are 14 for 7v7 (2016), 16 for 9v9 (2014/2015), and 18 for 11v11 (2013 and older). Roster sizes may differ from team to team, influenced by various factors such as birth year strength, player ability, availability, positional requirements, high playing temperatures, and the balance of full-time players versus training players.

### **1.8. USL Youth Finals bids**

U11 teams and those in older age groups can qualify for the USL Youth Finals (2015 or earlier). Throughout the season, USL leadership will announce how many "USL Youth Finals bids" will be distributed across each geographical division. Any team that finishes in 1st place is guaranteed a bid to the USL Youth Finals, with additional spots potentially available depending on the total number of teams in each birth year and geographical division.

### **1.9. USL Youth Finals**

The USL Youth Finals were recently hosted at the Hillsborough County Tournament Sportsplex in Tampa, Florida. This impressive facility features 15 natural grass fields surrounding the tournament headquarters, creating an exceptional atmosphere and experience for all participating teams. The event lasts for five days, with the 2025 finals scheduled for December 12-16, 2025. Teams will compete in one game each day, following this format:

- Day 1: Group Game #1 (typically Friday)
- Day 2: Group Game #2 (typically Saturday)
- Day 3: Group Game #3 (typically Sunday)
- Day 4: Semi-Finals (typically Monday)
- Day 5: USL Finals (typically Tuesday)

Roster changes and/or additions from the regular season to the USL Youth Finals are permitted when applicable.



## **Additional Questions**

If you have any further questions or specific inquiries that haven't been addressed in the FAQ document concerning the USL Youth program, please feel free to reach out to Christina at [ChristinaL@evolutionsoccer.us](mailto:ChristinaL@evolutionsoccer.us).

