



# Handbook

## 2022 - 2023

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## **Club Overview**

Welcome to CGA Academy Soccer Club. The information provided in our handbook is for reference and understanding our structure, rules, guidelines and the many aspects of club membership. Please reach out with any questions as you review club information. CGA Academy Soccer Club may be referred to as “CGA Academy S.C.”, “CGASC” or the “Club”. CGASC strives to be a premier club, developing players of all ages. We love the game of soccer. More importantly, we love imparting our knowledge of the game to those who are equally as passionate and would like to learn soccer in a competitive environment.

### **Philosophy**

CGA Academy Soccer Club is committed to promoting excellence in the educational, character, and physical development of adolescents by offering a rigorous and challenging athletic experience. Sport will be used to instill the qualities of leadership, teamwork, dedication, perseverance, loyalty, and fair play. These values will be tested and strengthened in the heat of competition. Participants will learn to cope with success and failure and to be humble in victory and proud in defeat, and will understand that the athletic competition is preparing them for the ultimate competition: life.

### **Mission**

The mission of CGA Academy Soccer Club is to provide youth soccer players ages 5 to 19 a place to play soccer and to receive quality coaching in a safe and positive environment. The club is a family-friendly organization that offers both recreational and travel team soccer as well as camps and clinics for members and the surrounding community. Players of all skill levels are encouraged to play, and the club strives to conduct all business in a professional, fair, and customer-friendly environment that puts the interest of the players first.

### **Vision**

The vision of CGA Academy Soccer Club is to be the best at player development in Eastern Idaho. Through our leadership, we will inspire, create and sustain a thriving soccer culture of shared values, experiences and goals. We will maintain quality over quantity. We will develop the infrastructure to become self-reliant and solidify our position within our community by maintaining a full time staff. We want to be the best club in the state, in all age groups, by competing every year for Idaho State Championships.

### **Leadership Team**

As an LLC, the owners of the Club are Carlos Elizondo, Alin Suru and Rocky Rhoads. Along with being club owners, they may have other positions within the club.

## **Directors**

Alin Suru - (307) 413-7627 - [alin@cgaacademy.com](mailto:alin@cgaacademy.com)

Rocky Rhoads - (208) 220-3950 - [rocky@cgaacademy.com](mailto:rocky@cgaacademy.com)

Karissa Fisher – (208) 339-5921 – [kidstar@gmail.com](mailto:kidstar@gmail.com), [karissa@cgaacademy.com](mailto:karissa@cgaacademy.com)

## **Administrative Staff**

Mary Kramer – (208) 709-5044 – [mary@cgaacademy.com](mailto:mary@cgaacademy.com), [info@cgaacademy.com](mailto:info@cgaacademy.com)

# **Tryouts**

## **Tryout Dates**

Per Idaho Youth Soccer Association (IYSA), tryouts may begin on the first Monday following the Idaho State Cup tournament. This date is typically during the first week of June. Tryout dates and locations will be posted on our website [www.cgaacademy.com](http://www.cgaacademy.com) for the 2023-2024 when confirmed by IYSA.

## **Who Can Attend**

CGASC will conduct tryouts for boys and girls birth years 2015 (9U) through 2005 (19U).

## **Tryout Registration**

Advanced registration is requested for administrative planning and age group evaluation preparation. There is no fee to participate in club tryouts. Competitive teams will be formed starting with the birth year of 2015 (9U) through 2005 (19U).

## **Tryout Process**

Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the session start time. Participants will check in, receive individually assigned try out number and meet with facilitators before taking the field. Tryouts will be conducted in Pocatello, Idaho Falls and Teton Valley. Players are encouraged to participate in multiple locations for extra training sessions as well as several evaluation opportunities.

The try out process consists of a training session conducted by our coaching staff along with qualified evaluators. Tentative age group schedules and financial commitment will be provided at the conclusion of evaluation session. Player placement and team assignments will be communicated within one week of the conclusion of all tryouts. Tryout results will be posted on our website.

Please contact us at [info@cgaacademy.com](mailto:info@cgaacademy.com) or a CGA Director for more information regarding tryouts for 2020-2021 season. Thank you for considering CGA Academy Soccer Club!

## **Financial Commitment and Responsibilities**

### **Club Fees Structure and Payment Policy**

After a player commits to a competitive team and completes initial registration, the player is considered committed to the Club for the entire seasonal year, August 1 - July 31 of the following year. Participation fees are based on annual club budget. Each family is committed to meet the full financial obligation to participate.

Families have the option of paying in full (with 3% discount) at the time of registration or choosing the monthly payment plan which allows the total player fee to be divided equally into ten installments.

### **Payment Schedule**

- Payment in full with 3% discount at the time of registration (July 8, 2020)
- Payment Plan
  - First month = initial registration (July 8, 2020)
  - 10 months = individual player fee August to May

### **Initial Registration and Monthly Player Fees Include**

- Idaho Youth Soccer Association, USSoccer and GotSoccer Player registration
- Training
- Liability Insurance
- Facility insurance
- Indoor facility rental
- Outdoor facility and field rental
- Outdoor League(s) fees
- Referee game fees
- Winter indoor training sessions
- Tournament entry fees
- Coaching stipends
- Coach travel expenses (gas, food, lodging)
- CGA administrative expenses

Additional fees may be incurred for voluntary participation in winter indoor leagues conducted outside of CGA organized activities. Any events or training outside of the initial budget will be considered stand alone and will be additional. Participation in outside events or training is not mandatory. Hotel and transportation are not included in club payments.

## **Uniforms**

CGA's official uniform kit is Nike and includes our title sponsor logo on jersey tops. Players registered with CGA Academy SC competitive teams are required to purchase the uniform package on-line from our retail partner, Soccer.com, every two years. CGA uniform kit includes two jersey tops with sponsor logo, two pair shorts, two pair socks, warm up jacket and pants. Annual training shirt is also provided at a designated time of the year. Uniform numbers will be assigned by the club for competitive programs.

After the initial full kit purchase, extra individual uniform pieces may be purchased at any time during the two year cycle to meet the needs of growing athletes, to replace lost or missing kit items and proper upkeep of the uniform kit.

All uniform pieces must be our official kit and Nike brand with the exception of cleats, shin guards, soccer balls and any items purchased from CGA on-line store.

Recreational participants (KidStar) will receive designated apparel included with registration. Recreational participants are to provide their own cleats, shin guards and soccer balls.

## **Registration Fee Policy**

Players will only be allowed to participate with CGA organized activities if one of the requirements below has been met:

- Player registration fees have been paid in full prior to the first scheduled game.
- Participation fees have been partially paid prior to the first scheduled game with a written commitment to pay the remainder of the fees before the first scheduled event.
- A scholarship form has been received by CGA Foundation before the deadline and communication has been made with the scholarship applicant about payment plans.

CGA will make an effort to collect past due fees as appropriate with potential for removal of current and future playing privileges. Not paying fees as indicated could result in increased playing costs for all players.

## **If Account Is Not Current**

If club dues are not current, a player may not be allowed to train or compete in games until the account is current, or a payment plan is in place as dictated by the club policy. It is the responsibility of the family to reach out to us in order to create a plan if there is a need for help.

## **Refund Policy**

CGA strives to provide a value-based soccer experience for our members and players. As such, our ability to offer quality services and to operate is dependent upon our members' full commitment to the Club and their team, as well as members paying all Club dues and team fees in a timely manner.

Our budgets are based on the number of registered players and projected/ estimated operating costs based on level of competition, age group, and individual team needs. Once a player has committed to a CGA team and has met all requirements for registration, it is expected that the player will remain with CGA for the duration of the playing year and that the player and player's family will be responsible for all CGA Club dues and team fees.

Due to the budgetary structure of CGA, the Club will provide refunds and/or relief of Club dues and team fees only under the following circumstances:

- Player relocates more than 50 miles from his/her primary residence outside of an area that CGA can't service. In these circumstances, CGA will refund, or provide relief for, prorated dues and fees based on the number of games the team was scheduled to play (league and tournament) and the number of games the player was unable to participate in, minus non-refundable amounts.
- Player can't participate due to a season ending injury or illness as documented by a physician.
- Initial registration, uniforms and past monthly payments are not refundable.

No refund, credits or fee transfers will be allowed for any other reasons. If CGA is unable to place your child on a team, a full refund will be issued. Conflicts with practice schedules are not grounds for refunds. Refund requests due to injury must be made within 2 weeks of injury or illness and must have a physician's note included. There will be no reimbursements granted for any programming cancelled due to weather, acts of God, or forfeits.

### **Financial Assistance**

We offer 2 club fundraisers to help with the costs of participation. Each fundraiser allows a family to apply 80% of the funds raised towards their account.

- Annual Car Raffle or Vacation
- Annual Raffle Fundraiser
- Annual Potatoe Fundraiser

### **Release**

Concerning a player's release from the Club during the playing season, the requesting player/ family must submit a written request for release stating the basis for such request to the CGA Directors. The decision of the directors will be final in all cases.

## Other Club Policies

### **Gotsoccer Player Management and Payment System**

Families are responsible for managing the player's Gotsoccer club account.

### **Travel Policy**

CGA requires that each player conduct themselves in a positive manner both on and off the field. While traveling each player is expected to adhere to the CGA Player conduct rules.

### **Play-Up Policy**

CGA's philosophy is to have each player play within their true age group. If a special circumstance arises, the following protocol must be followed:

- Prospective play-up must request in writing to one of the directors.
- Player must inform their current coach of their intentions to play up.
- The director and coaches will discuss the merit of the request and decide what is best for the player's development.
- The CGA Directors will make the final decision.

### **Guest Player Policy**

- Within the club: players may be asked by other CGA teams to be a guest player at a league game or tournament. This request needs to be made from coach to coach. Given there are no conflicts in scheduling the coaches will come to an arrangement to satisfy the need.
- Outside the club: If you are asked to be a guest player by a team at another club for non-league play such as a tournament, you must contact a CGA director prior to saying yes. The director will work with the coach to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts or areas of concern prior to releasing the player card of the player.

### **Guidelines for Player and Parent Conduct**

At CGA Academy S.C., every player is expected to conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively upon one's self, family and the club. All players will adhere to the standards below during practices and during games:

- Do your best, work hard and have fun.
- Refrain from lashing out at opposing players, parents, spectators or coaches. Even when you have been fouled or someone is taunting you. Controlling your emotions and your reactions is of utmost importance. Fighting and use of mean spirited or foul language is not acceptable behavior.
- Refrain from making comments or gestures that express negative connotations towards the referees. Your focus should be working together with your teammates to achieve



the goals of the team. Do not focus your energy on the referee's decisions. Control what you can control.

- Be respectful toward your teammates and coaches. Disagreements will happen. When one works on a disagreement with respect and a positive mentality, disagreements can help the team solve problems and friendships to become stronger.
- Display good sportsmanship. When you win you do it with respect for the other team. When you lose, you don't have to like it but you must show respect for the other team. We will respectfully acknowledge our opponents and the referees after the game is over. Players who can't abide by the above standards may be disciplined by the team coach or by the CGA Directors. Helping players to become responsible young adults is important to the club and yes kids will make mistakes. However, the severity and repeated violation of above standards may result in suspension or even expulsion from the club.

### **Parent Communication**

- If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your team manager, coach or director.
- During the course of a season, one may disagree with a coaching decision. This is natural and it is natural to speak to the coach about it. We ask that you please do this by arranging a meeting. Meeting directly before games (coach is preparing) and directly after games (reflecting, preparing and emotions still high) are not good times to discuss any issues.
- Please do not send long emails or heated ones. Please arrange to speak with the coach, manager or director in person. It is very easy to misread or misinterpret a message. Especially when you don't already have an established relationship with that person.

### **Parent Conduct at Games**

- We have to set the right example. Please do not address the referee, opposing team's players, parents or coaches in a negative, aggressive or confrontational manner. Our kids are watching our behavior and will copy us especially in stressful situations.
- Please refrain from coaching your child during games. Players must be focused on the moment and the instructions that have been given to the team. It can become confusing, frustrating and overwhelming for a player when both parents and coaches are trying to give direction. During games, players must be completely focused on the directions the coach has given the players and the team in order for everyone to be successful.
- Win or lose be supportive to the team and coaching staff. Your coach is 100% committed and devoted to the development of your child and the team. Win or lose they need your support to achieve individual and team goals.

### **Parent Conduct at Practices**

- You are more than welcome to observe your child's practice and to learn more about the game. However, at no time should you make any comments towards any players or coaches during practice. Practices are a time for coaches to coach, players to learn and for the team to continue to bond. Interruptions can hinder the learning process and add unwanted pressure to coaches and the players.
- Please help players to be on time to all practices. If players are running late, please notify the coach to warn them. If a player will need to miss a practice, please notify the coach as soon as possible. A couple of days' notice is preferable.

### **Inclement Weather**

Directors will keep an eye on the weather forecast within each community. They will communicate with team managers and coaches in a timely manner to ensure families don't travel to a location where practice will be canceled. When unexpected weather occurs we will follow the protocol:

- If lightning is within 5 miles, with or without hearing thunder the game or practice should be suspended and shelter sought.
- A rough guideline is to measure the time between lightning flash and hearing the thunder. If it is 30 seconds or less, seek shelter.
- In the event that fields become unplayable, directors and coaches will make a decision with the player's health and safety coming first.