



Dear Washington Capital United Parent/Guardian:

We are pleased to offer your player a roster spot for the 2024-2025 season. Congratulations and welcome to Washington Capital United!

Washington Capital United (WCU) is committed to excellence, integrity, character, perseverance, and the highest caliber of team play and sportsmanship. When WCU teams take the field and parents take the sidelines, our Club's pledge is on display. To achieve our goals, WCU's training programs are designed to be strenuous, support the development and spirit of each athlete and team, and challenge our players in an age-appropriate manner while adhering to stringent U.S. Youth Soccer guidelines.

By accepting this offer, your player commits to always put forth their best effort and participate in all scheduled team events. This commitment enhances the opportunity for each player to reach their full potential and flourish in a competitive environment.

Before a player can participate in the regular training sessions and games, the offer must be accepted and the PlayMetrics registration must be completed. This includes payment of the \$400 registration/acceptance fee, paperwork, and other Club requirements.

Please read the below WCU rules and guidelines for players and parents, and an outline of the financial commitment for the coming year. If you foresee that you will not be able to make the financial commitment, please refer to the section on Player Scholarships and Financial Aid. Please also consider purchasing insurance to cover your financial commitment should your player need to withdraw from the Club due to health or relocation of a parent outside the greater D.C. area. Accepting a roster spot with a WCU team means you agree with all terms contained in this commitment letter. When you register online, you will be asked to agree to the Financial Policy, Parent Code of Conduct, and Concussion Policy.

Acceptance of Offer and Commitment and Team Registration

Acceptance of this offer and commitment for the 2024-2025 Season must be made within 5-days or WCU reserves the right to offer the position on this team to another player. To accept the offer and commit to WCU, please register using the link provided in the offer email. Please be aware that the registration fee will increase by \$25 per month starting on June 1, 2024 (the only exception may be for offers extended as the season progresses).

Once again, welcome to WCU!

Sincerely,
Washington Capital United



Rules, Guidelines, and 2024-2025 Financial Commitment

Player and Parent Commitment Expectations

WCU is a **year-round soccer program** (August 14 through June 15) with league play during the Fall and Spring seasons, and training throughout the winter months. As a member of WCU, you understand and acknowledge that participation on a WCU team requires commitment and dedication to training two-three times per week (frequency varies by team) during the Fall/Spring seasons, games and/or tournaments on weekends, and participation in the winter training programs.

- Fall Season: Team training (2-3 times per week) begins mid-August and runs through mid-November. League play begins shortly after Labor Day.
- Winter Season: Team training (1-2 times per week) from mid-November through mid-February.
- Spring Season: Team training (2-3 times per week) resumes in mid-February and runs through mid-June. League play begins in late March and continues through mid-June.

Player Obligations

- Make soccer the priority sport for the fall and spring seasons. Lack of participation (without prior approval from the coach) could result in ineligibility to play.
- Arrive on time and fully participate in all training sessions.
- Arrive on time and attend all league games, tournament games, and team events.
- Stay up to date on club activities by reading emails, checking PlayMetrics and Club website, and following WCU on social media.
- Maintain player attendance at practice and games on PlayMetrics.
- Notify the coach if you will be late or unable to attend practice, game, or any organized team event in a timely manner.
- Communicate frequently with coaches and listen to their instructions.
- Accept any additional assignments (including but not limited to at-home training and conditioning) from your coach.
- Accept the coach's tactical/technical decisions (player positioning, playtime, etc.).
- Respect all teammates and other WCU players.
- Abide by all Club, league, tournament, and other event codes of conduct.

Parent/Guardian Obligation

- Abide by the [WCU Parent Code of Conduct](#) and all [league and state codes](#) of conduct.
- Be encouraging, supportive, and affirmative with regard to how your player and their teammates play.
- Refrain from coaching your player from the sideline and allow the coach to do that.
- Ensure your player and their teammates behave in a manner that honors WCU and other families.
- Refrain from bullying, bias, and the use of foul language.
- Accept your player's team placement (roster spots may be moved to different teams within WCU at any time).
- Accept the coach's tactical and technical decisions (playing time, player position, tactics, etc.), and not interfere with the coach's duties.
- Comply with the rules, policies, directions, and team procedures, administrators, and Club Board members as they apply to you.



- Set your child up for success by bringing them to all training sessions, league play, tournament games, and organized team events on time. Lack of participation (without prior approval from the coach) could result in ineligibility to play.
- Pay all Club Fees and Team dues by the payment deadlines and renew saved payment methods before they expire. WCU is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and relies on timely payments.
- Turn in all required forms by the time requested.
- Purchase Club uniform kit.
- Read all team communications, check PlayMetrics, and the Club website.
- Attend and participate in all team meetings.
- Notify your child's coach if your player will be tardy or unable to attend scheduled team events.
- Familiarize yourself with the Laws of the Game and respect officials and accept their decisions.
- As a non-profit, WCU relies upon the volunteer services of its members in various capacities, including as volunteer team managers, equipment managers, and field managers. We also have an all-volunteer Board of Directors and volunteer Club members who run various fundraising activities. Consider volunteering.

Code of Conduct

As a member of WCU, you must agree to abide by the Maryland State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA), league, and Club codes of conduct. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of my player from Washington Capital United.

- [WCU Parent Code of Conduct](#)
- [MSYSA Code of Conduct](#)
- [EDP Code of Conduct](#)

2024-2025 Financial Obligation

Washington Capital United (WCU) is proud to be one of the most affordable competitive travel soccer clubs in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area. **By accepting a roster position with WCU, you understand and agree to the financial terms outlined below for the entire soccer year (August 2024 through June 2025).**

Each player is responsible for the following financial obligations:

- Initial \$400 Registration/Acceptance Fee: Due upon acceptance of the offer to join the team and is non-refundable. The fee increases by \$25 per month starting on June 1, 2024.
- Annual Dues: The 2024-2025 dues may be paid in installments based on your player's age and team placement.
- Purchasing uniforms kits for games and training.
- Other fees that may be added to a player's account include, but are not limited to, player transfer fees, state fees, team fees, and fees for optional skills programming or camps.
- Additional Tournament and Travel Expenses: primarily incurred by our older and/or competitive teams. Families are responsible for other costs associated with travel soccer, such as additional tournament fees (beyond the number of tournaments allotted by WCU – currently, two are included in dues and paid by the Club per soccer year), travel expenses (including, but not limited to, travel, lodging, and meals), and the cost of the coach's travel (travel & lodging) for out-of-town tournaments. Fundraising by each team to offset additional costs is strongly encouraged.



Estimated 2024-2025 Expenses by Age Group and Team Placement:

Age Group	Annual Dues	Uniforms	Tournaments	Estimated Total
Development Academy (4-8 y/o practice players)	\$1,430	\$75	\$0	\$1,505
U8 - U11 (2017-2014)	\$2,310	\$179 Youth	\$100*	\$2,589
U12 - U13 (2013 – 2012)	\$2,420	\$179 Youth	\$150*	\$2,749
U14 - U15 (2011 - 2010)	\$2,530	\$195 Adult	\$300*	\$3,025
U16 (2009)	\$2,640	\$195 Adult	\$400*	\$3,235
U17 - U18 (2008 – 2007)	\$2,750	\$195 Adult	\$500*	\$3,445

* *Tournament fees are expenses that a family will likely encounter for travel, lodging, and/or additional tournaments not covered by WCU. WCU covers two team tournaments per soccer year. Other fees that may be added to a player's account may include, and are not limited to, player transfer fees, state fees, team fees, or other optional programming fees.*

Installment Options:

Up-front payment	Due on August 1, 2024.
Ten Installments	The 1st of every month starting on August 1, 2024 through May 1, 2025.

Game and Practice Kits:

WCU partners with Capelli to provide quality and affordable gear. **Each player is required to purchase a game kit and a training kit.** All U8 to U12 players must bring a ball to every training session. Uniform ordering information will be provided for each player upon registration. You are required to place orders directly through our uniform provider.

Payment Methods:

It is the responsibility of each family to ensure that payment methods are viable and up to date. All families utilizing the WCU installment payment plan **MUST** enroll in automatic payments. Payments are collected electronically via our registration platform, PlayMetrics.

WCU encourages families to link a bank account to pay by ACH to avoid additional fees when payment is made by credit card. The Club does not accept checks or cash without prior approval from the Club Administrator.

The 2024-2025 fees cover the following expenses:

- Coach Salaries
- League Fees
- State Association Fees
- Scholarship Fund
- Staff Salaries
- Field Usage
- Insurance
- Administrative Fees
- Two Tournament Events
- Referees



Failure to Fulfill Financial Obligations

Failure to fulfill your financial obligation will result in the suspension of your player's eligibility to participate with WCU.

Returning WCU players must have a zero balance on past accounts in order to register for the 2024/2025 soccer year. If you are unable to register due to an unpaid balance, please contact the Club Administrator to discuss your account.

We understand that extenuating circumstances arise. In the event that you need to delay or adjust an upcoming payment, please contact the Club Administrator as soon as possible to make alternative arrangements and/or submit a scholarship application (awards are contingent upon availability).

Insurance: WCU has partnered with A.W.G. Dewar, Inc. to offer insurance covering up to 70% of a family's financial obligation less the non-refundable registration/acceptance fee to the Club should a player withdraw for a covered health reason (injury/incapacitation) or the job-relocation of a parent or based on involuntary dismissal from the Club. Insurance is 2.5% of annual Club dues for the player and must be paid with the first dues payment. Although insurance is optional, WCU strongly encourages families to purchase it as withdrawal from the Club does not otherwise relieve a family of its financial obligations.

The full aggregate premium for all insured players is due within 30 days of the first day of the club session (i.e., the start of the season). If a full-paying family opts out of the insurance at the time of registration, they have until August 1, 2024 the effective date of the policy, to enroll in the coverage. They cannot opt-in after August 1, 2024.

It is the responsibility of the player's family to remain current with the payments and maintain membership in good standing.

- **Where payment is 31 days late:** Director of Soccer Operations and Coach will be notified of the balance due and that member is not in good standing. The player will receive a warning that if payment is not made within 30 days, the Coach will be notified and appropriate action will be taken by DSO including suspension from practices and games and removal from the Club if appropriate.
- **Where payment is 61 days late:** Director of Soccer Operations will discuss past due balances with the Treasurer and pursue all legal remedies available to recover past due amounts.

Refunds and Payment Plan Cancellation

The initial \$400 registration/acceptance fee payment is non-refundable under any circumstances.

Club dues are non-forgivable and non-refundable barring exceptional circumstances. WCU strongly recommends that players purchase insurance to cover the obligation of Club dues should covered unforeseen circumstances arise.

Participation on a WCU team is an annual commitment. All players wishing to transfer to another team/club, or to leave the Club during the seasonal year are subject to the terms and conditions of the MSYSA Player Rights and Obligations Policy and Non-Payment of Financial Obligations Policy.



2024-2025 Scholarship Application

The scholarship application is available to all registered families. Scholarship awards are 100% need based. To be considered, you must submit an online application, upload the applicable documents, and pay the initial \$400 registration fee by August 1, 2024. To ensure consideration for the scholarship program, WCU advises all families to submit a complete application as soon as possible, before the funds have been awarded. **Applications with missing documentation will not be reviewed.**

Families who experience a mid-season change in financial circumstances (medical emergency, loss of job, etc.), or those who join the club mid-year, may still apply for financial aid. Families should complete the application and notify the Club Administrator immediately.

NOTE: WCU does not provide FULL scholarships to players. Each family is expected to pay a portion of the annual dues. The initial registration fee will not be waived.

The scholarship application will be made available on the Club website as we migrate from our previous application to PlayMetrics.

Washington Capital United requires additional supporting documentation for the most recent tax year from all scholarship applicants such as:

- Current Proof of Eligibility for Free or Reduced Lunch Program (copy of current lunch letter). If player is at private school then provide 1040 forms (see next entry).
- Copy of 2023 Federal Tax 1040 form with ALL W-2s and 1099s filed by all members of the household. If you are self-employed you must also provide Schedule-C.
- Current Proof of Eligibility Letter for Woman Infant and Children Program (WIC).
- Current Proof of Eligibility Letter for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Program (TANF).
- Current Proof of Eligibility Letter for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly food stamps).
- Proof of eligibility for housing assistance.
- Unemployment or furlough documentation due to the pandemic.

You will be notified of your award by the Club Administrator. Remaining dues will be discounted, as applicable.

Team Fundraising

WCU encourages teams to engage in fundraising activities to help cover costs not paid by WCU. All funds raised on behalf of a club team will be used for that team. Unused funds will be retained by the Club for future expenses.