



Cleveland Force Soccer Club (CFSC)

Member Handbook

**21220 Center Ridge Road
Rocky River OH 44116**

"Commitment - Humility - Integrity - Respect - Passion"



Mission Statement

*Provide soccer players with a club structure that empowers **hardworking, responsible, and humble** players and athletes who approach goals positively on and off the field.*

Vision

To develop & challenge players from start to finish by being the innovators in the **education** of soccer development in Northeast Ohio; through the integration of **coach development, player development, parent education, and League Platforms**.

Approach & Club Core Values

Cleveland Force works to instill intangibles like mental toughness, integrity, selflessness, teamwork, and leadership, ensuring future success for its players on and off the soccer field. Cleveland Force has incorporated a “whole athlete” approach to training. To help athletes become “*whole*” in their approach to sport and wellness.

The program has learned that athletes cannot reach their potential in sports or life without optimal health in body, soul, and mind. Cleveland Force encourages a balance between athletics in other areas of life through principles such as nonviolence, truthfulness, self-study, commitment, dedication, and transformation.

Cleveland Force players are placed in the appropriate “classroom” as soon as possible. But this is not done to label the player, as we are conscious not to impose a class distinction between children at the earliest ages. Our players train in a specific style of play, are introduced to various skills, and engage in pool training and team training. Although grouping is necessary for competition and teaching purposes, the focus remains “***the player comes first.***”

Due to our quality youth development environment, Cleveland Force will help players achieve their full potential during the three zones of the developmental cycle. Each year, we prepare players for their next stage, with an emphasis on preparation rather than just winning championships.

The results of this development process have led to the development of our Club Culture, “**#CHIRP.**” We are a stronger cohesive unit when all players, parents, coaches, and directors fulfill their defined roles and **live, feel, and Experience the Force way.**



Club Core Values
Commitment - Humility - Integrity - Respect - Passion

CFSC Players and Parents should view EACH Cleveland Force “activity” in this light:

- *Attending Practices = Classroom participation*
 - *Integrity*
- *Extra training = additional participation*
 - *commitment/time management*
- *League Games = Quizzes*
 - *Guided Discovery classroom*
- *Tournaments = Test*
 - *What have you learned?*
- *Placement at U18 = Final Test -*
 - *it takes four years to complete at the academic college of your choice*

Player Expectations

- Please respect your coaches and the experience they share with you. The first step is to refer to them as “Coaches.”
- Have Fun & Thank your parents for allowing you to play.
- Allow coaches to make decisions and respect the process.
 - Don’t ask to play a specific position, or I can only play “this.”
 - Don’t ask, “Can” I go in?
- Communicate via PlayMetrics attendance function regarding absences from training, games, or tournaments.
- Train regularly, be on time, and work hard.
- Take care of your uniform and equipment. Spend as much time as possible with a ball in your free time.
 - Bring both game jerseys to each game
 - Have inflated ball
- Exhibit good sportsmanship and respect for the game at all times.
- Questions should be directed to your Program Director if you don’t understand something or have questions about your OWN development or the development process. Schedule a meeting with your coach/director so they can provide you with their undivided attention.
- Remember that your behavior reflects on you, your family, your coach, your team, and the Club.
- Take care of your body by providing your body with a proper diet, hydration, and rest.
- Arrive 45 minutes before game time, prepared to train or compete.
- Do not discuss roster placement, the number of games played, tournament invites, etc.
- Be sensitive to other players' feelings (respect)
- **Do your best in school: An educated student-athlete will offer positive opportunities in life, whether on the field or off.**



Parent Expectations

- Use positive encouragement
- Prioritize Cleveland Force events when scheduling other sports activities.
- Do not discuss the negative play of other players on the team.
- **Wait at least 24 hours before contacting a coach or director** after a game or tournament about issues related to your child only.
- Provide managers with game or tournament conflicts before the next games or events.
- Use self-control on the sidelines and promote good sportsmanship with parents and players from our teams, competing teams, referees, tournament directors, etc...
*(*Cleveland Force Officers reserve the right to remove and/or suspend parents from the sideline who show poor sportsmanship and cause inappropriate disturbances at their sole discretion.)*
- **No coaching or instructions from the sideline**
- Assist your child (U8 - U15) in arriving at practice and games and preparing to start. Help them develop a routine they will ultimately be responsible for executing.
- Schedule 15-minute progress report meetings with the Program Director 2x yearly.
- Encourage your children to have fun, enjoy the game, and "leave it all on the field."
- Build familiarity with PlayMetrics to communicate with the Club, Team Managers, and Coaches.

CFSC Director's Expectations:

- Ensure proper progression for each Player Pool based on the values, mission, and vision of CFSC.
- Constantly evaluate players, select player pools, and set team rosters throughout the season.
- Identify 2-3 coaches in each age pool that will assist in training the age pool weekly and cover games throughout the year.
- Notify players of their place within the pool/roster (classroom placement).
- Confirm that the player pools have sufficient players committed to each league, game, and tournament for the club.
- Choose appropriate leagues and tournaments for each team.
- Prepare training topics for each training session and set the training environment.
- Oversee all staff coaches and provide them with constant feedback.
- Attend weekly meetings with coaching and administrative staff.



CFSC Coach's Expectations

- Be professional at all training, games, and tournaments
- Complete a background check every two (2) years.
- Dress in Cleveland Force Gear for all training sessions and games.
- Arrive to the field early to prepare the environment for the team
- Establish trust and rapport with each player.
- Be clear, communicative, and honest to players at appropriate times. (Integrity)
- Use appropriate language.
- Work with the proper team managers to maintain communication with families.

PLAYER ROSTERS

The Cleveland Force SC Juniors Academy Program

It is a school-year program designed to satisfy the needs of the more individually driven athletes. The program comprises male and female athletes between U5 and U8 and is located at a geographically convenient training center.

The Program's primary objective is to maximize the development of every child in each of the four elements of the game: Technical, Tactical, Physical, and Mental. This is done by using training to introduce new ideas and information in a manner that is easy for our youngest players to understand and apply. *[We call this foundation training]*

Furthermore, **this program introduces players to the Cleveland Force Soccer Club and prepares them to advance into the competitive team based program starting at U9. The Juniors program begins in the Fall and finishes in the Summer, with holidays and time off from school breaks. Some camps/clinics supplement the program for players who want to train during the scheduled breaks.**

Players can attend **training at convenient geographical locations:** Central (near east), South, and West. Players are welcome to participate in additional training sessions at any training center.

"In-House" Development Leagues will be scheduled at various locations so that each player can experience gameplay and apply their fundamental skills from the program.

Most players will be **strongly encouraged to play in their community travel soccer programs** to continue their development process in games and training. We recommend full participation with Cleveland Force Soccer Club for our most advanced players as soon as possible. This proactive approach is best for the families and the players.



U10-U19 CFSC High-Performance Rosters (Regional/National):

About: These rosters compete and play in the highest divisions and leagues available

National Level: ECNL (Boys & Girls)

Regional Level: GLA-NPL, Pre-ECNL, CASA

Commitment: All players are ***expected*** to train as many days as possible per week and demonstrate they are in the higher percentage of the six [key qualities of a Youth National Team Player](#). They will play in regional leagues and tournaments and attend high-level events throughout the country in the fall, winter, and spring of each year with a dedicated effort to advance to regional and national finals. Each Roster will improve their team's resume, opening opportunities to compete in higher-level showcase tournaments throughout the United States.

U9-U19 CFSC Competitive Tier Roster Players

Directors and coaching staff place these teams in appropriate leagues based on player competency, drive, and engagement.

Commitment: All players are ***encouraged*** to train as many days as possible per week. Occasionally travel across town to train with other pool players. Game travel is usually no more than an hour away in NE Ohio, with fewer overnight stays. [Primary league CASA]



POLICIES

**Players, Parents, or Coaches who violate the “Club” policy could be suspended or removed from the Club.*

Attendance

High-performance players are encouraged to attend *all training sessions* [3 sessions + games]. Competitive Tier Players at least *two* weekly training sessions [1 session + 1 game].

Playing time: The staff determines all playing time. No one is guaranteed a specific playing time or a set position. Each player's attendance, game resistance, performance, character, and talent impact playing time.

Education

An educated student-athlete will offer positive opportunities in life, whether on the field or off. Cleveland Force players must maintain the minimum core GPA set by the NCAA Clearinghouse.

Tournament Behavior

Players will follow curfews set by coaches. Socializing with members of the opposite sex will occur only outside hotel rooms. Coaches may set other rules or regulations as they see fit.

All players on teams U9 - U14s must room with at least one adult. For the first tournament game, please arrive (1) an hour before; all other games 40 minutes prior {subject to change}.

Non-Discrimination & Harassment

Cleveland Force prohibits unlawful discrimination, harassment, and sexual harassment. Harassment shall include but not be limited to joking remarks or other abusive conduct (including verbal, non-verbal, or physical conduct) that demeans or shows hostility toward an individual that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment.

Bullying

Cleveland Force defines bullying as repeated inappropriate behavior, either direct or indirect, whether verbal, physical, or otherwise, conducted by one or more persons against another or others; it clearly states that each player, parent, and coach will be treated with dignity and respect.



Drug and Alcohol Policy

The use or possession of any alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substance will result in immediate removal from the Club (suspension) during the playing season or expulsion from the Club. The member will forfeit all Fees.

Fees

Returned Check - Payments that do not settle your account and are returned unpaid to Cleveland Force are subject to a \$25 service charge. Cleveland Force will bill you the service charge, and you will have ten days to pay your account. This applies to checks, electronic debit, credit card, and debit card payments.

Overdue Accounts- Overdue accounts are permitted 15 days to make payment past the initial due date before an account suspension is initiated. We encourage any family needing more time to make a payment to communicate this in writing to our Member Account Manager, Doreen French, at doreen@force-sports.com

*The fee is non-refundable if **Tournament invites** are accepted and withdrawn within 14 days of the event tournament.*

Special Cases—The club does make exceptions in the event of injury or other extraordinary circumstances. You may request an exception by emailing marko@force-sports.com.

Refund Policy: Cleveland Force is committed to each player for an entire year, and we expect each player to be committed to CFSC for the year. No refunds will be issued once the soccer year has begun, as trying out may have rejected other players based on your commitment, demonstrated by accepting a CFSC roster spot.

Financial Aid assistance is based on financial need using the Federal Poverty Guidelines, and an award is not guaranteed. Financial aid awards are not talent-based or guaranteed from year to year. All financial aid requests will be held in the strictest of confidence and addressed as soon as possible. To apply for Financial Aid, please visit the Club Program section of your PlayMetrics account to find the application.

*Funds are pre-set for the full year and are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications historically open around June 1st of each year



Cleveland Force SC (CFSC) Directory

Executive Club Director

Marko Raduka

Marko@force-sports.com

Director of Operations

Adam Deich

Adam@force-sports.com

Club Administrator

Matt Safar

Msafar@force-sports.com

Financial Account Manager

Doreen French

Doreen@force-sports.com

U9-U12 Scheduler

Kirsten Breth

Technical Director

Everett Palache

Everett@force-sports.com

Senior Director of Coaching

Paul Shaw

Pre-Club Academy Director

Michael Surniak

MSurniak@force-sports.com

Goalkeeping Director

Denny Ciornei

U9-U12 Boys & U11-U12 Girls Local Program

Director

Benjamin Gunter

U9-U12 Regional Boys Program Director

Nick Howitt

U13-U14 National/Regional Boys Program

Director

Chris Green

U9-U10 Girls Program Director

Lauren Wilson

U11-U12 Girls Regional Program Director

Toby Frohlich

U15-U19 Boys National/Regional Program

Director

Paul Shaw

U13-U19 ECNL Girls Program Director

Rob Miller

U13-U19 ECNL- RL Girls Program Director

Steve Brdarski

U13-U19 Girls NPL Program Director

Abby Richter

U13-U19 Boys & Girls Local Program Manager

Jesse Acevedo

