



## Vernon Soccer Club 2023-24 Travel Soccer Player/Parent Commitment

*Please read the following rules and guidelines for 10/9-U to 15/14/13-U travel soccer players in Vernon Soccer Club (VSC). **By accepting a travel roster spot with VSC you agree that you have read and will abide with all items contained in this commitment letter.***

**Congratulations!** Vernon Travel Soccer (VSC) welcomes you and looks forward to having you as part of our travel program. VSC is the competitive branch of the Vernon Soccer Club, and we are excited about the upcoming soccer year, and we hope you are, too!

### Quick FAQ's:

Due to Covid we did not host tryouts this season. We understand that a very small number of players were impacted with not being able to demonstrate their abilities. We generally were able to uncover their abilities through a variety of other avenues. We built teams with the goal of allowing the most players to play this fall season. We will rebalance as needed in the spring and next fall. Selected players were placed on appropriate teams by the VSC competitive committee. **All placement decisions are final.**

Players are accepting an open roster spot on "a" VSC Travel team. This means that the player may be placed on any team that the VSC travel committee deems most appropriate for the player and the club. **ie: they may not play for the coach or team they were on in a previous season.**

The VSC has attempted to accommodate as many players as possible to try to make a roster. The VSC is not inclusive and does not allow its travel coaches to select their own players. Playing on a VSC travel team in a prior season is no guarantee of making a future team.

Different age groups in travel soccer play with different game formats—and have different roster sizes. Coaches usually carry fewer players than the maximum allowed—optimizing players' playing time in games.

Players are evaluated using several criteria. After going through the evaluation process, if selected, players are placed on teams that best meet each player's developmental needs and roster needs of the VSC. Players that are not selected for the travel soccer program will be provided with information on other Vernon Soccer Club programs and teams.

Travel soccer teams play in two-three sessions or seasons per year. This season, the fall season will last about 12 weeks from mid-August to mid-November. The spring season lasts about 12 weeks from April to mid-June. Teams typically play 8-10 games per season. Most games are played on Sundays, but you should expect a few Saturday games per season. Teams usually play one or more pre-season scrimmages, a number of friendly's and 1-2 tournaments per season, depending upon the age group and competitive level of the team. Teams often begin practicing 2 to 4 weeks before the start of each game season. Practices are at the discretion of the coach and are generally from 1½ to 2 hours per session taking place an average of twice a week. It will be normal to have coaches limit practice time, and some may reduce to 1 practice a week. Travel players are expected to attend all team practices and games as outlined in the VSC's bylaws. Fall teams may be rebalanced in the spring to allow the most players to play.

Winter Play: Many coaches will enter their team into indoor play over the winter months. Due to the additional expense, it is at the player's discretion to play over the winter. All players are expected to be rostered where able when the VSC

brand or team names are used. All club members are subject to club bylaws and conduct policies when representing the VSC. It is recommended that teams split into two for winter play when the roster exceeds 12 and there is enough interest to support two teams.

### **Player and Parent Commitment Confirmation**

Recognizing that soccer is a demanding sport, and that playing travel soccer requires commitment and dedication, we hereby choose to accept a spot on an VSC team and understand that we are expected to make soccer your priority sport for the fall season. The VSC encourages its players to participate in other sports as well. The VSC recognizes that the spring season can bring on additional commitments with alternate sports. The VSC relaxes the required commitments in the spring. The fall season begins in mid-August and goes until mid-November, and the spring begins in April and goes through mid-June. Teams begin practicing 2 to 4 weeks before the start of each season. That means that any other sport should be secondary to soccer training sessions, games, and tournaments during the fall season. This approach is relaxed in the spring, but still request that players and parents respect the team sport philosophy and attempt to minimize absences.

We understand and expect our coaches to provide a very challenging and fun environment to learn and love the game of soccer. The coaches will also expect individual work both solo and in small groups to accelerate the development process. This extra work will be outlined by your coach in verbal feedback and written evaluations. Hard work and commitment are qualities needed to excel in any sport. We expect our players to have that type of approach when participating in the programs VSC offers. By agreeing to accept an offer to play on a team in VSC, a player is promising to give their best efforts to participate in every event the team schedules. That promise will greatly increase a player's chance to become the best player possible and to assist the team in reaching its goals.

### **PLAYER Obligation**

Soccer, like any other sport, requires commitment and dedication to become a good player. Just being on a team roster will not make me a better player. I can maximize my improvement as a soccer player and as a teammate by being an active and focused participant. I can do this by . . .

- Agreeing to make soccer my priority sport for the fall season.
- Be responsible for knowing about club and team activities and updates by reading team and club emails and checking team and club websites.
- Being on-time and attending ALL practices, games and other team events and notifying my coach in a timely manner if I will be tardy or unable to make a practice, game, or meeting.
- Attending ALL team league games (including Spring break weekend), tournaments (most on holiday weekends) and State Cup play (Saturdays); if I'm selected to participate in.
- Communicating frequently with my coaches and listening to them as well.
- Focusing and working hard during all team events.
- Practicing soccer skills and conditioning on my own.
- Accept my coach's tactical decisions (player positioning, play time, etc.).
- Respecting my teammates and only give them positive encouragement.
- Agreeing to abide by all club, league, tournament and other event codes of conduct
- Having a positive attitude and never quitting
- All players are expected to maintain the highest standard of conduct and good sportsmanship. Failure to adhere to these standards may result in suspension by the Coach or Coaching Director and approved by the board.
- Not act in any way that is detrimental to the team or the Vernon Soccer Club.

If a player fails to meet his or her player obligations, the club or team may involuntarily release the player at any time during the seasonal year, provided that the team has followed the process as outlined in the VSC bylaws.

### **PARENT Obligation**

As a parent of a travel soccer player on a Vernon Soccer Club team, I will . . .

- Accept the team placement of my player.
- Be responsible for knowing about club and team activities and updates by reading team and club emails and checking team and club websites
- Pay all Travel Program and Team fees; turn in all required forms and purchase club uniform kit by their due dates.
- Attend and participate in all team meetings
- Help my player meet team and club expectations and commitments.
- Assist my player to be on-time and attend ALL practices, games and other team events and either I or my player will notify my coach in a timely manner if my player will be tardy or unable to make a practice, game, or meeting.
- Commit to my players attendance at ALL team league games (including Spring break weekend), tournaments (most on holiday weekends) and State Cup play (Saturdays) that my teams participates in.
- Volunteer my services and talents for the team and/or club as requested by coaching staff.
- Be encouraging, supportive, and affirmative in regard to my child's play on the field.
- Familiarize myself with the Laws of the Games and respect officials and accept their decisions.
- Not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent. I understand there are severe consequences for dissent and unsportsmanlike conduct such as banishment from my child's future games or future club activities.
- Support the coach and the team and not interfere at any time with the duties and responsibilities of the coach.
- Accept the coach's decisions (playing time, player position, tactics, etc.) and not be detrimental to a positive playing environment.
- Comply with the rules, policies, directions, and procedures of the team, administrators, and board members of the club as they apply to me.
- Not act in any way that is detrimental to the team or the Vernon Soccer Club.

If a Parent fails to meet his or her parent obligations, the club or team may involuntarily release the player at any time during the seasonal year, provided that the team has followed the process as outlined in the VSC bylaws.

### **YEAR LONG COMMITMENT**

We recognize that the players' and coaches' commitment to VSC and to each other is for the soccer year, which is the fall, winter, and spring seasons. The VSC will place a priority on all returning players and attempt to place them on teams when there is room to do so before adding in new players. These returning fall players do not need to tryout again. Refunds are not issued to players who leave during the soccer seasonal year. I also understand that should my child decide to leave for any reason, including injury, during the soccer seasonal year, I am still responsible for any monies owed to the team and/or club. Players and parents are not required to play the winter or spring season but agree to all commitments if they choose to do so.

## **FINANCIAL Obligation**

We understand and accept the following financial terms outlined below to play with VSC.

### **2023-2024 VSC Travel Player Program Fees**

The 2023-2024 VSC Travel Player Program Fees are \$120 for the fall season and est. \$85 (+/- but will not exceed \$120) for the spring season. Optional Winter sessions vary based on the indoor facility and team roster size.

**In addition to the above club fees, each player is responsible for paying for their own uniform kit and any additional team fees, which may include additional ref costs due to friendly games, tournaments, etc. The VSC does cover most ref costs during the fall and spring seasons. No winter indoor fees are covered for games, clinics, or practices.**

If a player fails to meet his or her financial obligations pursuant to a written obligation, the club or team may involuntarily release the player at any time during the seasonal year, provided that the team has followed the process as outlined in the VSC bylaws.

