

## **The Naples Youth Soccer Club**

### **The Sharks**

#### **Responses to Frequently Asked Questions**

##### **1: Who are the Sharks?**

Naples Sharks is the only FYSA affiliated competitive soccer program in Naples. It is a 501 c(3) organization. The club is professionally managed by a full time Director of Coaching and Operations who is assisted by a part time administrative assistant, and an Assistant Director of Coaching. Teams are coached by some of the best qualified coaches in south Florida. The club coaching staff includes former college coaches, former professional players and many former college players. All head coaches are required to have State or national coaching certificates. All team home games are played at North Collier Soccer park.

##### **2. What are the benefits for a player of joining the NYSC?**

NYSC players enjoy playing soccer frequently with other talented players who love soccer. Playing with other talented players helps develop their soccer skills and knowledge. Players will be more likely to rapidly develop their skills and broaden their knowledge of the game because of the high level of experienced coaching and training. All coaches are licensed or pursuing a coaching license and most have extensive playing and coaching backgrounds. Players train twice a week and receive sessions from professional trainers. They will also have the opportunity to participate in additional training, such as speed and agility training, goalkeeper training and extra skills training.

##### **3. How often do teams practice?**

Teams practice twice a week during the season. U9 through U14 team's start practicing late August (league play starts in early or late October depending on league) and goes through March and the completion of post league tournament play (Region or State Cup). U15 and older teams (players who attend high school) start practice late July and play through October. Season starts mid August. These teams then participate in some tournaments before returning to training and competition in Feb (after HS season is complete) to participate in Region or State Cup.

##### **4. How much are the uniform and player registration fees for the 2011-2012 season?**

The uniform fee will be \$115 per player. The uniform used is in its final year of use so only new players need to purchase a uniform. New uniforms will be selected for the 2012-2014 seasons.

The player registration fee will be:

U9/U10 Academy: \$399

U11+ Region Cup \$499

U13+ State Cup \$675

State Cup teams are coached by professional club trainer/coaches. Because these teams enter and participate in the highest level leagues and tournaments they receive more extensive professional training than the region cup teams and the price difference is reflected by this use of a full time trainer/coach and the additional cost of participating in State Cup.

##### **5. What do players receive for their registration and uniform fees?**

Players receive the following benefits

- training sessions with a nationally licensed club trainer
- access to additional free training i.e. speed and agility training, goalkeeper training,

- extra skills training sessions
  - state and nationally licensed coaches
  - a uniform (two jerseys, one pair shorts, two pair socks) and two practice jerseys
  - registration with the Florida Youth Soccer Association, which allows players to play in
  - FYSA-sanctioned games and tournaments
    - o Supplemental insurance
    - o Region Cup entrance fee (not academy)
    - o Or State Cup entrance fee
  - players and their families participate in the fall Soccer Showcase (cookout w/ soccer competitions) and the spring Awards Banquet
  - all county and schools field rental fees including use of floodlights.
  - league fees
    - o includes registration fees
    - o includes all referee fees (including Region Cup, State Cup and league tournament play)
  - Discounted entrance fee to NYSC regulation tournaments (2 tournaments a year)
  - Incidental costs of running a 350 member league
- Registration fees do not cover the registration fees for additional tournaments or jamborees. Teams often obtain sponsors to cover or help cover these expenses. Players and their parents also pay for any lodging expenses if they need to stay overnight for league or tournament play and the team covers the cost for these expenses if the coach is a non-parent coach.

#### **6. What leagues do teams play and how much travelling does this entail?**

Teams may play in one of five leagues that are based on the East or West Coast. Generally speaking, teams play approximately one half their games at home (in Naples) and the other half at the fields of their opponents.

The Southwest Florida (SWF) League mainly includes teams from Lee County and Collier County. Our U9 through U12 teams compete in this league and also some of our second level teams in the U12 –U14 age groups.

The leagues based on the East Coast include FLUGSA for girls and South Florida United for boys. Sharks U12 strongest team and U13 and above all teams enter the east coast leagues .include two or three divisions at each age group (U10, U11, U12, etc), based on skill level.

Two other leagues that an individual team or two might play in are Florida State League (FSL) or USAsoccer league. FSL teams are the highest competitive teams in Florida, and is the league our very best teams participate in. The USA league in the Tampa area is the largest league in the state of Florida and sometimes a team will play in that league because the volume of the league allows for reasonable competition where the other choices may not.

#### **7. How many games comprise the regular season? What are the dates of the regular season?**

Most teams have between twelve and eighteen regular season games, except for high school age teams who play 8-12 games. Teams usually play league games on Saturdays and/or Sundays from October/November to February. There may be a few weekends in which a team plays a game both on Saturday and Sunday. High school age teams play an early league season beginning in late August and ending in October.

#### **8. Tell me about postseason games.**

Although many leagues hold a one- or two-day end-of-season tournament, the main focus of postseason play is either Region Cup or State Cup. The state is organized into four soccer regions with our region, Region C, running from north of Tampa down to Naples. U11 and 12 teams compete against other teams in our region in Region Cup. Teams participate in at least one weekend of Region Cup play, comprised typically of two or three games. The first round of Region Cup is held in late February or early March. Based on their record during Region Cup play, teams may advance to one to three additional weekends of play. Region Cup tournaments may even be in Naples or may be farther away in our Region, such as in the Tampa area. Locations are known in January.

U13 and older teams may choose to participate in Region Cup against other teams from our Region. The format is similar to the format is as above for the younger teams. Our strongest U13 and older teams participate in State Cup, which involves at least one weekend of play with the possibility of advancing to additional weekends of play. State Cup games may be based anywhere in the state.

U9 and U10 teams do not compete in Region Cup or State cup.

**9. Other than regular season games and the postseason games described above, what other games are there?**

Coaches, with input from the club's Director of Coaching, determine the number of tournaments their teams will enter based on age group and competition level. Coaches, team managers and parents discuss the tournament schedule and budget needs at the pre-season meeting.

Most teams enter a minimum of 3 tournaments. Usually two of these would be local and one additional out-of-town tournament. More experienced teams may enter several more and often our stronger High School age teams may enter an out of state tournament to play the highest level competition.

**10. What are the expectations of players and parents?**

Players and parents are expected to abide by the agreement with the NYSC and the FYSA Code of Ethics, each of which is posted at [www.naplessoccer.com](http://www.naplessoccer.com). Parents also volunteer in a variety of ways for the weekly operation of their team, fundraising, hotel booking, club liaison etc.

Teams are also assigned volunteer roles to support the clubs many functions throughout the year