

## **Heritage Soccer Club Try Outs FAQ**

### **About Heritage Soccer Club**

Founded in 2002, Heritage Soccer Club is a Pleasant Hill/Martinez based, non-profit organization that provides a competitive soccer program open to children ages 4 to 18 that have the skills, desire, and commitment to play soccer at a higher level. We have a recreational based Academy for ages 4-9 and competitive teams for ages 9-18. All players receive training from our professional coaching staff. This training provides our members with the skills to play for their middle school and high school soccer teams, and in many cases, play collegiately. Heritage offers a fun, safe, and solid foundation for your children to learn soccer, and at the same time, make lifelong friends. With over 30 coaches on staff, the depth of soccer knowledge at Heritage is tremendous. We boast some of the best coaches in the area that hold National licenses, coach high school soccer, and played collegiate soccer and/or played professionally. All of the coaches in our younger age groups emphasize teaching ball skills and technical aspects of the game in order to lay the foundation for whatever level your child wants to achieve.

### **Who runs Heritage's training program? Who are the coaches?**

Our training program is run by our Director of Coaching, Julio Borge, and our Assistant Director of Coaching, Jon Scoles. Julio also coaches at Diablo Valley College and holds a USSF National B license. Julio played his college soccer at San Francisco State. Jon also Coaches at Contra Costa College, holds a USSF National B license, and is the boys' varsity coach at Berean Christian High School.

The Heritage coaching Staff includes many coaches from the local high schools, including College Park HS, Alhambra HS, Ygnacio Valley HS, Concord HS, Freedom HS, Berean HS and Clayton Valley Charter School.

Many of our coaches and trainers have played collegiate soccer. All of our coaches, trainers, managers and board members are fingerprinted and their backgrounds are checked.

### **When is the soccer season?**

Our season begins in March (U9-U14) and in late April (U15-U19). In the spring, many of our teams play in a NorCal Spring League. Our teams typically practice twice a week with an optional third day of our clubs strength and conditioning program. During the summer, training is complimented with tournaments on the weekends—teams usually participate in 2-3 weekend tournaments in the summer. The Fall League begins in September and is usually over by mid-November. All games are played on Saturdays and Sundays. Also in the fall, most of our higher level teams play in NorCal State Cup. Additional tournaments are played the last weekend of each month. The U9/U10 season ends in mid-November while the U11 and older teams continue training during the winter (except for those playing high school) in order to participate in more tournaments, including the continuation of state cups games, in January and February (for U11-U13) and March and April (for U14-U19).

### **Which Team is my child trying out for? What are the coaches looking for during tryouts?**

Every player will be evaluated at try-outs by our professional coaching staff. The staff will then select the most talented players to play for the club's A team. After the A team is created, players are then selected for the B team. Coaches will be looking for technical ball skills at the younger ages and then technical skills combined with tactical game awareness at the older ages.

### **Do I need to come to all of the try-outs?**

Your child's chances of being selected are enhanced by the length of time we have to evaluate their play, so the more times your child attends the better. It is important, especially for players being considered for "A" teams, that they come to at least 2 of the try-out sessions. If your child has a conflict, please let the coach know ahead of time or contact Julio Borge ([Julio@heritagesc.com](mailto:Julio@heritagesc.com)) and he will inform the coach.

### **When will I be contacted regarding the decision about my child?**

All players should be contacted via email or phone, by a coach on or before the Tuesday following the last try-out for your child's age group. This is true for all children trying out, whether they are selected or not. If you haven't heard within a week after tryouts are completed, please contact Julio.

Some players may receive calls after the first weekend. If you don't receive an early call it does not mean that your child hasn't been chosen for an "A" team, it only means that the coaches want to further evaluate them before making a final decision.

### **How much will my child play during a game?**

We also expect that all players selected for a team are able to contribute to that team's success and so will therefore play during the season. Players are also to be placed on their age appropriate teams. The top players in each age group will also have an opportunity to guest play at their next higher age group, if appropriate, for their development as soccer players.

### **How can I help my child look good in try-outs?**

First and foremost, don't apply pressure. Your kids will be nervous enough, so having them come on the field worried about making mistakes will lead to poor play. Tell them to be themselves and have fun. Make sure that they come well rested. We are looking for energetic, excited, interested players.