

# Tonka United Soccer Association Fall Travel League 2009



## Frequently Asked Questions 09

### ***What is Traveling Soccer?***

Traveling Soccer is available to players who enjoy the game of soccer aged U8 through U19 who wish to hone their soccer skills and play a more committed level of soccer.

### ***What does a more committed level of soccer mean?***

Soccer is a year round sport and a commitment to Fall (Sept-Oct) and Spring/Summer (April-July) play is suggested for players U11 and above. In addition players are strongly encouraged to practice once per week during the Winter (Jan-March). We understand and encourage players to play other sports; it is our feeling that players can typically balance several sports throughout the year until the age of U12/U13. Winter sports can still be managed along with soccer.

**Fall:** (September 7 – October 16) Players play at least 1 game per week (weekend) plus 2 practice sessions (typically mid week) depending up the level of your team (see playing levels). 6 Week Season.

**Spring/Summer:** (May-July) Players play at 1/2 games per week (weekday) plus 2-3 practice sessions (week days and weekends) depending up the level of your team (see playing levels).

**Winter:** (January-March) Players will train one evening per week in the Tonka Dome. Players are given several options to attend throughout the week. In addition Tonka United offers programs in Speed Agility & Quickness and Skill Development.

### ***How far do we have to travel for games?***

Games are played against other club teams in the West District (such as Eden Prairie, Chaska, Plymouth, Edina to name a few). Teams usually opt for a couple of tournaments each season to compliment league play. Tournaments can be as local as Eden Prairie and Blaine or as far away as Iowa, Wisconsin or further (for older age groups).

### ***How do I register for the fall soccer season?***

Online registration is open on our website at [http://www.tonkaunited.org/tr\\_tryouts.php](http://www.tonkaunited.org/tr_tryouts.php)  
[http://www.tonkaunited.org/tr\\_registration.php](http://www.tonkaunited.org/tr_registration.php)

### ***How are the teams formed?***

U8 & U9 teams are formed by gender, grade, and neighborhood whenever possible. At this age there is not a tryout as such, as we look to place ALL players on a travel team for the Fall season (if numbers permit). Our aim is to have as many players as possible experience the transition from recreation to travel soccer in a fun and safe environment.

### ***Can I change teams once the teams have been formed?***

**NO.** Not until the following season.

### ***When and where will we practice?***

During the fall a weekly session will be held for each age group lead by our training staff. Sessions are usually at Thorpe Park but may change from season to season. Teams will also try and have a second practice each week.

### ***Will there be player clinics again this year?***

Yes, players and coaches will have the opportunity to attend Core Development Training session midweek throughout the fall season. These clinics are designed to further both the players and the coaches' soccer knowledge and skill. Your coach will receive this schedule approximately two weeks prior to the season at the Coaches Meeting. Come dressed to play, bring a ball, shin guards, a water bottle and appropriate footwear. **All fall CDT sessions are typically held at Thorpe Park in Deephaven.**

***What equipment do we need?***

Each player must have an appropriately sized soccer ball .Balls are sized for each age group: U8-U12 = size 4, U13+ = size 5.

- Each player must wear shin guards for all practice sessions and games. No exceptions.
- Each player must wear the Tonka United uniform. Players can wear recreation uniform if playing in the fall season. New uniforms coming for the 2010 season.
- Water bottle, sunscreen, bug spray, hair binders and weather appropriate clothing.
- Turf shoes and soccer cleats are recommended appropriate footwear. No baseball cleats allowed.
- PLEASE BE SURE TO LABEL ALL EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING.
- NO JEWELRY of any kind is allowed, including ALL earrings. Sports glasses must be worn if needed by the player. No metal hair binders are allowed.