

# Chaska High School Boys Soccer Program Try-out Information

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*Please read the following information about tryouts for the Chaska High School Boys Soccer Program. Try-outs are conducted over a short period of time and all players must be prepared to handle the intensity and other conditions in this environment. It is important they put in the time and effort needed to show to the best of their ability.*

**2023 Fall Season Tryouts: Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>-Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Please do your best to avoid conflicts (vacations, etc) during this week.**

***Please arrive 15-20 Minutes prior to start time to allow time to get ready, warm up, and check in.***

***Location: Chaska Middle School West***

## Tryout Schedule

*Monday August 14-Thursday August 17*

- **Monday August 14th**
  - 10:30am-Noon: *Returning Varsity players and all Seniors (Field C)*
  - 4:30-6pm: *9th and 10th Grade (Field C)*
  - 6:00pm-7:30pm: *11th and 12th Grade (Field B)*
  - 7:30-8:30pm: *Varsity Invite only (Field C)*
- **Tuesday August 15th**
  - 10:30-Noon: *Varsity Invite only (Field C)*
  - 4:30-6pm: *9th and 10th Grade (Field C)*
  - 6:00pm-7:30pm: *11th and 12th Grade (Field B)*
  - 7:30-8:30pm: *Varsity Invite (Field C)*
- **Wednesday August 16th**
  - 10:30-Noon: *Varsity Invite only (Field C)*
  - 4:30-6pm: *9th and 10th Grade (Field C)*
  - 6:00pm-7:30pm: *11th and 12th Grade (Field B)*
  - 7:30pm-8:30pm: *Varsity Invite (Field C)*
- **Thursday August 17th**
  - 10:30-Noon: *Varsity Invite only (Field C)*
  - 4:30-6:30pm: *9th and 10th Grade (Field C)*
  - 6:30pm-8:30pm: *11th & 12th Grade/Varsity Invite (Field C)*

- *Teams Announced on Wednesday, August 17th during the evening sessions*

## **About Try-Outs**

Chaska High School Boys Soccer Program is a *competitive program*. Our players in our program play competitive soccer during the off-season at Premier, or Classic 1 and Classic 2 and Classic 3 levels. It is expected that players are high levels fitness, skill level, and tactical speed and decisions.

## **Levels**

- A player may try-out for any level at or above their grade level. There are a total of 4 teams in our program:
  - Varsity (any grade level placement)
  - JV (any grade level placement)
  - B Squad (9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade level placement priority)
  - 9A (9<sup>th</sup> grade level only placement)
- Our goal is to offer a roster place to every player who tries out.
- Club team and previous year's placement cannot determine the team that one is selected to.

## **The Process**

- We don't assign numbers to players. Why not? Because we believe that it is important to view players as a person, not a number. We want to get to know the players during tryouts, not after they have been placed on a team.
- Coaching staff will evaluate, identify, and work together to make team placements.
- Goal Keepers will be evaluation throughout the sessions and may be invited to participate in a separate GK only tryout.
- A variety of activities will be used to evaluate players throughout the week; technical exercises, individual activities, small-sided games, fitness related activities, and 11v11 scrimmages.
- Players will be evaluated on the following: Technical skills, tactical awareness, physical fitness, physical attributes (speed, strength, quickness, etc...), psychological/social aspects (team player, work rate, leadership, enthusiasm, etc...), game/team impact, and commitment.
- All players will be placed on initial teams.
- The varsity team selection will also be based off of positional/team needs.

## **Notification**

- Players will be placed on the team that best fits their showing at try-outs and what the coaching staff deems appropriate for the player's development and the placement best for each team.
- Team placements will be announced after the afternoon session on Thursday.
- Players will have the opportunity to meet with coaches about placement and receive feedback.
- Team placements will also be posted online after the initial announcement
- Players may move up to play at a higher level or play at a different level to help with their development and/or team needs during the season.

## **Try-out Q & A**

*What do players need to bring to try-outs?*

- Players must bring a fully inflated ball, soccer cleats, shin guards, water, and a light colored t-shirt (preferably white or gray).

*How are players selected?*

- Activities that may be used include; technical activities, 4v4 - 8v8 games, full-sided 11v11 scrimmages, and other soccer related activities that allow for optimal observations of each player who is trying out.

*Why are players asked to arrive early to try-outs?*

- This allows each player to ensure that they are properly registered, allows time to assign try-out pinnies, and provides enough time for players to warm themselves up and prepare for each try-out session.
- Players should arrive 15-20 minutes before their designated try-out time.

*Does a player's summer club team determine a player's placement?*

- No. Players are encouraged to play for the best team/club that matches their preferences and is at the highest level they are able to be placed on. Playing for a certain club does not determine what level one makes nor does the level one plays at (i.e. ECNL, MRL, Premier, C1, C2, C3, etc...in the past, some players who have played C1 have made a higher level than a player who plays premier and players who have played C2 have been selected over a C1 player).

*Do players need to attend all try-out sessions?*

- The best answer is yes as this will help the player get more opportunities for the coaches to evaluate them. The coaching staff cannot evaluate what they cannot see. Missing a try-out date may hinder placement on a team.
- Family vacation, senior pictures, work conflicts, dentist appointments, etc. are recommended to be scheduled during other times.

*Who gets invited to the evening sessions?*

- The evening sessions are for JV and Varsity placement only. Players will be invited based upon their morning tryout session and how they have done in previous session
- A player who gets invited to an evening session is not guaranteed to get that invitation on subsequent days.
- A player who does not get an invitation is not excluded from getting an invitation on forthcoming days

*What does one do who misses try-outs (injury, family commitment, etc..)?*

- Players must notify Head Coach Michael O'Reilly prior to try-outs and explain their situation.
- Players who miss tryouts will be evaluated at their grade level team practices and placement for that team will be assigned by the team level coach and Head Coach Michael O'Reilly

*Are there cuts?*

- No. We will place any player who registers to play in our program.
- Seniors are not guaranteed a position on the junior varsity or varsity teams.

*Does what position a player play determine team placement?*

- At the varsity team level it does, but all other levels players are selected according to their ability and potential within the program.

*What if I am trying out as a goalkeeper? What times am I expected to attend?*

- Goalkeepers are expected to be at their appropriate grade level sessions.
- Select goalkeepers may be asked to come to the afternoon sessions determined by the coaching staff.

*When are teams announced?*

- Team placements for all levels will be announced after the afternoon session n.

*Why are team placements also posted online?*

- The coaching staff decided this method is consistent with other sports at Chaska High School

*Once team placements are posted are there opportunities for players to move to another team level?*

- Yes. The posted rosters are initial placements and some players may move to a different team level at any point during the season.
- Players are not guaranteed a roster position and may move depending on several factors; team needs, attitude, how a player practices/plays in games, development needs of a player, and other factors that will best serve the player, a team, and the program.

*What can a player do who has a question regarding their try-out and team placement?*

- A player can meet with the coaching staff immediately following team selections on Wednesday, August 13th (9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade only) and Thursday, August 14th (Varsity and JV only).
- The focus of the discussion will be on what a player needs to do to improve, what areas the coaching staff viewed as strengths, and how the player scored with regards to the criteria used in the selection process.
- **The coaching staff will not discuss the assessment of other players.**

*If a player is not selected will a refund be given?*

- Yes, a full refund will be given within 2 weeks after the try-out process. Players and families do not have to contact the athletic department to receive a refund as the refund will be processed once teams are selected.