

# Oneonta Soccer Club, Registration FAQ for 2024-25

## **What does my registration fee cover?**

A player's registration fee covers insurance and other costs related to Oneonta Soccer Club's membership affiliation with Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association. It also covers league registration fees and per-game referee expenses for the two competitive outdoor leagues that OSC has competed in historically - Capital District Youth Soccer League (CDYSL) and Broome County Soccer Association (BCSA). Funding derived from registration costs help OSC maintain the Wright National Soccer Campus, which has some of the best grass soccer fields in the Northeast, as well as restrooms, bleachers and other amenities. Registration also covers our local indoor facility rental fee.

## **How much "travel" is there?**

Most of our teams participate in BCSA and that league has member clubs in the Binghamton, Corning, Cortland, Elmira and Ithaca areas, as well as Cooperstown, Oxford, Sidney and New Berlin. Some teams choose to play in indoor tournaments and leagues and outdoor tournaments in the Albany, Binghamton or Utica areas as well. The spring season typically has 8 to 10 games, with half being away games.

## **Are there tryouts?**

The club has traditionally held tryouts in the fall. This year, tryouts are on Sept. 15. In addition, some teams may hold "open practices" where prospective players may attend to see if that team is a good fit for them. We encourage returning players to register as soon as they know they are going to commit to OSC for the 2024-25 playing year. Some rosters fill quickly.

## **Have the registration costs gone up?**

As with nearly everything in our daily lives, costs have gone up. These costs include: a professional groundskeeper to maintain the WNSC playing fields; insuring and registering the 200 players in our travel soccer program; routine maintenance, cleaning and supplies at the WNSC; training equipment; referee fees; coach education; and league membership fees.

Oneonta Soccer Club is a 501c3 non-profit organization with no employees. Our board of directors, coaches and assistant coaches all serve on a volunteer basis. It's a balancing act between offering the best soccer experience we can in our region that's within the financial reach of all families. OSC is opting to keep registration fees at the same level as last year.

## **Does OSC offer financial help for prospective players whose families may cover the cost?**

Yes. OSC offers scholarships that cover a partial or full amount of a player's registration. There is an approval process and applications are evaluated based on need. We never want to turn away a player who wants to commit to OSC, but does not have the funds. Please contact the club president or a team coach for more information.

**What if a player only wants to train and attend practice, but is not able to commit to the full outdoor spring league experience?**

OSC offers a “training player” option. Training players enjoy the benefits of indoor practices throughout the winter and outdoor practices in the spring at a lower rate of \$150.

**While the spring outdoor league is included in the registration costs, what about indoor leagues and tournaments over the winter and outdoor tournaments?**

Participating in indoor play and outdoor tournaments is a decision that each individual team’s coaches make, in consultation with players and their families. Teams are responsible for funding these extra leagues and tournaments on their own. Recognizing that these experiences are valuable, OSC does pay for half of a team’s entry cost in the I-88 Challenge, which is typically held in April, before outdoor league play begins.

**Does OSC have any activities in the summer?**

OSC offers nearly year-round opportunities, both indoor and outdoors. Our club members are just that - members of a club. We encourage families to view your OSC registration not as just a player signing up for “X” number of games over a two-month period, but rather as a gateway to a range of soccer-related activities all year long. We also have a great need for volunteers, and we rely on our members to help support our activities by helping with clean-up days, our concession stand and in other ways.

**What about fall travel soccer?**

In lieu of interscholastic school sports at the modified, JV and varsity levels, Oneonta Soccer Club encourages teams from younger age groups to compete in an outdoor fall league in September and October, rather than our fall Recreational Soccer Program. There is an additional cost per player to participate in that fall leagues. U10 and or U12/U13 coaches will be able to provide more details.

**Is there a cost for uniforms?**

The OSC Board of Directors approved a switch to a new uniform last year. We examined a variety of uniforms and opted to go with one that has better quality overall. It is hoped that this new uniform will be able to be used for two or more seasons. The cost of the uniform kit is extra.