



WASHINGTON TIMBERS FOOTBALL CLUB- FAQs

- **What is the difference between Advanced Competition and Recreational Soccer?**

Recreational soccer is geared to those players that want to play locally for 3 months in the fall for fun and with their friends. Advanced Competition soccer is for those players wishing to compete year round, in a competitive environment, with other skilled players and high level coaching. The Advanced Competition program includes summer tournaments, league play, and state cup.

With the Advanced Competition structure, we recognize the varying commitment levels of AC players and offers different tiers to accommodate this. All AC teams are formed from a tryout process. With recreational teams, there are no tryouts. Players are placed on preference and availability.

- **How do all of the club programs work together? How do the Timbers and Thorns programs relate?**





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- **Is Camas-Washougal Soccer Academy (“CWSA”) a separate club?**

No. The Washington Timbers FC is a full service club, meaning we offer playing opportunities for players of all levels. CWSA is one of two Recreational arms of the club that serves the Camas-Washougal communities. The club recognizes the long history CWSA has in these communities.

- **Is Vancouver United Soccer Association (“VUSA”) a separate club?**

No. The Washington Timbers FC is a full service club, meaning we offer playing opportunities for players of all levels. VUSA is the Recreational arm of the club that serves the Vancouver community. The club understands that the Recreational program in this area has gone through various mergers and name changes in the past. We are committed to providing Recreational soccer to this area and also building the VUSA identity.

- **How are coaches picked for recreational teams?**

All coaches in our Recreational programs, VUSA and CWSA, are volunteers who are committed to provide players a fun, safe, learning environment for the players on their teams. All coaches must pass a background check.

- **How are players assigned to recreational teams? What if I want my child to play for a specific coach?**

For the fall season, you can request a coach and a team, and we do our best to place players on teams requested. Players are assigned to teams on a first registered, first placed format. We will have times during the fall registration (June 15th) where we will have preferred placement for returning players, requesting coaches and/or friends. For spring season, assignments are first registered, first placed. If you have a certain team you wish to be on, please register early. Requests made after those dates will be honored **if** space is available.

Please remember that registration is not considered complete unless fees have been paid and a birth certificate or passport is on file.

- **What if I want my child to play with his/her friend?**

First, the friend needs to be the same age. Teams are formed by the player’s age as of August 1st, not by school grade level. Second, there has to be room on the team. If your child would like to be with a friend indicate that on the registration form and every effort will be made to accommodate the request.

Please remember that registration is not considered complete unless fees have been paid and a birth certificate or passport is on file.

- **What is the difference between the Recreation and Academy programs?**

WTFC offers two recreational options (VUSA and CWSA), which last 3-4 months in duration in the fall and spring with a volunteer coaching staff for both female and male players 4-18 years of age. This program includes training and games. Our Academy programs are year-round (in terms of training and games) with paid coaching staff as well as volunteer coaches. The purpose of the Academy is to develop our younger players in terms of training/education (age appropriate) to prepare for future playing opportunities within the club – whether it be in the Advanced Competition arm or staying on the recreational side.



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- **Why choose Washington Timbers FC?**

WTFC Offers a wide range of playing options for our youth soccer players, ranging from week long camps, indoor and outdoor Academies, seasonal programs to year round programs at various levels of play and ability. Beyond the five full-time staff members, we also have the most qualified and experienced coaching staff to develop each program to the highest potential. Our curriculum ensures that we are constantly looking to evaluate, improve, and provide the best possible environment for each and every player. While some clubs may focus on winning games as a guide for success, our focus is on each player's well-being and development.

- **What does it mean to be a Timber's Alliance Team?**

Some of the benefits of being with the club are the Timbers Alliance advantages we have. The Timbers Alliance has six clubs that are closely aligned with the Portland Timbers. These six clubs share ideas and resources that help continue the progress of each club, as well being able to provide additional opportunities for their players at all levels.

These opportunities include:

- Coach development seminars and curriculum guidance
- Forming of Alliance Select teams at various age groups to compete in additional events (such as teams formed to compete in the Friendship Cup and Showcase events etc...)
- A College Night for the older players where they have the opportunity to hear from college coaches from different divisions
- Throughout the season various age groups are invited to play a mini jamboree at JELD-WEN field (aimed at the younger AC teams/players).
- Player appearances at club events
- Special group ticket opportunities for club nights

- **How are Advanced Competition coaches picked for teams?**

Advanced Competition coaches are asked to apply for a given position of their choice. Candidates are interviewed by the Directors of Coaching. Selection and team placement are determined by the experience level of the coach, level of play for the given team, needs of the team, and who can best develop a given group of players.

- **Why does it cost so much to play Advanced Competition?**

Advanced Competition pays for services throughout the year which includes coaching fees, fields turf/grass/lights), referees, league costs, state cup, club admin fees, and player registration fees.