

Cheltenham Sports Travel Soccer Tryout FAQ

Q. When will tryouts be held?

A. Tryouts will be held Saturday March 21st

Q. Where will tryouts be held?

A. Tryouts will be held at Cedarbrook Middle School [Link to a Map](#)



Q. With EPYSA's change from birth year to grade year how will tryouts be structured?

A. Beginning with the Fall 2026 season, U.S. Soccer will shift from a birth-year system (January–December) to a school-year system (August 1st – July 31st) for forming teams. This nationwide change, directed by U.S. Soccer and adopted by nearly every youth league across the country, is designed to better align youth soccer with the school calendar. We are prioritizing forming competitive teams at as many age groups as we can. Below is how teams will be classified based on the school-year system

AGE GROUP	BIRTHDATE
6U	AUGUST 1, 2020 - JULY 31, 2021
7U	AUGUST 1, 2019 - JULY 31, 2020
8U	AUGUST 1, 2018 - JULY 31, 2019
9U	AUGUST 1, 2017 - JULY 31, 2018
10U	AUGUST 1, 2016 - JULY 31, 2017
11U	AUGUST 1, 2015 - JULY 31, 2016
12U	AUGUST 1, 2014 - JULY 31, 2015
13U	AUGUST 1, 2013 - JULY 31, 2014
14U	AUGUST 1, 2012 - JULY 31, 2013
15U	AUGUST 1, 2011 - JULY 31, 2012
16U	AUGUST 1, 2010 - JULY 31, 2011
17U	AUGUST 1, 2009 - JULY 31, 2010
18U	AUGUST 1, 2008 - JULY 31, 2009
19U	AUGUST 1, 2007 - JULY 31, 2008



Q. What should my child bring?

A. They are required to have fun, bring lots of energy and a positive attitude. They should also bring a soccer ball, cleats, shin guards and water. U9-U12 (7v7 and 9v9) players use a size 4 soccer while U13 and older (11v11) use a size 5 ball.

Q. What time will tryouts be held?

A. Tryouts will be held between the hours of 9am to 3pm. Tryouts for each team/age grouping will be 75 minutes. Please try to arrive 10 minutes before the start of your players time slot to allow us to sign players in and direct them to their trainer/coach. The full schedule can be found below. A full schedule will be published no later than a week before 3/21.

Q. How are players selected for Travel

A. Players are assessed on their technical ability, tactical application, and mentality. For the 2026 tryouts Cheltenham Sports will be utilizing YTP Sports to assist with the evaluation of players. Based on the coach/trainer evaluation, players are selected for the travel team and age group pool.

Q. How many players make the team?

A. The roster sizes are as follows:

U9, and U10 play 7v7, and a team typically has 10 to 12 players on the roster.

U11 and U12 play 9v9, and a team typically has 13 to 16 players on the roster.

U13 and older play 11v11, and a team typically has 15 to 18 players on the roster.

Q. When will I know if my child was selected for a Travel team?

A. We generally aim to extend Travel team invitations within two - four weeks of the final tryout. Families will have 48 hours to accept or decline the offer. If we do not receive a response within 48 hours we will assume that a player has accepted the invitation and you will be responsible for the full Travel registration fee.