

fc alliance



Policies & Procedures Manual

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW.....	5
1.1. OUR MISSION	5
1.2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	5
1.2.1. Governing Structure.....	6
1.2.2. Directors & Coaching Staff.....	6
1.2.3. Parent Involvement/Volunteers.....	6
1.3. LEGAL & TAX EXEMPT STATUS	6
1.4. AFFILIATIONS	6
1.5. PARTNERSHIPS.....	7
1.5.1. West Ham United Academy Partnership.....	7
1.5.2. Johnny Long Training Academy (JLTA).....	7
1.5.3. US Cellular	7
1.6. LEAGUES	7
1.6.1. Pilot Regional Soccer League (PRSL).....	7
1.6.2. Tennessee State League.....	8
1.6.3. US Youth Soccer Region III Premier League.....	8
2.0 OUR PROGRAMS.....	9
2.1. FC ALLIANCE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM (U4-U12).....	9
2.2. FC ALLIANCE ACADEMY PROGRAM (U4-U19)	10
2.2.1. Academy Playing Seasons.....	10
2.2.2. Academy Playing Time.....	10
2.2.3. Academy Sites	10
2.2.4. Academy Team Names	11
2.2.5. Academy Uniforms.....	11
2.2.6. FC Alliance Academy Select (U9-U19) – Local Competitive	11
2.3. FC ALLIANCE TRAVEL PROGRAM (U9-U19).....	11
2.3.1. Player Eligibility.....	12
2.3.2. Player Selection	12
2.3.3. Playing Seasons	12
2.3.4. Commitment	13
2.3.5. Financial Obligation/Club Fee Schedule.....	13
2.3.6. Program Structure	14
2.3.7. Team Names.....	15
2.3.8. Playing Time	15
2.3.9. Uniform Requirements	15
2.4. ROSTER SIZES	16
2.5. FC ALLIANCE FLEX PROGRAM	16
2.5.1. FC Alliance Flex Program Guidelines.....	16
2.5.2. FC Alliance FLEX Program Benefits.....	17
2.5.3. FC Alliance Responsibility to FLEX Teams.....	17

3.0 PRACTICE ONLY PLAYERS	17
4.0 RECRUITING	17
5.0 MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER	18
6.0 REGISTRATION	18
6.1. CLUB REGISTRATION.....	18
6.2. STATE REGISTRATION (TSSA)	19
7.0 TEAM MANAGERS	20
8.0 FIELD SCHEDULING	20
8.1. FIELDS AVAILABLE FOR RESERVATION	20
8.2. FIELD STATUS	21
8.3. TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES	21
9.0 REFEREE SCHEDULING	21
9.1. GUIDELINES FOR REQUESTING A REFEREE	21
9.2. REFEREE FEE STRUCTURE	22
9.3. STATE LEAGUE REFEREE FEE STRUCTURE	23
9.4. BECOME AN FC ALLIANCE REFEREE	23
10.0 TEAM WEB SITES	24
11.0 UNIFORMS & LOGO GEAR	24
11.1. UNIFORM KIT	25
11.2. PRACTICE JERSEYS	25
12.0 CLUB FEES	25
12.1. CLUB FEE SCHEDULE	26
12.2. PRORATED CLUB FEES	26
12.3. OFF-SEASON TRAINING FEES	27
12.4. FINANCIAL AID.....	27
13.0 TEAM FEES	27
13.1. TEAM FEE MAXIMUMS	28
13.2. PARTICIPATING IN ADDITIONAL EVENTS	28
13.3. COACHING EXPENSES	29
13.4. DONATIONS FROM COACHES.....	29
14.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR COACHES	30
15.0 TUITION ASSISTANCE	30
15.1. SCRIP PROGRAM.....	30
15.2. GROCERY CARD PROGRAM	30
15.3. FUNDRAISING	30
16.0 CODES OF CONDUCT	31
16.1. COACHES CONDUCT	31
16.2. PLAYER CONDUCT.....	32

16.3. PARENT CONDUCT.....	32
16.4. DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY	33
17.0 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS	33
17.1. INFRACTIONS TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT (COACH & PLAYER).....	33
17.2. SUSPENSIONS – PLAYER OR COACH.....	34
18.0 COMPLAINTS & DISPUTES	34
18.1. COMPLAINTS PROCESS/PROCEDURE.....	34
18.2. DESIGNATED OFFICER STRUCTURE	35
18.3. COMPLAINT ACTION PLAN	35
19.0 AMENDMENTS.....	36

2011 POLICIES & PROCEDURES MANUAL

FC Alliance hereby adopts the policies and procedures outlined in the 2011 Policies & Procedures Manual as necessary for the effective operation of the organization. These policies and procedures pertain to the programs offered by FC Alliance. When players enroll in FC Alliance's programs they and their families expressly agree to comply with and abide by the operational policies and procedures stated herein, and with any changes adopted during your period of enrollment. FC Alliance also maintains the right to suspend or dismiss any individual who does not comply with its policies and procedures.

1.0 ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

1.1. OUR MISSION

FC Alliance is a place for soccer players of all abilities who enjoy the sport and want to learn. The purpose of FC Alliance is to:

- To provide excellence in training, development and the teaching of life lessons through the game of soccer while promoting team work, sportsmanship and community involvement to children of all ages and abilities.
- To provide the highest quality of soccer education and training through top coaches and clinicians.
- To develop programs that excite, challenge, and educate all players to perform at their greatest potential.
- To establish the highest level of competitive play throughout East Tennessee and its surrounding states and to develop teams that are able to compete at the state, regional and national level.
- To create supportive, friendly and unified relationships with soccer clubs and associations that offer the best opportunities to the players we serve.

1.2. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



1.2.1. GOVERNING STRUCTURE

The governing authority of FC Alliance is vested in the Board of Directors or Executive Committee of FC Alliance whose powers shall be delegated in the Bylaws.

- Candidates wishing to serve on the FC Alliance Board of Directors can be nominated in writing by the general membership with the candidate's prior written approval. The existing Board of Directors will vote on candidates at a meeting prior to the annual meeting.
- The Board of Directors appoints the Director(s) of Coaching, votes on policies and procedure amendments and is responsible for decision making during the year.

1.2.2. DIRECTORS & COACHING STAFF

FC Alliance employs a highly qualified and motivated coaching staff that adheres to all Tennessee State Soccer Association (TSSA) and US Youth Soccer rules. FC Alliance ensures that our coaches have achieved the necessary levels of licensing for their specific age group in addition to encouraging our coaches to seek the highest level of training available.

Our accredited coaches provide a structured, developmental curriculum that both excite and motivate players. No matter what team players are on, our coaches will work to ensure that each player develops to their greatest potential.

1.2.3. PARENT INVOLVEMENT/VOLUNTEERS

Parents are asked to volunteer a minimum of five hours of their time per year to the club (i.e. supporting tournaments such as our FC Alliance Fall Classic Tournament) and also help with various duties on their specific team. In addition, we invite parents to get involved as Team Managers. Managing a soccer team is a big job and it takes a lot of coordination and help to make things run smoothly for the best possible experience for the team, but most team Managers will tell you that they treasure the experiences and wouldn't trade it for anything! If you are interested in volunteering for FC Alliance, please inform your coach.

1.3. LEGAL & TAX EXEMPT STATUS

FC Alliance is a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Tennessee. The purpose for which FC Alliance is organized is exclusively educational within the meaning of Section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

1.4. AFFILIATIONS

FC Alliance is an affiliate of, and complies with the authority of, the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) as administered by its Youth Division, and other associated organizations as determined by the Club for execution of FC Alliance's mission.

An important part of FC Alliance's mission is to create supportive, friendly and unified relationships with soccer clubs and associations to advance the game of soccer in our region. To find out more about our affiliations and partnerships and how they benefit our players visit the Affiliations page on our website.

1.5. PARTNERSHIPS

1.5.1. WEST HAM UNITED ACADEMY PARTNERSHIP

FC Alliance became the 15th partner club of the West Ham United International Academy in April 2010. West Ham United Football Club has one of the most respected youth academies in world football. As a partner club, FC Alliance has access to West Ham United Academy coaching methodology to assist the long-term development of our players. Under the direction of academy director Tony Carr, the West Ham United Academy has produced many players who have gone on to play at the very top level of professional football. In addition to leveraging West Ham training methods, FC Alliance offers a summer Player ID Camp for boys and girls U10-U17 that is directed by a senior member of the West Ham United International Academy coaching staff.

Website: www.westhamacademyinternational.com

1.5.2. JOHNNY LONG TRAINING ACADEMY (JLTA)

FC Alliance formed a partnership with Johnny Long's Training Academy (JLTA) in the fall of 2009 to help our players and athletes focus on all aspects of speed and agility through its Championship Performance Series (CPS) Training. JLTA CPS training sessions are provided to FC Alliance members as a part of their club fees and specifically target strength, quickness, agility, and speed techniques, as well as overall conditioning for soccer. JLTA provides expertise in strength and conditioning knowledge, sports training programs and expert instruction. JLTA training programs are specifically designed to meet each player's individual or athletic goals.

Website: www.jltrainingacademy.com

1.5.3. US CELLULAR

In 2010, FC Alliance assumed the management of the complex in an effort by US Cellular to get more kids on the fields. It is our charge to include the entire soccer community in the use of the complex while maintaining tournament-quality fields. Since taking over, utilization at the complex has more than doubled and FC Alliance along with many other groups in the community are benefiting in a huge way. The U.S. Cellular Soccer Complex is located at: 800 Cornerstone Drive, Knoxville, TN 37932.

Website: www.uscellularsoccercomplex.com

1.6. LEAGUES

1.6.1. PILOT REGIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE (PRSL)

The Pilot® Regional Soccer League (PRSL) is a full service youth soccer league sponsored by Pilot® Corporation made up of teams from eastern, central, and southern Tennessee as well as western North Carolina. Our league consists of both boys and girls teams, ages U8 to U18. These teams include all FC Alliance member players, middle school, recreational (AYSO and Upward) and competitive/select teams.

The home of the PRSL is US Cellular® Soccer Complex in Knoxville. The league also plays some the matches at participating teams' home fields.

All FC Alliance teams will be registered to participate in the PRSL. Teams will receive between 8 to 12 matches per season depending on team availability. Field and referee scheduling services are included; however, teams are responsible for paying referees fees.

Any FC Alliance team aged U14 and younger not participating in PRSL must have prior written approval from the League Director. To request approval, coaches must submit an explanation in writing to the League Director explaining why they are not able to participate in PRSL. The Director must approve this request.

At registration, all FC Alliance coaches are responsible for communicating which dates their team is available to be scheduled. Should an FC Alliance Coach fail to communicate these dates, the penalties listed below will be deducted from the Coaches monthly compensation. These penalties have been put in place to protect the integrity of PRSL.

- Failure to show up for a game will result in a minimum \$100 fine and/or team suspension. Teams will also be responsible for paying referee fees.
- Changing a scheduled game after 2nd week in August, will result in a minimum \$50 fine and/or suspension. Teams will also be responsible for paying referee fees.
- If a team walks off the field during a game, there will be a minimum \$50 fine and/or team suspension. Teams will also be responsible for paying referee fees.

For more information or to register to participate in the league, visit the league website or contact the PRSL League Director.

- **League Website:** www.PRSLtn.com
- **League Director:** Shane Moore, csasoccer@bellsouth.net , (865) 643-2125

1.6.2. TENNESSEE STATE LEAGUE

FC Alliance is an Eastern District member of the TSSA and registers all its U9 and older players with this association. As a registered team with TSSA, FC Alliance players aged U12 to U19 are eligible to participate in the Division One (D1SL) or the Division Two (D2SL) State League. Click here to download the State League Rules.

The Boys State League games are in the Fall of each year and the Girls State League games are played in the Spring. There are strict deadlines for when applications are due before each season for Division 1 and Division 2 teams. Click here for more information on the Boys and Girls Division 3 State Tournament. Refer to the TSSA website for more information (www.tnsoccer.org). Coaches are responsible for scheduling the state league matches.

1.6.3. US YOUTH SOCCER REGION III PREMIER LEAGUE

The US Youth Soccer Region III Premier League provides an opportunity for the most competitive teams located in Region III (Alabama | Arkansas | Florida | Georgia | Louisiana | Mississippi | North Carolina | Oklahoma | South Carolina | Tennessee | Texas North | Texas South) to play each other on a scheduled basis.

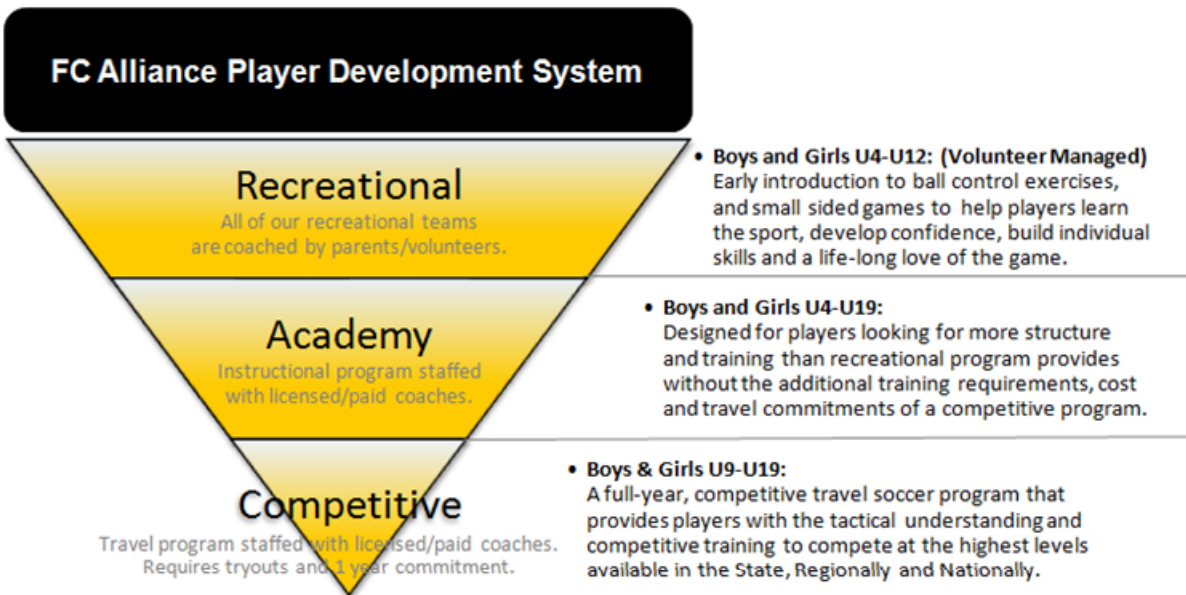
The league is comprised of boys and girls in the age groups of Under-14 through Under-18. Each State Association decides what will be the criteria for selecting teams to be considered for inclusion in the upcoming Premier League season. Typically the prior year' Premier League champion in an age group, the state cup finalist(s) or the champion of an instate league are potential candidates.

Each State Association is invited to present at least two 2 teams in each age group/gender. Games are scheduled in the fall or the spring, depending on local customs in a sub-region or state.

Website: <http://regioniii.usyouthsoccer.org>.

2.0 OUR PROGRAMS

FC Alliance welcomes players of all ability levels and offers a variety of programs throughout the year to meet the needs of beginners to premier level players. The club offers three tracks for player development –a volunteer managed Recreational Program, an instructional Academy Program and a Competitive/Travel Program; with the Academy and Competitive programs being led by certified professional soccer coaches/trainers.



2.1. FC ALLIANCE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM (U4-U12)

In the Fall of 2011, FC Alliance will offer U4 to U12 players the opportunity to play recreational soccer. The FC Alliance Recreational Program will be offered twice a year; Spring and Fall. Each season will be 8 weeks in length and will include two scheduled practices per week with games on Saturdays. All of our recreational teams are coached by parents/volunteers.

The FC Alliance Recreational Program will be primarily devoted to the enjoyment and development of soccer players without the emphasis on travel or high level competition. The purpose of recreational soccer is to provide an opportunity for the participants to have fun, learn the sport and develop life skills including a life-long love of the game.

2.2. FC ALLIANCE ACADEMY PROGRAM (U4-U19)

The FC Alliance Academy Program is an instructional soccer program designed for U4 to U19 players that are looking for more structure and training than the recreational program provides, without the additional training requirements, cost and travel commitments of a competitive team.

Unlike our recreational soccer program, FC Alliance Academy provides licensed coaches that use a combination of the Coerver® training method which focuses on improving individual skills and control and the West Ham United International Coaching Curriculum to compliment their own coaching methods. By combining these methods, players are able to build self esteem, while developing as creative and skilled soccer players.

All age groups in our Academy Program will play in the Pilot Regional Soccer League. This minimizes travel and offers more scheduling flexibility.

2.2.1. ACADEMY PLAYING SEASONS

The Academy Program is offered twice a year; in the Spring and Fall. Each season is 12 weeks in length. U4 to U19 Academy players participate in two practices and on to two games per week.

- Fall: Sept 1– Nov 30
- Spring: March 1 – May 31

Practice and game schedules vary by location and age group. Practices focus on technical development and making each individual confident and comfortable with the ball, while being stimulating, dynamic, full of positive encouragement, and fun.

Children that benefit the most from this program enjoy soccer, look forward to the practices and games, and have the maturity to stay engaged for the hour-long sessions. Players need not be star athletes, but a general excitement about the game and attentiveness at the sessions will ensure that your player gets maximum enjoyment out of the program.

2.2.2. ACADEMY PLAYING TIME

Generally players participating in the FC Alliance Academy Program will be given equal playing time. Coaches may limit playing for players who have violated club policies, have had excessive absences and/or are failing to give 100% effort, exhibit clear behavioral issues, or are otherwise violating the player code of conduct.

2.2.3. ACADEMY SITES

The FC Alliance Academy is currently offered at the sites listed below. Players may register to participate in a site location which is most convenient to their location.

- Academy Park (U4-U18)
- Arnstein -AJCC (U4-U18)
- Carl Cowan (U4-U12)
- Johnny Long (U4-U7)
- US Cellular (U4-U18)
- Anderson (U4-U18)
- Gatlinburg (U4-U12)
- Lenoir City (U4-U18)
- Madisonville (U4-U18)
- North Knoxville (U4-U18)

2.2.4. ACADEMY TEAM NAMES

When referring to Academy teams, names should be consistent with the following format:

Team Name: Age Group/Team Name/Coach (ie U10B Northshore Knights, Lubell)

2.2.5. ACADEMY UNIFORMS

Academy players are to wear FC Alliance practice jerseys for practices and games. For games, players should wear the specific colored jersey as specified by the Team Coach. Players should bring both jerseys to games should they need to change. All players are expected to wear black shorts. Players must come prepared to each practice and game with the following:

- FC Alliance Practice Jersey
- Shin guards
- Socks to cover shin guards
- Cleats (no metal spikes)
- Water Bottle
- Sunscreen
- Soccer Ball [U4-U6: Size 3, U7-U12: Size 4, U13+: Size 5]

2.2.6. FC ALLIANCE ACADEMY SELECT (U9-U19) – LOCAL COMPETITIVE

The FC Alliance Academy Select Program is a local competitive soccer program designed for standout players participating in the Academy Program that have demonstrated a higher level of athleticism and skill. Teams are formed on an invitation only basis. This means that players are either invited or “selected” to play on a team by the Director, or win a spot on the team during the annual team placement and evaluation sessions.

The purpose of the Select Program is to further challenge those Academy players by providing opportunities to participate in local competitive matches involving teams outside of FC Alliance, while limiting travel within the greater Knoxville area.

The Academy Select Program is a 12 week program, offered twice a year; Spring and Fall. Academy Select players receive an additional 30 minutes of practice time per week in addition to regularly scheduled Academy Program practices and games. Practice and game schedules vary by location and age group. In some instances, coaches may opt to offer extended training opportunities or extend the program to accommodate the needs of higher level players and teams.

Players will furnish their own Club-specified shirts, shorts and socks, as well as shoes and shin guards.

Select players are encouraged to participate in the FC Alliance Skills Sessions and at no additional cost. The cost to participate in these sessions is included in FC Alliance Club fees. CPS training provided by Johnny Long Training Academy is only available to players participating in the FC Alliance Travel Program.

2.3. FC ALLIANCE TRAVEL PROGRAM (U9-U19)

When players reach the U9 age group (see Age Matrix), they now have the option to tryout out to participate in our Travel Program. The FC Alliance Travel Program provides a positive environment for players that demonstrate the necessary talent, commitment and good sportsmanship to continue to develop and compete at the state, regional and national level.

Travel teams are formed in the spring of each year through open Evaluation and Team Placement Sessions. Players are accepted to their team for a one year (12-month) commitment to a travel team beginning July 1 to June 30th the following year. Requests for exceptions must be submitted in writing to the appropriate age group Director within two weeks of team selection and must be approved by the Directors of Coaching.

Our travel program requires additional practice and conditioning, as well as travel to local, regional or out-of-state tournaments, for players and their families. Teams compete at various levels depending upon the competitive needs of the players involved.

The parents of a player who leaves the team prior to the completion of the year-long travel season will be required to fulfill all financial responsibilities up to the date of departure before their release is completed. Failure to do so may result in the player being placed in bad standing with the local league and state association. This worst case situation will result in the player not being able to play in any game, league or tournament for any other team.

2.3.1. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Boys and girls aged U9 – U19 (see Age Matrix) wishing to participate in the Travel Program must register using our on-line registration system, pay the registration fee, and participate in the Evaluation and Team Placement Sessions that are held annually in the spring. Exceptions are listed below:

- Players of families moving into the Knox County area
- Players transferring from another club or wishing to transfer out of FC Alliance, must conform to the TSSA Policy 26

2.3.2. PLAYER SELECTION

FC Alliance Directors, Coaches and Coaches Board will assign players to a level and then to a team based on age, ability and skill level after the evaluation and team placement sessions. A review of the prior season's performance, player skill, attitude, performance and potential will also be considered. Selection to a team one year does not guarantee selection in subsequent years and players are expected to continue to develop and earn that distinction each year.

Players will be notified of team placement within two weeks following Evaluation and Team Placement Sessions. Players will be notified of roster and postings. Rosters will be posted on www.fcallianceknox.org. The player/parents are required to respond to FC Alliance within two weeks to confirm acceptance of their selection to the team and to register with FC Alliance.

Players not selected for a specific competitive travel team will be considered for placement in either the Academy Select Program or the Academy Program. The Academy Select Program offers a competitive program for higher level players who would like to continue to work on their skills, or for those who cannot or do not wish to commit to the year-round demands of travel soccer. For more information, please visit www.fcallianceknox.org.

2.3.3. PLAYING SEASONS

Players participating in the FC Alliance Travel Program must be willing to commit to the full travel membership year (with the exception of High School players).

The yearly plan for each team will be determined in July by the head coach of the team and the Directors of Coaching and Technical Directors. Participants are to be made aware that extra costs can be substantial and are ultimately the player or player's parents' responsibility. This includes all training costs, registrations, team fees, referee fees, field fees, tournaments, etc.

Players are expected to participate in all training and seasons during the travel year. This includes summer camp, pre-season fall trainings, the fall season, the winter season, the spring season and the summer season.

- Membership Year July 1 – June 30th
 - Fall Training Season Aug 1 – Nov 30
 - Spring Training Season Feb 1 – May 31
- High School Players (Girls) Nov 1 – May 31
- High School Players (Boys) Aug 1 – Jan 31

2.3.4. COMMITMENT

FC Alliance recognizes that family, school and religious events may sometimes take priority over team activities. FC Alliance also recognizes that players may have the interest and desire to participate in other sports, and encourages players to do so. However, being on a travel team requires that both the child and the parent understand that this activity is a commitment. Neither the player nor the team can develop to their full potential without that commitment.

When facing such conflicts parents must notify the coach of conflicts with team activities as far in advance as possible so that plans for other players and the team can be adjusted accordingly. It is especially important that parents notify the coach whenever a player is participating and/or training on other soccer teams at any time throughout the travel year. This includes ODP, school, all star, tournament guest, and secondary league play.

The Travel Program is not for every child or every family, but what players and families who make the commitment find is that they improve their skills and confidence by leaps and bounds, they make new friends and they have a lot of fun. Winning is the objective of our Travel teams, however it is not the ultimate measure of success.

Parents need to think about whether their child is ready for the experience. If the answer is yes, the child will learn that success does not come easy, that hard work does pay off and that winning is not everything. These are life lessons that we all must learn, and travel soccer is a good way to learn them.

2.3.5. FINANCIAL OBLIGATION/CLUB FEE SCHEDULE

Players participating in the Travel Program must recognize that the players’ and coaches’ commitment to FC Alliance and to each other is for the soccer year which includes both the Fall and Spring seasons, and must abide by the financial terms outlined below to play with FC Alliance.

Annual player fees can be paid by check or credit card as follows:

All Competitive Players (Includes HS Boys)	High School Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Registration: Due May 31 • Payment in Full: Due August 1 <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installment Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Payment 1- Due Aug 1 – Payment 2- Due Sept 30 – Payment 3- Due Nov 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Registration: Due May 31 • Payment in Full: Due Nov 1 <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installment Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Payment 1- Due Nov 1 – Payment 2- Due Dec 31 – Payment 3- Due Feb 1

A late fee of \$25 will apply to any payment received past the due date. A failure to fulfill the financial obligations will result in the suspension of your son's/daughter's eligibility to play with FC Alliance until all payments and applicable late fees are current.

2.3.6. PROGRAM STRUCTURE

It is the Club's intention to field minimum of three (3) teams per age group. Team levels are distinguished by color: Gold, Red or Black; with the black level teams consisting of the best players in an age group. The black team coaches shall have preferential choice of the best players. As players develop, Directors reserve the right to promote players to participate on higher level teams.

TABLE 1: AGE GROUP/GAME FORMAT

Age Group	Team Formats
U9-U10	6v6 and 8v8
U11-U12	8v8 and 11v11 (higher level teams)
U13-U19	11v11

TABLE 2: TEAM LEVELS & LEVELS OF PLAY

Team Level	Level of Play
Black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State & Regional Play • Playing in the TSSA Division 1 & Division 2 State Tournament • The winner of the TSSA D1 State Championship may advance to the Region III Southern Regional's as the TN State Champion Representative.
Red	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing in the TSSA Division 1 or Division 2 State Tournament
Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playing in the TSSA Division 3 State Tournament

If there are enough players in an age group with ability to compete at the Gold, Red or Black level to form additional teams, the club will attempt to do so (i.e. Red 1 and Red 2), however, there is no guarantee that a second or third team will be selected. If multiple teams are to be formed for an age category, the Coaching Directors will determine the best team format, that is whether or not to build equal strength teams or graded teams.

A player who wishes to play up and out of his/her age group must be on the Regional ODP Team for their age group to be considered by the Coaches Board.

FC Alliance travel teams participate in the Pilot Regional Soccer League, the Tennessee State Soccer Association (TSSA) State League, and Region III Premier League to further promote training and competition levels for players to excel in soccer.

2.3.7. TEAM NAMES

When referring to Travel Teams and when registering teams for tournaments, names should be consistent with the following format:

- **Club Name/Year/Gender** (*i.e. "B" or "G"*)/**Team Level/Age Group** (*i.e. U9*) /**Coach** (*if necessary*)

COMPETITIVE TEAM NAME EXAMPLES:

- FC Alliance, 01B Black 8v8 (U10), Lubell
- FC Alliance, 98G Gold 1 (U13), Clothier
- FC Alliance, 01G Pool 2A (U10), Roth

2.3.8. PLAYING TIME

Players invited to travel events should expect to experience the minimum playing times detailed below; otherwise coaches are encouraged to not invite the player to attend the event respecting the time, resources and monies involved in traveling.

Coaches may limit playing below the standards presented below for players who have violated club policies, have had excessive absences (>20% of practices), are failing to give 100% effort, exhibit clear behavioral issues, or are otherwise violating the player code of conduct.

Gold Level Teams: FC Alliance coaches strive for every player to play at least half of the game; recognizing that the function of these teams is 80% for player development and 20% for team development. The inability to execute a particular skill or tactic is not a reason for limiting playing time for a Gold player.

Red & Black Level Teams: No minimum, though a player should not be invited to play on such a team unless the coach believes they are capable of playing a minimum of 20% of the time. If playing time becomes generally less than 20% for a player, then coach/player/parent should meet to consider moving the player to the next lower team.

2.3.9. UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

Players participating in our Travel Program are required to purchase the official FC Alliance uniform kit. In addition, competitive players must wear the appropriate practice jerseys, as well as soccer shoes and shin guards to each practice/game. In the event uniforms are available from the previous year and meet the needs of the team for the upcoming season, the purchase of new uniforms will not be required. All teams are required to wear club approved uniforms to all tournament games.

2.4. ROSTER SIZES

In order to facilitate appropriate playing time for players, roster sizes for games are encouraged to be as follows:

- U12 & BELOW: Formation Plus 1 to 3 Players
- 8v8: Ideal roster is 9 – 11 player per game roster
- 6v6: Ideal roster is 7 – 9 player per game roster
- U13 & ABOVE: The age of the players plus 1 to 2 players

For example, the ideal roster size for a U15 team is 15, plus 1 or 2 players, resulting in 16 to 17 players to a roster per game.

Exceptions to these guidelines require the written approval of the Coaching Director of the age group in question. Explanation must detail how all players will have an ample opportunity to play.

2.5. FC ALLIANCE FLEX PROGRAM

Local and regional soccer teams that are organized to promote competition and fun among youth players and that are not otherwise affiliated or registered with the TSSA or US Club, may register via FC Alliance under our “FLEX” program.

FC Alliance reserves the right to issue any new rules or regulations that are deemed essential to promote safe, fair and enjoyable competition among “FLEX Program” participants and to ensure the success of the program.

2.5.1. FC ALLIANCE FLEX PROGRAM GUIDELINES

FC Alliance FLEX teams will abide by the following guidelines:

- Allow FC Alliance to serve as sole Registrar of the players with the TSSA or US Club. Each player participating on an “Flex Program” Team will pay the required TSSA or US Club registration fees.
- Pay FC Alliance Flex Fees as outlined in the Club Fee Schedule
- Provide a Certified Coach as follows: < **U13**: E Certification; **U12**: D Certification
- Require the team’s coach to participate the mandatory FC Alliance Coach Training for the appropriate age group
- Follow the FC Alliance Coaching Policies including adherence with the FC Alliance Age Specific Training Curriculum
- Abide by and be subject to the FC Alliance Codes of Conduct for players, parents and coaches
- Allow FC Alliance Directors of Coaching to periodically attend practices and games
- Have written practice plans reviewable by an FC Alliance as requested
- Provide weekly game and training reports Directors of Coaching
- Provide FC Alliance Directors of Coaching practice and game schedules

2.5.2. FC ALLIANCE FLEX PROGRAM BENEFITS

FC Alliance FLEX Teams may:

- Purchase uniforms (as specified by FC Alliance), bags, warm-ups, and other logoed items at the same cost as the FC Alliance teams.
- Utilize the FC Alliance name and logo as part of their name by inserting their team name after the word FC Alliance such as “FC Alliance Falcons”. Satellite teams do not have to use the FC Alliance name
- Attend any open (non team specific) skills sessions and goalie training for no additional charge
- Attend FC Alliance camps, pre-season camp, fun nights, futsal, summer league, street soccer etc. for the same fee all members pay.
- Compete in Divisions 2 or 3
- Compete in Division 1 at the discretion and with the written approval of the FC Directors of Coaching which shall not be unreasonable with held provided the resume of the team warrants this level of competition

2.5.3. FC ALLIANCE RESPONSIBILITY TO FLEX TEAMS

The Club shall:

- Make FC Alliance Coaching Curriculum Available to Coaches
- Provide Registrar Services
- Make Directors of Coaching available to attend/conduct practices and or attend games at least 2 times per month during each Spring and Fall season

3.0 PRACTICE ONLY PLAYERS

In the event that there are not enough players to form a complete additional team and a player(s) would like to participate in the team’s training, at the discretion of the team coach a practice only player may be allowed. The player(s) would typically only attend practices, but could be registered with the TSSA and play in a game if needed/requested by the coach of the team. “Practice Only” players will pay a club fee equal to 50% of the age specific Club Fee in place at that time.

In the event a team needs additional players for games, “practice only” players may be invited to play at the discretion of the team coach who is encouraged to be sensitive to the playing time constraints that this puts on the other players paying the full fee.

Practice Only players are allowed and encouraged to participate in PRSL games and friendlies.

4.0 RECRUITING

All FC Alliance members and players must adhere to TSSA rules and guidelines. Recruiting of other club players is not allowed during the playing season. Violations of this TSSA policy can result in club and team penalties and result in teams and players not being eligible. Likewise the recruitment of FC Alliance team players is not allowed and any such infraction should be reported to your team coach and the Directors of Coaching.

5.0 MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCCER

FC Alliance encourages its members to participate in Middle School (MS) soccer programs while participating in FC Alliance programs. Middle School soccer represents a great opportunity for players to support their school and demonstrate the value of the training that FC Alliance provides to players. During the Middle School season, we encourage a balance between FC Alliance and Middle School events as follows:

FC Alliance coaches should plan to leave the MS tournament weekend open so that all players may attend their MS event with the exception of the TSSA State Tournament over which FC Alliance has no control. In this particular case, FC Alliance asks that the TSSA tournament take precedence

FC Alliance players are encouraged to attend at least 50% of the FC Alliance practices; splitting time with the MS if necessary. We encourage FC Alliance players to hit a higher percentage of FC Alliance practices where possible provided a player's school work and life balance is given priority.

We suggest the following order of priority for conflicting FC Alliance and MS events:

- TSSA or US Club State or Regional events
- MS Team Tournament
- FC Alliance Team Tournaments
- MS Games non-tournament games
- FC Alliance non-tournament games

We encourage our member parents to patronize their Middle School administration and coaching staff to adopt a similar policy. If a MS coach mandates that players participating in MS soccer not play club soccer, then our recommendation to you would be you consider closely whether the MS program and approach has a player's best interest in mind. You may wish to consider only FC Alliance in that situation knowing that it allows for a solution for all parties.

6.0 REGISTRATION

To participate in FC Alliance programs, all players must be registered with FC Alliance and with the TSSA. All teams within FC Alliance will be organized in accordance with the United State Soccer Federation (USSF), the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and related Club affiliations.

6.1. CLUB REGISTRATION

All players wishing to participate in FC Alliance programs must register each season using our on-line registration system. It is important to note that this system is used to roster players for all programs. Use this link to access the on-line registration system: www.fcallianceknox.org/register

Players new to the Club or who do not have an account will need to go on-line and set up an account with FC Alliance. You will only have to set up one account per family as the system will allow you to add multiple players within a single family to one account.

Each program will be given an open registration timeframe. A late fee of \$25 will apply to any payment received during the late registration timeframe and past the due date set by FC Alliance. A failure to fulfill the financial

obligations will result in the suspension of your son's/daughter's eligibility to play with FC Alliance until all payments and applicable late fees are current.

To register for a competitive program, there is a two step process. Players must first preregister using our on-line system and participate in the Evaluations and Team Placement Sessions. The \$100 PreRegistration Fee will be deducted from the players Club Fees once they are placed on a team. If a player does not wish to join the Club after the Evaluation/Team Placement Sessions, the \$100 Fee will be refunded to the player if the Club is notified by the date specified.

All players joining the Club after the Evaluations and Team Placement Sessions (to include high school players), must complete the “**PreRegistration and Team Placement**” option to get them added to the system.

Summary of Registration Process for Competitive Players (Travel & Academy Select):

- Register on-line for Team Placement and Evaluation Sessions & Pay PreRegistration Fee
- Participate in Team Placement Sessions
- Check “Team Placement Rosters” on website to see which team you have been placed
- Accept team placement by logging into your account, selecting the program/team you were placed on and pay the dues for the program
- Player Cards will not be issued if on-line registration is not complete and account in good standing

6.2. STATE REGISTRATION (TSSA)

To complete the registration process, players must provide the following to their coach or team manager (to be turned in to the Club Registrar) so that each player can be registered with the Tennessee State Soccer Association (TSSA) each year:

- Permission to Roster Form (Go to Download Center: www.fcallianceknox.org/downloads)
- TSSA Medical Release Form (Go to Download Center: www.fcallianceknox.org/downloads)
- Copy of Player Birth Certificate
- 1"x1" Headshot Photo of Player for Registration Card
- U9 –U11 Players Pay \$20 State Registration Fee
- U12-U18 Players Pay \$30 State Registration Fee

Each player is responsible for submitting the TSSA player registration fee to their Team Managers (payable to your Team Account) so that players can be registered with the state and player cards issued. The Manager will write one check for all player registrations to the Club Registrar, who will then pay TSSA. The coach's registration fee is added to the team expenses.

7.0 TEAM MANAGERS

- The chosen manager(s) of each team shall be responsible for adhering to and following all club and governing body rules. This would include all FC Alliance, TSSA, USSYA, USSF, FIFA rules concerning player eligibility, player age requirements, and player out of state travel.
- The manager(s) will be responsible for collecting all necessary team fees. Club dues are to be submitted directly to the Club.
- The Club Registrar will be responsible for properly registering players with TSSA each season.
- The manager(s) will be responsible for attending all FC Alliance manager meetings and disseminating necessary FC Alliance information to all team players and members.

8.0 FIELD SCHEDULING

Please follow the below procedure when requesting a field or space other than your assigned team practice times:

1. Visit www.fcallianceknox.org/Fields to check the calendar for available time for venue desired. This calendar will be updated daily Monday-Thursday.
2. Only e-mail requests will be taken so that a back-up record can be kept. E-mail request to Shane Moore csasoccer@bellsouth.net. The request must include the following:
 - ✓ Team name
 - ✓ Age
 - ✓ Gender
 - ✓ Coach responsible for requested area
 - ✓ Field/Venue requested
 - ✓ Date Needed
 - ✓ Time slot (start/finish)
 - ✓ Type of activity (training, scrimmage)
 - ✓ Opposing team (if applicable)
 - ✓ Format (6v6, 8v8, 11v11)
3. You will receive a confirmation e-mail within 24 hours if request is submitted Monday-Thursday. Any Friday-Sunday requests will be reviewed the following Monday.
4. Once the space is confirmed, it will be listed on the master calendar at the link above.

8.1. FIELDS AVAILABLE FOR RESERVATION

Below is a list of fields/venues available for reservation (format/field sizes)—days available

- Academy Park (8v8, 6v6, training)—Sunday-Saturday
- Alliance Park (11v11, training)—Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
- Carl Cowan Park (11v11, training)—Sunday-Saturday
- Nicholas Ball Park (11v11, training)—Sunday-Saturday
- US Cellular (11v11, 8v8, 6v6, training)—Sunday-Saturday
- Watt Road (11v11, training)—Monday-Thursday

8.2. FIELD STATUS

Weather and other conditions can result in field closures for practices or games. Make sure your team is aware of the field status hotline so they can check prior to leaving their house if weather is threatening. If fields are closed, then no one is permitted to use the fields. Field status notifications can be found on our website at www.fcallianceknox.org or you may dial our field hotline numbers listed below.

Field Hotline Numbers

- Academy Park (Watt Road) (865) 966-2420
- All Other Alliance Fields (865) 675-4938

8.3. TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

Note the following team responsibilities when using FC Alliance managed fields and venues:

- It is the team's responsibility to check the field hotline (numbers below) for field status each day. No team or individual is permitted to play on a field that has been closed.
- Before any play/activity commences, teams must ensure goals are anchored properly and the area is clear of debris to protect the safety of the players.
- At the end of your reserved time, the area used should be free of trash and debris and all goals moved off the field.
- If you need referees for a friendly or match, see the "Referee Scheduling" section.

9.0 REFEREE SCHEDULING

Coach John Giles has completed the USSF Referee Assignor Certification and is the acting Referee Assignor for FC Alliance friendlies and matches. Coach Giles will assign referees to each game. Referee assignments are made on a first come, first serve basis. Referees that respond first are assigned first.

For State League Games, please contact Bob Bratta.

- Friendly or Match: John Giles johngiles34@gmail.com
- State League Game: Bob Bratta bratta@chartertn.net

Please review the Guidelines for Requesting a Referee listed below so that you understand the requirements of our program.

9.1. GUIDELINES FOR REQUESTING A REFEREE

1. Complete the Referee Request Form **at least 1 week prior to the game**. All fields must be completed for the request to be accepted.
2. Coach John Giles will reply to you with an e-mail confirming he has received your request and copy Shane Moore (Field Manager). In the instance your team needs a field without the need for referees (i.e. scrimmage), please notify Shane Moore and copy John Giles.
3. **Review the Referee Schedule**. The Referee Schedule will be posted on our website each week. It is the requestor's responsibility to check the schedule to verify that the request is accurate.

- If your team is highlighted in gold on the schedule, your team is confirmed for both fields and referees. If you are highlighted in gold and don't need referees it is your responsibility to notify John. This means you have provided all required information.
 - If your team is highlighted in blue on the schedule, your team is confirmed for the field, but you have not yet requested or been assigned referees. You have provided only game start times (no opponents).
 - If your team is on the schedule (but not highlighted) your team is only tentatively scheduled, but with no degree of certainty and no referees assigned. You have only requested a field with a beginning use and ending use time.
4. To cancel a referee request, YOU MUST CALL (not e-mail) Coach John Giles on his mobile phone (Not **Shane**) to cancel referees at least **24 hours in advance or your team will be charged the referee fees.** Teams canceling games (not due to inclement weather) after referee assignments have been made will be responsible for the referee assignor fees (\$5 per game and \$10 for State League Games).

9.2. REFEREE FEE STRUCTURE

It is the home team's responsibility to have referees assigned to their home games. Each team will split the referee's fees in both league and tournament games. Officials are to be paid prior to the start of the game. The fees and payment process are outlined below.

Referee Assigner Fee \$5 per game for local games/friendlies - \$10 per game for State League Games

Local Games: To have a referee assigned to a local match or friendly, the home team must contact John Giles, Referee Assignor for FC Alliance directly at johngiles34@gmail.com or (865) 659-7959. Please mail payments for the Referee Assigner Fee to FC Alliance c/o Robin Bingham, ATTN: Referee Assignor, PO BOX 22603, Knoxville, TN 37933. Please make checks payable to "FC Alliance" and write "Ref Assign/Game Date" on the Memo line.

State League Games: To have a referee assigned to a State League Game, please contact Bob Bratta. There is a \$10 per game assignor fee for each game. Bob Bratta, 11509 Gates Mill Drive Knoxville, TN 37934, Phone: (865) 966-3064, Email: bratta@chartertn.net.

6v6 Matches

Payment must be paid directly to referees on the field prior to the start of a match. Place payment in envelope labeled CENTER or AR for Assistant Referee.

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 1. Friendly with just one center referee: | \$15 |
| 2. Friendly with 2 referees: | \$20 |
| 3. Friendly with full 3 man system: | \$15, \$8, \$8 |

8v8 Matches

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Friendly with just one center referee: | \$20 |
| 2. Friendly with two referees: | \$30 |
| 3. Friendly with full 3 man system: | \$20, \$15, \$15 |
| 4. State League Match: | See Below |

11v11 Matches

1. Friendly with just one center referee: \$30
2. Friendly with two referees: \$40
3. Friendly with full 3 man system: \$25, \$15, \$15
4. State League Match: See Below

If for any reason the home team has agreed to pay a referee or referees more than the rate listed above, than the home team shall pay the difference. The visiting team will only pay only ½ the rate listed below. If a game has teams from different age groups playing together, the referee fees will be paid at the oldest age group rate.

In the event a game is canceled or rescheduled it is the home team’s responsibility to inform the referee assignor that the referees will no longer be needed. If the home fails to notify the assignor that the game will not be played as scheduled, home team will be responsible to pay the referees. All teams are required to provide a comfortable, safe, welcoming environment for officials, with the basic necessities for an athletic event.

9.3. STATE LEAGUE REFEREE FEE STRUCTURE

All State League Referee Fees will follow the State guidelines.

TSSA STATE LEAGUE FEES – FALL 2010

Division I State League		
Age	Referee	Asst Ref
U17–U19	\$60	\$50
U15–U16	\$55	\$45
U14	\$50	\$40
Assigning fee is \$10 per match.		

Division II State League		
Age	Asst Ref	Asst Ref
U17–U19	\$50	\$40
U15–U16	\$45	\$35
U13–U14	\$40	\$30
U11–U12	\$35	\$25
Assigning fee is \$10 per match.		

Premier League		
<i>These fees are set by Region III</i>		
Age	Referee	Asst Ref
U17–U19	\$40	\$30
U15–U16	\$35	\$25
U13–U14	\$30	\$20
U11–U12	\$25	\$20
Assigning fee is \$10 per match.		

Cancellation Policy:

- If there is a game change or cancellation, not due to weather, the referee assignor must be notified within 24 hours of game time to avoid having to pay full referee fees.
- If referee assignor is not notified within a 3 day advance notice of cancellation, the assignor fee will still be charged.

9.4. BECOME AN FC ALLIANCE REFEREE

Certified Referees interested in becoming a becoming a referee for FC Alliance should make a request to John Giles via email. Please include the following in your email: full name, phone number, email, address, age, DOB, certification level, date of certification class, years of experience, the age you are most comfortable with and the dates you are available.

Accepted referees will be added to the referee distribution list and will be copied on the schedules that are sent out at the beginning of each week during the season.

Coach Giles will assign referees to each game. Referee assignments are made on a first come, first serve basis. Referees that respond first are assigned first.

If you are interested in refereeing and are currently not certified you need to go to the TN state soccer website and register for one of the classes. Due to insurance reasons, all referees must be certified and up to date.

If you were certified but need to renew there are recertification classes as well. Once this is done, I can then put you on the schedule. Here is the direct link to some of the dates of upcoming classes for complete certification, <http://soccerofficialstn.org/ApprovedClasses.php>.

10.0 TEAM WEB SITES

FC Alliance has developed consistent layouts to improve our branding and standardize how we present information on teams. All team websites are to use www.fcalliancknox.org as their portal site.

If you currently manage a site outside of www.fcallianceknox.org that has personal player information (ie address, school, phone number, etc.) on it, please remove it. Please use the Director's and/or Team Manager's contact information in lieu of personal player information for recruiting purposes.

For assistance in setting up a team web page, contact a member of our web team.

11.0 UNIFORMS & LOGO GEAR

Uniform requirements vary by program and are as follows:

- Academy Program – FC Alliance Practice Jerseys for Practices & Games
- Travel Teams – FC Alliance Practice Jerseys for Practices & Required Uniform Kit for Games
- "Flex Program" Teams –FC Alliance Practice Jerseys
- To order uniforms or practice jerseys, please contact:

Soccer U.S.A., Inc.
11560 Kingston Pike
Farragut, TN 37934
(865) 777-1847

Additional FC Alliance logoed gear can be found in the "Gear Store" on our website.

Link: www.shgstores.com/fcalliance

11.1. UNIFORM KIT

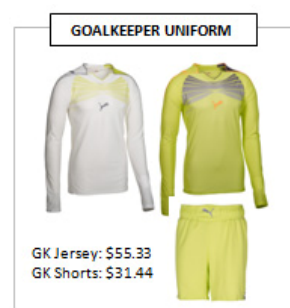
The PUMA Power Cat 5.10 uniform is the official FC Alliance uniform for the Fall 2010 through Spring of 2012 season. The colors of the uniforms are black and red. The red uniform is our "HOME" uniform and the black uniform is our "AWAY" uniform. The club's shield is displayed on the front of the shirts. Black numbers are screen printed on back of the Red jersey and Vegas Gold numbers on the back of the black jersey.

The uniforms kit is composed of 2 shorts, 2 shirts, and 2 pairs of socks (black not pictured). The cost for these items is \$100 and includes a small markup of 3% that will be returned to the club for administration, shipping and handling costs. Full time goalkeepers are to purchase the goalkeeper uniform and not purchase the regular uniform kit.

If players participate in a field position and as a goalkeeper, players have the option to purchase the official field player kit and just the goalkeeper shirt. In this instance the goalkeeper shirt is not required, provided the player has an alternative goalkeeper shirt they can use. If a team has more than one goalkeeper, the team should consider sharing the cost of the goalkeeper shirt across the team by adding a portion of the cost to each player's Team Fees.

In addition to the uniforms, a backpack and sweat suit are available. The backpack can be ordered for \$28 and includes the player's name and number embroidered on the bag. The Sweat Suit (Jacket and Pant) can be ordered for an additional \$72 and includes "FC Alliance" screened on the back of the jacket and player name and number embroidered on both the jacket and pant.

In an effort to keep membership in our club very affordable, neither the sweats nor the backpack are required to be purchased. We do however ask that if members purchase sweats or a bag for their players, the members purchase these Puma branded items as a show of support to Puma who is a wonderful partner to the club.



11.2. PRACTICE JERSEYS

For practices, the Club requires all players to wear FC Alliance practice shirts. These are normally obtained through either Preseason Camp or during Gear Sales throughout the year. There are two shirts-one black and one red. Teams are to wear their red shirt for the first practice of the week and their black practice shirt for the second practice of the week. All players are expected to wear black shorts for practice.

12.0 CLUB FEES

Club Fees are the fees that each player pays directly to FC Alliance to cover player training, referee training, field maintenance and rentals, coaches pay and training and other operating and administrative costs. Club Fees do not include the cost of uniforms, gear, tournament fees and expenses, coaches per diem, or league and referee fees.

Club Fees are set annually by the Board of Directors and are paid twice a year by players participating in both Fall and Spring seasons.

Payment for Club Fees can be made at the time of registration by credit or debit card and is the preferred method of payment.

Club Fees can also be paid by check. Please allow 7 days for processing and posting to your account. Checks should be made payable to: FC Alliance Knoxville.

Mail payments for Club Fees to: FC Alliance c/o Robin Bingham, PO BOX 22603, Knoxville, TN 37933.

12.1. CLUB FEE SCHEDULE

Our Club Fee Schedule can be found on our website under “Fees, Fundraising, Assistance & Aid.”

Recreation, Academy and Academy Select players, Club Fees shall be due as follows:

- Fall Season Due Date: All Club Fees in full by August 1
- Spring Season Due Date: All Club Fees in full by February 1

Club Fees for Travel Competitive players shall be paid on the following schedule:

All Competitive Players (Includes HS Boys)	High School Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Registration: Due May 31 • Payment in Full: Due August 1 <li style="text-align: center;">OR • Installment Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Payment 1- Due Aug 1 – Payment 2- Due Sept 30 – Payment 3- Due Nov 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Registration: Due May 31 • Payment in Full: Due Nov 1 <li style="text-align: center;">OR • Installment Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Payment 1- Due Nov 1 – Payment 2- Due Dec 31 – Payment 3- Due Feb 1

NOTICE: All Club Fees received after the start of each season will be considered late and subject to a \$25 late fee.

Player cards will only be issued to players who are registered with FC Alliance for the current season (i.e. players cards will not be issued to players for the Fall or Spring seasons until they are shown as “registered” in the FC Alliance on-line registration system).

Players with outstanding fees of any nature (Club Fees, Camps, Winter/Summer League, etc) as of February 1st and August 1st will have their TSSA player cards revoked and will not be able to play or practice unless they have agreed in writing with the treasurer for a payment plan.

12.2. PRORATED CLUB FEES

Players joining the Club after the start of the Spring or Fall season are eligible for a pro-rated Club Fee as follows:

- If more than 3 months left = 100% of Club Fee is required to be paid
- If more than 2 months left = 75% of Club Fee is required to be paid
- If less than 2 months left = 50% of Club Fee is required to be paid

12.3. OFF-SEASON TRAINING FEES

Players and/or teams that do not participate in FC Alliance programs for the full membership year (meaning both the Fall and Spring Seasons) may participate in extra training sessions that will be held outside of the regular season on a per month basis. Players must register to participate in the “Extra Training Sessions” using the on-line registration system and pay the associated fees for their accounts to remain in good standing.

Players and/or teams paying club fees in both the Fall and Spring seasons are exempt from off-season training fees (club fees).

12.4. FINANCIAL AID

FC Alliance offers a Financial Aid Program to eligible players that can be applied towards a player’s Club Fees. To apply for this program, please download the Financial Aid Request Form located in the “Download Center” and mail directly to: FC Alliance, Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 22603, Knoxville, TN 37933.

Any players requesting financial aid for the Fall and/or Spring season must complete and submit the Financial Aid application by August 1 (NO EXCEPTIONS). All applications are reviewed discretely. Please note the Club has a limited budget set aside to accommodate these requests, funds will be awarded based on need and eligibility.

Players will be notified via email whether or not they are eligible to receive aid from this program. Team Managers will also be notified of the amount in their team invoice. Please note financial aid is only available for Club Fees. All other expenses such as Team Fees and Tournament Fees as well as personal travel expenses will need to be paid in full by each family.

13.0 TEAM FEES

Team Fees are the fees that each player pays to their Team Account that is managed by either the assigned Team Manager or Team Treasurer. Team Fees cover the costs associated with operating a team, including but not limited to tournament fees, league fees, referee fees, field fees, equipment (cones, pennies), coaches per diem (meals, hotel, and gas for out of town travel), etc.

- The ultimate determinant of the team fee is driven by the number of events a team elects to participate in as determined by the coach.
- Team fees apply to all competitive teams ages U9 and above. Team fees generally do not apply to Academy teams unless the teams elect to participate in a special event, such as a tournament and only then if members of the team agree to participate.
- Coaches are responsible for selecting a minimum of 25–30 games per spring or fall season and communicating to managers in a timely manner and ensuring that there is no overlap in tournament and PRSL games.
- Team Fees shall be calculated by each Team Manager using the “Team Fee Worksheet” that is posted in the Download Center on our website.
- All Team Fee Worksheets shall be submitted to the Coaching Board for review and approval through the respective coaching director by July 15th

- At the beginning of each season, all players on the team should be provided a copy of the Team Fee Worksheet outlining team fees for the season.
- Team fees shall be targeted to the following ranges to include the maximum fee as shown (Excluding TSSA or US Club registration fees).

13.1. TEAM FEE MAXIMUMS

The following team fee Maximums are in place for FC Alliance teams:

U4-U18 Academy Program:

- All age groups in our Academy program will play in the Pilot Regional Soccer League. This minimizes travel and offers more scheduling flexibility. Academy players will be asked to split the cost of the league entry fee and referee expenses among team members. Generally these expenses are less than \$60 per 12 week season.

U9-U18 Academy Select (Local Competitive):

- \$150 (Max/12 week season)

U9-U12 Travel Competitive Players:

- (Gold/Red/Black): \$325 (Max/16 week season)

U13-U18 Travel Competitive Players:

- Gold: \$325 (Max/16 week season)
- Red: \$390 (Max/16 week season)
- Black: \$490 (Max/16 week season)

13.2. PARTICIPATING IN ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Exceptions to the team fee maximum amounts may be requested for teams in special circumstances who may need additional travel to obtain quality games, participate in regional premier league, etc. The process for requesting and obtaining approval is as follows:

- The coach of the team should document the request in writing to include the rationale involved and describing the additional event(s). This request should be forward to the Coaching Director of the age group for review.
- If the Directors of Coaching agree that the exception is necessary, then the request should be presented to the entire coaching board for review.
- If the coaching board approves the exception, they should forward it to the President of the Club for approval.
- If approved by the President of the Board, the excess fee above the set team fee maximum becomes “Voluntary to all Parent/Members”, that is no team member can be required to pay the excess or attend the additional events nor should they be discriminated against for not agreeing to the excess fee, but the

members of the team wanting to incur the additional fees in support of additional voluntary events may do so.

13.3. COACHING EXPENSES

Teams are responsible for covering the travel expenses incurred by coaches to include meals, hotel and gas for out of town travel. If a coach takes more than one team to an event, the teams should share the travel expenses of the coach equally. The coach should not receive duplicate reimbursements.

Should a team win the Tennessee State Division 1 Championship and be chosen to play in the Regional or National semifinals or finals, FC Alliance may opt to cover some additional coach's expenses.

- Meal per Diem:
 - \$30.00 per full day (Full Day = more than 1 meal eaten out of town)
 - \$15 for half days (Half Day =1 meal eaten out of town)
- Mileage: Mileage will be reimbursed at a rate equal to 70% of the IRS maximum rate as of July 1 and Jan 1 each year. The current rate can be found on the Manager's Team Fee Worksheet that is used to calculate team fees. Mileage is to be determined based upon a round-trip using an online map (i.e. Google Maps, MapQuest, etc) using a starting point of the US Cellular fields (875 Cornerstone Dr, Knoxville, TN 37932) to the applicable hotel, then to the applicable field X 2 if staying overnight. Otherwise mileage is from US Cell to the field X 2.
- Hotel: Cost of the hotel as incurred in the same hotel where the team is staying. In general the team manager/treasurer will simply cover the cost of the hotel from the "Team Fee" account rather than reimburse the coach.

13.4. DONATIONS FROM COACHES

Coaches may at their discretion choose to donate their coaching fee back to the club or to a specific capital improvement.

14.0 CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR COACHES

The approval process:

- Annual budget will include an amount for Coach Education which will be made know to the Coaches Board by June 30 each year
- Coach's board will receive written requests from coaching Directors and seasonal Coaches for education reimbursements
- The Coach's Board will review and make a recommendation to the executive board bearing in mind the annual budget
- The Finance Committee of the executive board will review recommendations and approve, deny or recommend revisions and ensure that the annual budget is not exceeded
- Once approved, reimbursement will be paid upon the Director/Coach providing proof of successful completion with a passing grade

Policies surrounding the amounts reimbursed:

- Up to 50% of the actual expenses incurred by the coach will be eligible for reimbursement
- Eligible Expenses for Reimbursement: Tuition, Training Materials (books, not gear) and Travel Expenses
- Directors and seasonal coaches build a bank of eligible reimbursements as follows:
 - Directors = \$250 per each year of service
 - Seasonal Coaches = \$125 per year of service
 - Annual maximum reimbursement per Coaching Director is \$1,000
 - Annual maximum reimbursement per Seasonal Coach is \$500
 - If Directors or Coaches leave within two years of receiving an educational reimbursement, the following amounts will be withheld from their final remittance:
 - 100% of the reimbursed amount if departure is within 12 months of receipt of the reimbursement check
 - 50% of the reimbursed amount if departure is beyond 1 year of receipt but within 24 months

15.0 TUITION ASSISTANCE

FC Alliance supports two tuition assistance programs that enable families to earn credits to pay for a player's Club Fees and Team Fees. The two separate programs are the Scrip Program and the Grocery Card Program.

15.1. SCRIP PROGRAM

Scrip Program: Buy gift cards from multiple retailers and vendors to use like any other gift card you may purchase from that retailer/vendor. A varying percentage of the value of the gift card is given back to the player as a rebate for use in paying the player's FC Alliance Club and Team Fees. The percentage value given back as a rebate depends on the vendor. Scrip orders can be placed at www.shopwithscrip.com.

15.2. GROCERY CARD PROGRAM

Grocery Card Program: Grocery cards can be purchased for Kroger's and Food City in \$50 and \$100 values. A five percent rebate is given the player's manager to help pay for Club and Team fees.

15.3. FUNDRAISING

The Board shall coordinate the Club's fund raising activities. Travel teams may raise funds independently through methods approved by the Board specifically designated for their teams.

The approval process:

- Annual budget will include an amount for Coach Education which will be made know to the Coaches Board by June 30 each year
- Coach's board will receive written requests from coaching Directors and seasonal Coaches for education reimbursements
- The Coach's Board will review and make a recommendation to the executive board bearing in mind the annual budget
- The Finance Committee of the executive board will review recommendations and approve, deny or recommend revisions and ensure that the annual budget is not exceeded
- Once approved, reimbursement will be paid upon the Director/Coach providing proof of successful completion with a passing grade

16.0 CODES OF CONDUCT

All parents and coaches are expected to follow the FC Alliance Codes of Conduct and will behave in a professional and good sportsmanlike manner at all FC Alliance games, practices, and tournaments. Anger towards opposing team coaches and players and referees will not be tolerated. All questions concerning playing time and player performance should be directed to the players coach in a proper and non-confrontational manner in a scheduled appointment. Violations of this rule may end in the dismissal of a player or member from their FC Alliance team.

16.1. COACHES CONDUCT

The conduct and attitude of the coaches shall at all times reflect the highest moral and sporting standards. Coaches are reminded that they are role models for our players and establish the values and behavior of their teams. Further, coaches are expected to always exhibit professional conduct in their dealings with game officials, opposing teams and fans. Coaches are, in fact, responsible for the conduct of their players, parents and supporters at any time FC Alliance is being represented. All coaches will follow FC Alliance rules regarding recruiting of players.

- Coaches will at no time verbally or physically abuse players under their supervision. Coaches will communicate in a positive and constructive manner at all times.
- Coaches will refrain from the use of foul or abusive language at all times.
- Coaches will refrain from using cell phones at training sessions or games unless absolutely necessary.
- Coaches and other staff as appropriate, agree to undergo Continuous Professional Development as agreed with the Coaching Director.
- Our coaches will undergo training in both first aid and child protection issues as required.
- Our coaches must attend all training sessions and games unless specifically excused by the Directors of Coaching.
- Coaches will wear appropriate clothing at all times for games, tournaments and practices. The appropriateness of such attire is the decision of the Directors of Coaching and is final.
- Our coaches will maintain the quality of facilities and equipment, notifying any potential defect to the Directors of Coaching immediately.

- Our coaches will follow all procedures as may be implemented from time to time by F.C. Alliance Soccer Club.

16.2. PLAYER CONDUCT

Players are expected to conduct themselves with honor and dignity. Players will be courteous and respectful to each other, parents, coaches, opposition players and parents, officials and any other third parties with whom they come into contact. No foul or abusive language will be considered acceptable. Players are to control their tempers and resist the temptation to retaliate. Players are also expected to be fair no matter the cost or the result. All players are to be generous in victory and graceful in defeat. Lastly, players are expected to accept the decisions of your coach and the game officials. All players will follow FC Alliance rules regarding recruiting of players.

- Players must be respectful of facilities and equipment using them only in the appropriate manner. Each player has a responsibility to clean up any mess made after training or games.
- Players should come prepared for all training sessions, games and tournament play. Players must wear shin pads/guards during all training and games. Players should bring a bottle full of water or an appropriate fluid to all training sessions. Players must not wear jewelry during training or games.
- Players should attend all training sessions and matches as directed and will notify their coach and Team Manager in advance, if they are going to be absent from training or matches. Players who cannot attend regularly scheduled FC Alliance practice sessions are asked not to accept a position on a competitive team.
- Players who miss FC Alliance practice(s) without good and acceptable cause may be dropped from the roster. Players may also be dropped because of disciplinary problems. Dropping a player from a team must be approved by the Board and must comply with FC Alliance Policies and Procedures.

16.3. PARENT CONDUCT

Parents and fans are responsible for their behavior; however, your coach will also suffer the consequences for your poor behavior. Parents and fans should never openly question the referee's judgment and must never question their honesty. You must always remember that the opponents are necessary friends. Without them, your child could not participate. Therefore, you must treat the opponent's coaches, players, parents and fans with respect. You are strongly encouraged to refrain from arguments with opposing coaches, players, parents and fans. FC Alliance is judged by your behavior as well as its coaches and players. All parents will follow FC Alliance rules regarding recruiting of players.

- Parents/guardians are requested to liaise with team coach/manager to ensure that their child's soccer commitments do not have a detrimental effect on their school studies.
- Parents/guardians are requested to ensure that their child has adequate provision with regard to clothing and fluids during training sessions.
- Parents/guardians are requested to help ensure that their child arrives at training sessions/games at the appointed time, with the appropriate equipment and that any likely absence is notified to the child's coach and team manager in advance.
- Parents/guardians will endeavor to attend any event organized by the club from time to time for the purpose of information dissemination.
- Parents/guardians are welcome to attend and observe at any club training session or game.

- Parents/guardians undertake 'NOT TO COACH' the players at any time during training or matches. However, positive encouragement is welcome.
- Parents/guardians undertake not to openly criticize the match officials, players or coaches at any game or training session.
- Parents/guardians are requested not to smoke or use tobacco products at club training and game venues.
- Parents/guardians are requested to encourage their children to form good habits with regard to sleep, nutrition, flexibility and fluid replacement.
- Parents/guardians agree to abide by the regulations of the club (including the payment of all club/team fees on time) and to encourage their children to do likewise.
- Parents/guardians agree to schedule an appointment with the players coach to discuss any questions concerning playing time and player performance in a proper and non-confrontational manner at a minimum of 24 hours after a tournament or event

16.4. DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY

FC Alliance is committed to take an active role in the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse. Our policy is no drugs, no alcohol, and no destructive behavior. We expect that our coaches, players and parents will be positive role models for the program and for younger players, not only on the soccer field, but in all areas of social behavior.

Should an FC Alliance player be involved in the sale, transportation, possession or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol while participating in an FC Alliance events (games, practices, tournaments, or travel for any FC Alliance activity), that player will be required to return home early from a competition at the parents' or guardian's expense and will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

- 1st Offense- Player shall be unable to participate in the next (3) regulation games of the season.
- 2nd Offense- Player shall be unable to participate in FC Alliance for the remainder of the season.
- 3rd Offense- Player will be released from FC Alliance and will be unable to return as a member and will not be reimbursed for any club fees.

All incidences will be reported to the coach, coaching director and a report shall be filed with the FC Alliance board.

17.0 DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Referees have the authority and right to take disciplinary action against any coach, player or parent. Referees are the ultimate authority before, during and after games. Therefore, referees will use the guidelines outlined below to maintain control of the fields and games.

17.1. INFRACTIONS TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT (COACH & PLAYER)

- 1st Minor Infraction: Referee should ignore
- 2nd Minor Infraction: Referee should issue verbal warning to the coach or player
- 3rd Minor Infraction: Referee shall issue a caution to the coach or player that the next infraction will be an ejection

- 4th Minor Infraction: Referee shall issue an ejection to the coach or player and instruct them to leave the field. The referee will abandon the game if the parent does not leave the field

17.2. SUSPENSIONS – PLAYER OR COACH

- A player suspended for one game for any reason shall be notified by his or her coach prior to the day of the game that the player will not play and should not attend the game in uniform.
- Any player or coach who is suspended for any reason for more than one game shall meet with the Club's Sportsmanship Committee, in special session, to consider the matter and the appropriate course of action to be taken after full consideration of all the facts and circumstances.
- A player or coach who habitually exhibits conduct or behavior not in keeping with "the spirit of the game" and defames the Club's reputation shall be subject to disciplinary action (including dismissal from the club).
- Any fines handed down by the League due to coach or player having been ejection from a game shall be paid in full by the coach in question

18.0 COMPLAINTS & DISPUTES

Any individual associated with FC Alliance (Coach, Manager, Parent, Player, etc) is allowed to submit a complaint or dispute in writing for review by FC Alliance. Please note that coaches are not to be confronted at or after practices and/or games. The purpose is to allow emotions to subside. Our goal is for everyone to always act in a professional manner. All efforts should be made to resolve disputes in an amicable fashion prior to the initiation of a formal complaints procedure.

To submit a complaint for review, all parties must abide by the complaints procedure outlined below prior to pursuing any alternative means of redress.

18.1. COMPLAINTS PROCESS/PROCEDURE

- The complainant and/or parent/guardian should submit their complaint IN WRITING to the appropriate person outlined in the Designated Officer Structure.
- Within seven days or as soon as practicable upon receipt of a complaint in writing. The DESIGNATED OFFICER will meet with the complainant and/or parent/guardian if applicable in order to initiate a COMPLAINT ACTION PLAN.
- The DESIGNATED OFFICER will review the COMPLAINT ACTION PLAN within seven days of its initial activation and every fourteen days thereafter until resolution. THE DESIGNATED OFFICER will inform the complainant and/or parent/guardian if applicable of the progress of the complaint at this time.
- The complainant and/or parent/guardian if applicable will be notified in writing by the DESIGNATED OFFICER of any action taken as a result of the complaint within seven days of:
 - Completion of the initial COMPLAINT ACTION PLAN (if no further action is required) or
 - Completion of the final COMPLAINT ACTION PLAN review.
- In the event of the complainant and or parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the progress or outcome of the complaint, then they should refer the matter IN WRITING to the next level of DESIGNATED OFFICER who will oversee a review within seven days of receipt of such notification. The DESIGNATED OFFICER will then notify the complainant and or parent/guardian of the outcome of such review upon completion.

18.2. DESIGNATED OFFICER STRUCTURE

All complaints should be submitted in writing as follows:

- Level 1: Team Coach
- Level 2: Age Group Director
- Level 2: Directors of Coaching
- Level 3: Club President

→ Complaint by: (Player / Parent / Guardian)
→ Complaint against: (Player / Parent / Guardian)

To the Team Coach of the complainant (if a player), OR the Team Coach in which the child of the complainant is placed (if parent / guardian)

→ Complaint by: (Player / Parent / Guardian)
→ Complaint against: (Club Coach or Official, i.e. Team Manager)

To the Club official occupying the level immediately above that held by the employee who is the subject of the complaint.

→ Complaint by: (Club Coach or Official)
→ Complaint against: (Player / Parent / Guardian)

To the Coaching Director

18.3. COMPLAINT ACTION PLAN

The Complaint Action Plan form is available in the Download Center on our website and includes the following components:

- Date Activated
- Name of Complainant
- Date of Incident
- Date of Complaint
- Nature of Complaint: Action:
- Advise / NFA
- Review Date
- Complainant Name
- Designated Officer Name

19.0 AMENDMENTS

FC Alliance reserves the right to change or amend policies and procedures, programs, materials, fees as well as cancel a program, without advance notice.