



# MIDWEST FC FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **1. What is the Midwest FC?**

The Glen Ellyn and Wheaton Park Districts have cooperatively created the Midwest FC travel soccer program for boys U15 and up and girls U14 and up. Midwest FC strives to provide a positive, competitive environment to produce soccer players who have the desire to compete at a high level. Teams train locally, participate in high level tournaments, and licensed strength and conditioning trainers work with all teams to create well-rounded soccer players. Teams compete across Chicagoland, regionally and nationally, and all teams are trained and coached by a member of Future Pros, our professional licensed staff.

## **2. Why are there no Lakers or Wings program at these age groups anymore?**

The Glen Ellyn Lakers and Wheaton Wings are always looking for ways to improve and strengthen their programs while creating the best opportunities for their players.

To provide higher quality and competitive teams, while retaining as many of our longtime players as possible, a new cooperative program between both park districts is being established. By doing so, the current player pool will expand to create higher competitive teams. This new program will help achieve this goal by providing these players the continued opportunity to play locally, regionally and nationally. The Midwest FC will be the sole program for these age groups. While the name has changed, it is philosophically consistent with the Lakers and Wings – outstanding training, local practices and competitive teams.

## **3. What is the tryout process?**

Due to US Club Soccer mandates, age cutoffs follow the birth year for all players. All tryouts are conducted by Future Pros trainers. Players receiving invitations to join a team will have 48 hours to accept their invitation.

## **4. How are teams selected?**

The majority of players reside in either Glen Ellyn or Wheaton. Non-residents are welcome to participate as well. Teams will be selected based on the skills and abilities of the players.

## **5. Where will my team practice or play?**

Location will be dependent on where players on a team reside. For example, if there is an even split of Glen Ellyn and Wheaton residents, then half of the practices and games will be in Glen Ellyn and half will be in Wheaton. Parks and facilities will include but are not limited to: Ackerman Park (Glen Ellyn), Seven Gables (Wheaton), Graf Park (Wheaton), or Central Athletic Complex (Wheaton).

## **6. What tournaments do I play in?**

Tournament selection will be organized by the Future Pros training staff. Midwest FC teams will play in higher-level, showcase-type tournaments.

## 7. What is the time commitment?

Elite level teams will practice 3 times per week for 10 weeks in the fall and spring. Select level teams will practice 2 times per week for 10 weeks in the fall and spring. High school boys and girls will practice 3 times per week for 10 weeks in the fall or spring (opposite of their high school season). All outdoor trainings are 90 minutes each. Games will be played primarily on the weekends with occasional weekday games. Winter indoor training will be twice per week for 16 weeks.

## 8. What is the cost and what is included?

- **U14 Girls and U15 Boys and Girls Elite: \$1,925**
  - Pre-season 5-day camp (August)
  - Training 3 times per week in the fall and spring
  - Winter indoor league
  - Winter indoor turf training
  - 3 tournaments throughout the season
  - Strength and conditioning training from professionally licensed athletic trainers
- **U14 Girls and U15 Boys and Girls Select: \$1,625**
  - Pre-season 5-day camp (August)
  - Training 2 times per week in the fall and spring
  - Winter indoor league
  - Winter indoor turf training
  - 2 tournaments throughout the season
  - Strength and conditioning training from professionally licensed athletic trainers
- **High School Boys: \$1,625**
  - Winter indoor league
  - Winter indoor turf training
  - Training 3 times per week for 10 weeks in the spring
  - 3 tournaments
  - Strength and conditioning training from professionally licensed athletic trainers
- **High School Girls: \$1,725**
  - Pre-season 5-day camp (August)
  - Training 3 times per week in the fall
  - Winter indoor league
  - Winter indoor turf training
  - 3 tournaments
  - Strength and conditioning training from professionally licensed athletic trainers

### **Optional Features for Additional Purchase**

- Summer training
- Summer league
- Futsal league
- Additional tournaments

\*the program structure can be modified based on the needs of the team.

## **9. What are the uniforms?**

The uniform package is purchased through European Sports in Schaumburg. The cost is expected to be approximately \$130 and includes the following:

- Navy game jersey
- Light blue game jersey
- Grey practice jersey
- Navy shorts and navy socks

## **10. How can I volunteer?**

Each team requires a parent volunteer to be the Team Manager for the season. Responsibilities include (but are not limited to): filtering communication between the club/trainers to the team, complete administrative duties for tournaments, reserve fields for home games through online software, reschedule games with opposing teams in case of cancellations, and to assist the trainer in any way needed.

## **11. Who should I contact if I have additional questions?**

- **Glen Ellyn Park District:** Brad Thomas, (630) 942-7288 or [bthomas@gepark.org](mailto:bthomas@gepark.org)
- **Wheaton Park District:** Adam Lewandowski, (630) 510-5141 or [alewandowski@wheatonparks.org](mailto:alewandowski@wheatonparks.org)