



# **Is there 'Life' after U-10 soccer ?**

**YES!!**

**An informal exploration of soccer options  
for the U11 and older player**

**Presented by  
Coppell Youth Soccer Association**

## **Life After U-10 Soccer**

You and your child have two options for soccer available after the completion of the U-10 recreational season with CYSA:

- Continue to play recreational soccer with the CYSA.
- Play competitive (or “select”) soccer with one of the various teams and/or clubs in north Texas.

There are several significant differences between recreational and competitive soccer including:

- Cost
- Commitment
- Coach Licensing
- Selection process for teams
- Frequency of practices
- Playing time
- Location of games
- Location of practices
- Off-season commitments
- Tournaments
- Travel

The purpose of this booklet is to assist parents and players in understanding the options available to players who desire to continue playing soccer after the U-10 CYSA recreational spring season. Players who reach the age of 10 by August 1<sup>st</sup>, currently U-10 and older (through their teenage years) have the option of continuing to play recreational soccer with the CYSA, or playing competitive soccer with one of the teams/clubs located throughout north Texas.

The following information is provided by the CYSA in an effort to provide parents and players basic information and address commonly asked questions to assist parents and players in their soccer decisions beyond U-10. This information is not intended to be all-inclusive. The best way to find out about a particular competitive team/club is to talk to someone affiliated with the organization, such as the coach, manager or a parent.

**By providing the enclosed information, the CYSA is not promoting or endorsing any team or club.** The CYSA encourages each parent and player to spend time doing his or her own research before making a final decision. The CYSA realizes there are a multitude of excellent competitive soccer teams and clubs in the area that have Coppell players playing for them; however, it would be difficult to provide a complete listing of such teams, and we would not want to leave any team or club off such a list. Therefore, for a complete listing of local area teams and clubs you are directed to the North Texas State Soccer Association (NTSSA), its web page and/or or its publication, "The Pitch", which you should be receiving quarterly as a family of a registered soccer player.

The following is the contact information for the NTSSA.

North Texas State Soccer Association  
1740 S. Interstate 35, Suite 105  
Carrollton, Texas 75006  
(972) 323-1323  
[www.ntxsoccer.org](http://www.ntxsoccer.org)



## **Recreational Soccer as defined by NTSSA**

*A developmental program providing healthy activity, emphasizing enjoyment and development over competition.*

- A program that allows kids to have fun, make mistakes, and learn.
- For the player age U5-U19 who is primarily interested in fun, fitness and friendship.
- Able to play within own community.
- Philosophy is striving to give every participant substantial playing time.

Recreational soccer remains an important option for U-11 through U-19 players. Not all kids wanting to play soccer are willing to make the commitment and/or have the ability to play competitive soccer. For these kids CYSA recreational soccer is an excellent venue.

### **CYSA Recreational Program**

#### **Annual Calendar**

Fall Season - Mid-September through mid-November  
Spring Season - Mid-February through mid-April

#### **Tryouts**

None

#### **Registration**

Typically May - July for the fall season and Nov. - Jan. for the spring season. Exact dates will be posted on the CYSA website ([www.coppellyouthsoccer.com](http://www.coppellyouthsoccer.com)), in local papers, on signs throughout the city and in the CYSA publication, "The Goalpost."

#### **Team Formation**

Teams are formed at U-11 and can stay together thereafter. While the basis for forming any recreational team in CYSA is through a random draft, every effort is made to keep the core members of the U-10 recreational teams together when the U11 teams are initially formed. Each team needs a coach that

is a parent of player of the last season's roster Players are placed on teams via a three tiered draft:

- Core U10 teams are kept together and drafted randomly to attain a desirable roster of 14—18 players;
- Individual players in the player pool are drafted by school whenever possible;
- Blind draft for player in the pool who do not fit into the previous draft criteria.

All team formations are conducted under the direction of CYSA board members at the beginning of each season. Teams are only formed when there are enough players to fill out a roster.

During the 2011 Spring season, the CYSA had 21 U-11 and older recreational teams. See page 7 for a list of these teams.

### **Contracts**

None. A player **MAY NOT** be on a rec and select team simultaneously.

### **Costs**

Registration (2010-2011 yr)	
	\$70 per season <small>(players residing inside CISD Boundaries or Coppell city limits)</small>
	\$100 per season <small>(all others)</small>
Uniforms	est. \$25 to \$50

### **Team Roster**

The maximum number of players on a roster is 18. Most teams have 14-18 players. Eleven players are on the field at a time requiring a minimum of 14-15 on a roster.

### **Coaching**

Volunteer coaches are recruited by CYSA. Coaches are required to have an "F" license.

### **Playing Time**

All players should play at least 50% of the time they are present at the game.

### **Practices**

Teams practice primarily at Wagon Wheel Park. Teams practice once or twice per week.

## **Games**

Since there are not enough older teams to have an all Coppell league, home games are played at Andy Brown West, and away games are played at the opponent's home field.

## **Playing League**

Northern Mid-Cities Soccer League (NMCSL). NMCSL Participating Associations for the Spring 2011 season included:

- Bedford-Eules Soccer Association (BESA)
- Birdville Area Youth Futbol Alliance (BAYFA)
- Carrollton-Farmers Branch Soccer Association (CFBSA)
- Colleyville Soccer Association (CSA)
- Coppell Youth Soccer Association (CYSA)
- Denton Soccer Association (DSA)
- Eagle Mountain Soccer Association (EMSA)
- Grapevine-Southlake Soccer Association (GSSA)
- Greater Lewisville Area Soccer Association (GLASA)
- Hurst United Soccer Association (HUSA)
- Keller Soccer Association (KSA)
- Lake Cities Soccer Association (LCSA)
- North Fort Worth Alliance Soccer Association (NFWASA)
- Trophy Club-Roanoke Soccer Association (TCRSA)
- The Colony Youth Soccer Association (TCYSA)

## **Tournaments**

There is no NMCSL end-of-season tournament. Teams that place first, second and third in their division for the season receive player trophies from CYSA.

The **Tournament of Champions (TOC)** hosted by North Texas State Soccer Association (NTSSA) is a recreational only tournament for U10 thru U19 age divisions.

- The CYSA top ranked team in the U10, U12, U14, U16 and U19 age divisions in CYSA are allowed the opportunity to attend the TOC representing CYSA.
- CYSA sponsors a team in each age divisions by paying the performance bond and entry fees (\$250 total).
- If the top ranked team is not able to attend, the offer is extended to the second ranked team of CYSA.
- If that team does not want to attend or there is no such team, the offer is extended to the first ranked team in the age division below.

## U11 and older CYSA teams for Spring 2011 season

Leaguename	U11 & up Team names	Fname	Lname	Email
Under11'00 Boys	COSMOS	Chris	Dobbs	chris.dobbs@av.abbott.com
	HAWKS	Scott	Proctor	scottkproctor@verizon.net
	LONE STARS	Angela	Lancaster	tribelancaster@gmail.com
	COPPELL BLAZERS	Matthew	Birnie	fsumb3@aol.com
Under11'00 Girls	COPPELL TWISTERS	Darci	Sherrell	darcis4@verizon.net
	DRAGONS	Julio	Rivera	lajrrivera@hotmail.com
	PONIES	Scott	Wafford	scott.wafford@sbcglobal.net
Under12'99 Boys	COWBOYS	Thom	Henry	thenry@henry-cornell.com
Under12'99 Girls	COPPELL UNITED	Richard	Turchon	rich.turchon@verizon.net
	HOT WHEELS	Joe	Sullivan	Josephsullivan@gmail.com
Under13'98 Boys	BLAZE	Tommy	Joplin	tommy.joplin@verizon.net
	DRAGONS	John	Clarke	Johnjclarke@sbcglobal.net
Under13'98 Girls	BENGALS	Sharon	Crump	remotemike@aol.com
	STRIKERS	Jeff	Feole	bxrlovers@gmail.com
Under14'97 Boys	COPPELL ARSENAL	Dodd	Roberts	dkroberts5@verizon.net
	STINGERS	Ben	Bailey	Ben.bailey@verizon.net
Under15'96 Girls	COPPELL HEAT	Darci	Sherrell	darcis4@verizon.net
Under16'95 Boys	COPPELL BURNS	Markus	Hentschel	Markus.Hentschel70@gmail.com
Under17'94 Boys	FALCONS	Robert	Rea	r.rea@tx.rr.com
Under17'94 Girls	ALLIANCE	Brad	Bimmerle	bbimmerle@verizon.net
Under19'92 Boys	REAL COPPELL	Joe	Meade	Josephmeade@yahoo.com



## **Competitive Soccer as defined by NTSSA**

*Programs for the more committed player.*

*Providing an opportunity to be selected to register on competitive teams through local Member Associations. More than 10,000 competitive players registered on 600 teams throughout North Texas. Provides the more committed U11-U19 players the opportunity to advance their skills through higher competition.*

The North Texas area offers some of the highest quality competitive soccer in the country. It is not uncommon for teams from as far away as Waco, Midland, Wichita Falls and Longview to participate in local leagues. For those players who want a higher level of competition and coaching and are willing to make the commitment both financially and time wise, competitive soccer may be the place for you. Parents must assess not only their level of commitment, but just as important they must assess the abilities of their child in determining if competitive soccer is right for them.

All teams and/or clubs must abide by NTSSA rules and guidelines.

### **North Texas Competitive Soccer Programs**

#### **Example of the Typical Competitive Annual Calendar**

Summer camps:	June
Tryouts begin:	July 1 <sup>st</sup>
Contracts are signed:	July 1 <sup>st</sup> to 10 <sup>th</sup>
Practice begins:	July 10 <sup>th</sup>
Qualifying Tournaments:	August
Fall Season:	Mid-September through mid-November
Spring Season:	Mid-February through mid-April
Tournaments:	Before and after fall and spring seasons

## **Tryouts**

Each new player and some or all of the returning players (depending on the team policy) must try out for the team. Tryouts for all teams begin on July 1. The time and location for most team tryouts are posted in the “The Pitch” and on team and/or club web sites. It is recommended that a player be present for the first day of tryouts (unless arrangements are made otherwise with the coach). Some coaches require all players to be present at every tryout session. A team may have tryouts for several days until its roster is full.

## **Registration**

The player is registered and rostered to that team from the moment the player or the player’s agent signs the USYSA registration form and pays a portion of the fee to that team.

## **Contracts**

Beginning July 1, through July 10, teams may offer contracts to players. It is a violation of NTSSA policy for teams to offer contracts or make any commitments to players prior to July 1. Players can try out for more than one team and receive more than one contract. Once a team has offered a contract, they cannot withdraw the contract prior to July 10. Contract terms are for July 1 through May 31. The contract outlines a player’s commitment to a particular team and a team’s commitment to a player. **In signing a contract, the teams expect the player to make soccer a priority relative to other extracurricular activities.** Please be aware that the contract does not commit the team to play the player in games.

NOTE: A player **MAY NOT** be on a rec and select team simultaneously.

## **Cost**

The cost of competitive soccer varies greatly depending on the cost of the coach, uniforms, tournaments, cost of practice fields and league fees. The range of fees can run from a low of about \$600 to over \$3,000 per year.

## **Fact Sheet**

Each competitive team prepares a “fact sheet” at the outset of the tryout process. The fact sheet provides information on the cost of the team, name of the coach, the league the team

intends on playing in, the cost of uniforms, and the schedule of tournaments the team intends on participating in (including travel). It is a NTSSA requirement that every player be given a copy of a team's fact sheet on the first day he or she tries out with a team. The player and a parent must sign the fact sheet acknowledging that they have read it. The signature page is turned into NTSSA and the playing league following the tryout process.

### **Team Roster**

The maximum number of players on a roster is 16 to 18 (depending on the age group). Eleven players are on the field at a time, so you want at least 15-16 on a roster. Teams have different philosophies as to committing players to positions and allocating playing time. Please be aware only eleven can be on the field at a time and the larger the roster, the less playing time potentially for your child.

### **Coaching**

Most leagues require a "D" license for coaches. The experience of coaches varies widely, as do outside commitments, either coaching other teams, or other jobs. An additional consideration is if the coach has a child on the team.

### **Playing Time**

At the discretion of the coach. Competitive soccer does not guarantee playing time. There is no 50% playing rule in competitive soccer.

### **Practices**

Most competitive teams/clubs have a permanent location where they hold practices. Teams typically practice at least twice per week. Most teams have additional skills practices.

To utilize CYSA practice fields, a select team MUST be registered with CYSA in advance. For the spring 2008 season, there were only 3 select soccer teams registered with CYSA and therefore allowed to utilize practice fields.

### **Games**

Games are played primarily on Saturdays (some also now play

on Sundays), with one or two games during the season on a weeknight. The location of games is dependent on the league in which the team plays (see below).

### **Playing League**

Listed below are the local competitive leagues, listed from the highest level to the lowest level. The number of divisions and the number of teams within the divisions varies each year according to the number of teams playing in each age group. Teams that do not qualify for any of the leagues below have the opportunity to play in an Open league. In the Open league, a team can play teams from anywhere in north Texas.

#### **Boys**

##### **Classic League**

- [www.ccsai.org/cl\\_index.php](http://www.ccsai.org/cl_index.php)

##### **Plano Premier League**

- [www.pysa.org](http://www.pysa.org)

##### **Arlington Premier League**

- [www.arlingtonsoccer.vicid.net](http://www.arlingtonsoccer.vicid.net)

#### **Girls**

##### **Lake Highlands Girls Classic League**

- [www.girlsclassicleague.com](http://www.girlsclassicleague.com)

##### **Plano Premier League**

- [www.pysa.org](http://www.pysa.org)

##### **Arlington Premier Invitational League**

- [www.arlingtonsoccer.vicid.net](http://www.arlingtonsoccer.vicid.net)

### **Qualifying Tournament**

In August, a tournament is held to determine in which league each team will play. All “new” teams and teams that don’t qualify for a BYE (BYEs are determined on previous season league results) participate in the tournament that is played during the end of July and early August. After U11 teams can hold their spot in the league if they qualify for a BYE. Any team that doesn’t qualify for a BYE or is new to league can qualify for a few spots in the lower division of the league.

### **Tournaments**

The competitive leagues do not have end-of-season

tournaments. Teams placing first and second during each season receive trophies.

Competitive teams participate in several tournaments before and/or after the league season. Many teams travel out of the area to one or more tournaments. Most of these tournaments are listed on a team's fact sheet.

### **Off-season**

Competitive teams/clubs may participate in indoor soccer in the winter or other ongoing skills training. Many clubs offer "Academy" skills training to U-9 and U-10 players. In addition most clubs hold pre-season camps during the month of June.

## **Strategies and Questions**

### **Recreational Soccer**

If there is an interest in continuing to play with the same core of U-10 players, you should inquire as to what players on the team are interested in continuing, and if the coach is interested in coaching a U-11 team. When registering with the CYSA, simply indicate with what team your child played U-10. **DO NOT** try to form a team by combining several recreational teams; CYSA board members will form all teams thru the current draft procedures.

If your child would like to go into the draft for U-11's and above, fill out a green Special Request Form during the fall or spring registration process.

### **Competitive Soccer:**

If your child is interested in playing competitive soccer, it is important that you and your child make an honest assessment of your child's playing abilities and interest as well as the various teams/clubs that are available in the area.

The best way to address both questions is to participate in one or more of the multitude of pre-select skills camps and pre-season training camps offered by the various clubs. In attending these camps you will be able to visit with coaches,

team managers and prospective parents to get answers to many of your questions.

**Coaching:**

Coaching can vary dramatically from team to team, from volunteer coaching to teams having skills coaches in addition to the team coach. The key is to find out what is right for you and your child.

- Q: Has the organization determined who the coach will be?
- Q: What is the experience of the coach (license, years coaching, experience with boys and/or girls)?
- Q: What are the commitments of the coach (other teams, outside job)?
- Q: Does the coach have a child on the team?

**Financial Commitment:**

Most established clubs are organized as non-profit 501(c)(3)'s with full financial disclosure available to parents. Smaller clubs, and individual teams may be organized differently.

- Q: Cost of team and what it includes:
  - Coach
  - Uniforms
  - Tournaments & travel cost for tournaments out of area
  - Practice fields and league fees
- Q: When are payments due?

**Practices:**

- Q: Where and when are practices?
- Q: Are additional skills training provided? At an additional cost?

**Tournaments:**

- Q: How many tournaments will the team participate in during the year?
- Q: Will the team be traveling out of the area for any tournaments?

**Off-season:**

- Q: Will the team play indoor soccer?
- Q: Will the team have any practices between the fall and spring season?

Q: Does the club have any pre-season camps in June that are required?

Q: What is the club's position regarding outside activities?

### **Recruiting Issues – Competitive Teams**

All competitive soccer teams in the area are governed by NTSSA's Rules and Regulations. The rules are very specific as to the allowed activities of a coach, team or club. The goal of NTSSA is to keep every team on a level playing field and to discourage any attempt by a coach, or other representative of a team or club from recruiting any players prior to May 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Things to remember:**

- Your child's position on a CYSA recreational team constitutes being registered on a NTSSA roster.
- It is **OK** for a player to participate with another coach in indoor soccer activities.
- It is **OK** for a coach to advertise a camp openly, or for parents to contact a coach about a camp subject to additional rules (see below).
- It is **ILLEGAL** for a coach to hold any soccer activity with a selected group of players other than his own team (the activity must be open to all players within the particular age group).
- It is **ILLEGAL** for a coach or team representative to recruit players for the benefit of a team, club or organization during a soccer camp or clinic.
- It is **ILLEGAL** for a coach to include a player in a camp or clinic without having an appropriate release (see below) signed by the player's current coach.
- It is **ILLEGAL** for a coach or team representative to initiate contact with players not on his own team.
- It is **ILLEGAL** for an indoor team to be formed with the intent of recruiting players for a competitive outdoor team.

#### **NTSSA Rule 3.10 Youth Contracts and Releases:**

##### **3.10.1**

*No coach, assistant coach, trainer, or team representative may practice any soccer related activity with any **NTSSA** registered*

*player who does not appear on his current **NTSSA** roster or is not considered to be a free agent by current **NTSSA** Rules and Regulations except for a coach, who at the request of another teams coach, substitutes for that coach at practice or games for the convenience of the requesting coach. A free agent is a player in the U-11 through U-19 age division who desires to participate on a competitive team and is not rostered to any team. A competitive player may practice with another team if he has received a written permission letter signed by his current coach that sets out the dates and the team with which the player will practice. The player is to give the letter to the coach of the team with which he is practicing, and he must keep a copy for himself. **NOTE:** The above does not include indoor soccer.*

### **3.10.2**

*Between August 1 of the prior soccer year and May 31 of the current soccer year, NTSSA registered players may attend soccer camps (clinics), or private lessons etc., hosted and/or coached by individuals, teams, clubs and/or organizations other than the player's current coach, team, club and/or organization as long as the soccer camps meet the following criteria:*

*The clinic or camp, must be available to all interested persons for each age group offered through an open invitation.*

*Each individual, team, club and/or organization hosting any soccer clinic or camp, etc., must require written registration of each participant that includes the following information:*

- *Player's name*
- *Name, address and phone number of individual (s), team (s), club (s) and/or organization (s) affiliated with and/or hosting the clinic*
- *Name (s) of coaches at clinic*
- *Name and date (s) of clinic*
- *Name of player's current team and home association*
- *A statement signed by the player's current coach/ manager stating that he or she is aware that the player is attending the camp or clinic, etc.*
- *The following disclaimer:*  
*"Recruiting is strictly prohibited. Any person having knowledge of any player recruitment at or through this soccer clinic, camp, private lesson, etc., should*

*report same, in writing, to the Youth Commissioner of NTSSA.” (For an in-depth definition of recruiting see NTSSA rule 3.10.9)*

- o *Parent signature acknowledging that he/she has read and understands the disclaimer.*
- o *Date of signature. (If player is 18 years or older, player should sign also.)*

### **CYSA’s Select Soccer Option**

#### **CSC = Coppell Select Competitive**

CYSA has developed a competitive soccer program (“CSC”). CSC teams are coached by volunteer coaches who are required to have a minimum “E” coaching license. (Each playing league has specific minimum licensing requirements which may be higher than CYSA’s.)

CSC teams are free to compete in any area select league for which they qualify.

The CYSA expects each CSC team to comply with and provide documentation of completing the select team formation rules of NTSSA. Refer to NTSSA By-law 4.9 for rules. Online, look at [www.ntxsoccer.org](http://www.ntxsoccer.org), FORMS, Youth Forms to download necessary documents.

There are other local competitive teams/clubs that register with CYSA but are not considered CSC teams because the coaches are not volunteers.

### **Related Links**

North Texas Soccer <http://www.ntxsoccer.org>

To view

- Lists of Select

Club websites .....click on **North Texas Soccer Club or Team**

- Lists of Playing

Leagues .....click on **North Texas Soccer League**

- Lists of Local Soccer

Associations.....click on **North Texas Local Associations**

To access forms referenced in this publication:

Go to <http://www.ntxsoccer.org...>

Click on **FORMS...**

Click on **Youth Forms...**

Click on the form name to access individual forms.

To access NTSSA Bylaws referenced in this publication:

Go to <http://www.ntxsoccer.org...>

Click on **Resources...**

Click on **Bylaws...**

Click on **NTSSA Bylaws (PDF)**

Scroll to the specific By Law number referenced







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**The fine print:**

This booklet is produced by Coppell Youth Soccer Association for informative purposes only. While every effort was taken to make certain all information contained within is accurate and up to date, NTSSA's website should be used as the most recently updated information available. [www.ntxsoccer.org](http://www.ntxsoccer.org)