

Elevate Soccer Academy: Travel Team Program



Parent Handbook 2023-2024

www.ocelevate.com



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Elevate Soccer Academy Mission

- To **love God**, glorifying Him on and off the field
- To **love others** by sharing the message of Jesus Christ while training children to serve the Lord through sports

Elevate Soccer Academy Vision

To **elevate** the Name of Christ by seeing lives transformed through sports programs that encourage individuals to follow Jesus Christ.

Elevate Soccer Academy Philosophy

Elevate Soccer Academy (ESA) is a club based out of Ocean City, Maryland. It exists for athletes who are looking to take their game to the next level. It is our goal to develop showcase teams, which allows a pathway for our student-athletes to play collegiate soccer or higher. This program provides a competitive environment with highly qualified coaches, focused on your athlete's development through every training session and match. It is our goal to maximize and reach each athlete's potential as an individual and teammate; however, ESA's player development is not limited only to the pitch. Often times some of the most influential people in a child's life are his or her coaches; therefore, ESA does not take the selection of coaching staff lightly. Our coaches are not only highly qualified in the game of soccer but serve as excellent role models for the children; producing successful student-athletes on and off the pitch.

Elevate Soccer Academy is excited to officially be an affiliate of Maryland State Youth Soccer Association and US Youth Soccer as of 2022. While we are very grateful to have partnered with Delmarva Blast Soccer Club (DBSC) for our travel soccer program the past three years, our growth as a program has allowed us to now step out on our own.

All training sessions and approximately half our games will be held at our Elevate fields. All of our ESA teams train on top-level Bermuda fields which adds to our ability to train at a very high level.

Our club teams compete in the EDP League during the Fall and Spring season and play in multiple tournaments throughout the year. Our student-athletes train at least twice a week and have at least one match per week during season. In the winter, our club teams train indoors at least once a week and have at least one match per week. During the winter, our club competes in an indoor league, as well as, futsal and indoor tournaments.



Elevate Soccer Academy Facility

ESA is a branch of OC Elevate which is a ministry of Ocean City Baptist Church and operates at OCBC's West Campus located in West Ocean City. We have been blessed with 26 acres at our West Campus, much of which has been newly converted to an outdoor sports complex. Our sports complex sits in a prime location just behind the shopping outlets and approximately a mile and a half from the beach and boardwalk. Our facility boasts a great playing surface to train and develop the technical skills of players and teams of all ages. We already offer some of the top fields in Ocean City and are currently in the process of converting our fields to Bermuda Grass. We are striving to improve this sport complex each year which includes plans to build an indoor sports complex. We believe God has blessed us with this campus, and it is our desire to use this facility as a way to share who Christ is with the world.



How Can You Help?

- **Maintaining Fields**
 - Cutting Grass
 - Lining Fields
 - Contact Dave Brown
 - 410-713-2798
- **After practice and games, goals & equipment must be off fields and placed back into the soccer shed**

Elevate Parent Expectations

- **Winning vs Development**

- While we are a club that looks to compete in every match and tournament we enter, our primary objective is not winning.
- Our primary objective is player development both on and off the field. How we play the game is more important than the result. We know, however, as we properly develop each player and develop as a team this will inevitably impact our results on the field. This is why our training sessions include the following:
 - Ball mastery to train each athlete to be comfortable with the ball at his/her feet
 - Strength & Agility
 - Player I.Q. development
 - Possession focused play

What's Expected of Parents

- **Be an Encouraging Fan, not a Sideline Coach**

- Let players solve the problems on the field
 - This is important for their development, which is the ESA's focus
 - Being told exactly what to do and where to go is taking away their opportunity to develop
- Show respect to all players, opponents, fans, coaches, & referees
 - Your behavior will instantly impact the kids' behavior on the field
- Be a Positive Role Model

- **Have your athlete(s) at all training sessions and matches**

- Teaches your son/daughter an important message on commitment
- Important for his/her development
- Important for the development of the team
- Please notify the coach well in advance if your son/daughter cannot attend



Elevate Volunteer Opportunities

- **Why Volunteer at ESA?**
 - To serve in the furthering of God's kingdom
 - We need you! As our program continues to grow, it is vital we have volunteers step in and help carry some of the load
 - To serve our community and meet the needs of our program
 - To develop better relationships with Elevate parents
- **What Are the Available Volunteer Opportunities?**
 - Concession Stand Workers
 - Includes Fan Merchandise sales
 - Coaching
 - We are always looking for coaches that love the Lord and are excellent at teaching the game of soccer
 - Team Management
 - Helps coordinate team events, sets up hotels for tournaments, helps coordinate/plan fundraisers
 - Field Work
 - Cutting Grass, Lining Fields, etc...
 - Recreational Leagues
 - We are always looking for help with our OC Elevate soccer program
 - Coaching, referees, concessions, gameday set-up, gameday tear-down

Contact Information:

Dustin Wheelock	Head of OC Elevate ... (540) 550-0432	dustin@ocbaptist.com
Dave Brown	Field Maintenance ... (410) 713-2798	
Melissa Smith	OCBC Office ... (410) 289-6653	ocbaptist@hotmail.com



Elevate Soccer Academy Player Expectations

- **What is expected of each Elevate athlete?**
 - Be at Everything
 - We expect you to be at all training sessions, matches, & tournaments
 - This is vital for your development
 - Give your Best Effort
 - Always give us your very best no matter what
 - Successful players do not become successful over night; they become successful after committing to show up and give their best consistently
 - Be Respectful
 - Always respect yourself, teammates, coaches, parents, referees, & opponents
 - Practice on your own
 - Take the technical skills learned at practice and work on them at home. Be a student of the game
 - Wear your ESA Gear
 - Training Day Uniform
 - Matchday Uniform
 - Must always have **BOTH** full sets of uniforms for all matches
- **We want you to be Well-Rounded**
 - Be successful in the classroom
 - Be eager to learn and grow each day
 - Impact your community
 - How can you help those around you?
 - Stay Active
 - Multiple studies show that athletes who play multiple sports are more successful. This helps train children to be well-rounded



Elevate Soccer Academy Tentative Schedule

June: Tryouts Signing Day- June 13th Enjoy getting to know Elevate Family Optional Technical Training & Play-dates- Starts Tuesdays June 13 th -August 1 st 6pm-9pm	July: Summer Camp- July 10 th -14 th Optional Technical Training & Play-dates- Tuesdays	August: Preseason- Mandatory team training begins week of August 14th Training- 2x-3x per week	September: Training- 2x-3x week Friday Skills- Optional skilled sessions available League Matches- EDP games (mostly Sundays) Tournament
October: Training- 2x-3x/week Friday Skills- Optional skilled sessions available League Matches- EDP games (mostly Sundays) Columbus Day Tournament: location TBA	November: Training- 2x-3x/week Tournament East Coast Super Cup- Ocean City, MD	December: OFF- Rest & enjoy family time Optional Play-Dates- small sided games weekly	January: Training- 2x/week Winter league games Futsal Tournament
February: Training- 2x/week indoor Indoor Tournament- Wilmington, DE St. Patty's Day Tournament- @Ocean City indoor	March: Training- 2x-3x /week outdoor League Matches- EDP games (mostly Sundays) Tournament	April: Training- 2x-3x/week League Matches- EDP games (mostly Sundays) Friday Skills- Optional skilled sessions available Tournament	May: Training- 2x-3x/week League Matches- EDP games (mostly Sundays) Friday Skills- Optional skilled sessions available Tournament



Elevate Soccer Academy Cost

U9-U10 Elevate Player Fees

- League Fee (EDP Fall & Spring, Indoor league, Ref fees)
- Tournament Fees (2x-3x each season)
- Coaching Fees (Weekly Training sessions, Games, Tournaments, Travel expenses)
- Club Fee (Field Maintenance, operating cost)
- **Total: \$1,200** (Covers Fall, Winter, & Spring)

U11-U12 Elevate Player Fees

- League Fee (EDP Fall & Spring, Indoor league, Ref fees)
- Tournament Fees (3x-4x each season)
- Coaching Fees (Weekly Training sessions, Games, Tournaments, Travel expenses)
- Club Fee (Field Maintenance, operating cost)
- **Total: \$1,350** (Covers Fall, Winter, & Spring)

U13-U15 Elevate Player Fees

- League Fee (EDP Fall & Spring, Indoor league, Ref fees)
- Tournament Fees (3x-4x each season)
- Coaching Fees (Weekly Training sessions, Games, Tournaments, Travel expenses)
- Club Fee (Field Maintenance, operating cost)
- **Total: \$1,500** (Covers Fall, Winter, & Spring)

***Cost does not include Team Uniforms or Extra Elevate Gear



Payment Schedule

Payment	U9-U10 Elevate Teams	U11-U12 Elevate Teams	U13-U15 Elevate Teams
June 13 th **Signing Day	\$100	\$100	\$100
August 1 st	\$367	\$417	\$467
November 1 st	\$367	\$417	\$467
March 1 st	\$366	\$416	\$466
Total	\$1,200	\$1,350	\$1,500

