



RECREATIONAL HANDBOOK

TOGETHER WE RISE

HOUSTON
Methodist
ORTHOPEDICS &
SPORTS MEDICINE

reliant
an NRG company

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CLUB



SECTION I: BY THE NUMBERS



PLAYERS

- > **2,000** Competitive Players
- > **1,300** Recreational Players
- 50+** Professional and National Team Players Produced
- > **800** College Placements



COACHES

- 40+** Full-time coaches
- 15** "A" Licensed Coaches
- 12** "B" Licensed Coaches
- 20** Nationalities Represented



GEOGRAPHICS

RISE attracts players from over **150** different zip codes.
Our **12** facilities span the greater Houston area.



PLAYER PATHWAYS OFFERED

- Girls Academy League
- MLS Elite Youth Development Platform
- Elite Clubs National League - Boys
- United Clubs Soccer League
- Player Development Friendlies
- South Texas Youth Soccer League
- RISE Recreational In-House League



FACILITIES

- 70** Match Quality Fields (50 are lighted)
- 3** Futsal Courts
- 5** Artificial Turf Fields
- 1** Stadium with Locker Rooms
- 4** Meeting Spaces
- 2** RISE Owned Facilities



CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1** DA National Championship
- 3** National Championships
- 25** Regionals Championships
- 60+** State Cup Appearances



SUPPORT

- > **675** Volunteers
- 6** Administrators
- 45** Full-time Employees



SOCIAL

- 10,000+** Social Media Followers



SPONSORS

- Reliant Energy
- Nike
- Houston Methodist Hospital



SECTION II: ABOUT US

RISE Soccer Club (RISE or RISE SC) is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit youth sports club that serves the Houston youth soccer community. Houston Express Soccer Club (HESC), founded in 1978, and Eclipse Soccer Club, founded in 1986 merged in 2017 to form RISE. In April 2019, Texans SC joined RISE in an effort to transform and provide limitless opportunities to Houston youth soccer players.

RISE is a full service soccer club, our programming serves players of all levels - from recreational to college-bound-in a safe, supportive environment. We offer soccer programming to youth athletes regardless of their play-level. At RISE, we have licensed coaches guide our players through the development process to ensure that we provide a consistent player environment across all genders and age groups.

As a non-profit organization, the fees we collect are generally invested back into the club. By being financially prudent, we have been able to develop facilities that we own, in the heart of Houston, which are easily accessible to millions of residents. We also partner with municipalities who own beautiful facilities and grant RISE priority usage. Having field freedom and flexibility puts RISE in a powerful and unique position because we always have an element of control over our future.

We firmly believe that **Better Coaches = Better Players**. Coaches are the key to player development. RISE boasts one of the most highly licensed coaching staffs in the nation. Our Player Development Coaches are ethnically diverse and can cater to the many cultures in our community while always maintaining the highest technical standards. RISE is committed to developing our players by having the most talented and qualified coaches lead our players and oversee our program.

RISE is dedicated to being a force in youth soccer, RISE is prepared in all phases to achieve the highest level of success. Boasting a highly licensed coaching staff, a commitment to player development, some of the finest youth soccer facilities in the country and a central location in one of the largest youth soccer markets in the world, RISE is primed to lead soccer in Houston through the development of youth players.

SECTION III: CLUB INFORMATION

Mailing Address

RISE Soccer Club
2617-C W. Holcombe Blvd. #121
Houston, Texas 77025

Southwest Office

RISE Soccer Club
4502 Riverstone Blvd, Suite 1402
Missouri City, Texas 77459
(281) 612-4210

Website

risesc.org

Social Media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter):

@risesoccerclub



SECTION IV: BRAND IDENTITY

Our identity visually represents us to the global community. It encompasses all the elements of our brand and is the total effect of everything that makes us who we are: our logo, our website, our services and our culture. Because the brand cannot be compromised, we've created strict specifications to maintain its integrity.

The key for a brand to appear professional is consistency. A consistent and professional approach to using these guidelines is crucial to building a recognizable brand for RISE Soccer Club. A brand is not something you build overnight, and like a person, it has its own personality and traits. Our branding guidelines exist to help achieve a consistent look for RISE, so that our constituency can perceive us as a strong, compassionate, and reliable organization.

The RISE Name

Whenever the name of our organization appears in text and separate from the logo, it should be written in all capital letters: RISE.

Logo and Tagline

Our logo was developed to be modern and future-proof. It is a distinctive mark that seeks to present our organization as a compassionate, forward-thinking, and professional organization with a commitment and adherence to high standards.

Any reproduction or unauthorized use of the RISE logo, design or tagline without written consent from RISE is prohibited. Trademarks on the RISE logo and tagline are pending.



TOGETHER WE RISE





SECTION V: COMMUNICATIONS METHODS

RISE utilizes several forms of communication to relay necessary information and announcements to players and families including our website, email platforms such as MailChimp and TeamSnap, as well as, social media outlets such as: Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

We strive to deliver timely, concise and relevant information to provide our constituents with a curated experience by providing meaningful content that connects the club and enhances its culture. As part of our efforts to provide a more personalized experience, we may use images or video of current and past players and/or teams to better capture the day-to-day environment at RISE. We may share information with social networks when you interact with RISE.

Our communication methods provide you with relevant information RISE, our partners, and any special opportunities specific to soccer which may exist.

RISE does not make available the e-mail addresses or other personal information of its members. Although member information is accessible to some extent to the RISE Coaching and Administrative Staff, any violation or inappropriate use of member information is subject to the RISE Code of Conduct policy. Parents, Team Managers or Volunteers may not use the RISE email system for any purpose other than official RISE Soccer Club business.

SECTION VI: CLUB OVERSIGHT

Board of Directors (BOD)

The BOD are responsible for developing the vision and strategic plan of RISE and protecting the assets of the club. The purpose of the RISE BOD is to provide oversight. The RISE BOD and club volunteers are not involved in any soccer decisions, those are managed exclusively by the professional Coaching Staff beginning with the Technical Director or designee.

Technical Director (TD)

The Technical Director of the club is responsible for implementing the vision and strategic plan of the BOD. All RISE employees report either directly to the Technical Director or his/her designee. The RISE Technical Director is also responsible for leading the club and the technical committee to develop and implement the RISE style of play along with designing and implementing appropriate soccer curriculum for all RISE programs and levels of play – recreational and competitive – consistent with U.S. Soccer Federation standards and with the goal of optimizing player development.

Operations Director (OD)

The Director of Operations is expected to play an active role in the growth, success, and impact of RISE in the community and will represent RISE with excellence. The Director of Soccer Operations will be responsible for directing all non-coaching matters related to the soccer program to ensure that programs and activities are efficient, effective, and meeting the needs of club membership.

Please visit risesc.org for a full list of the members of the RISE Coaching Staff.



SECTION VII: KEY PROGRAM CONTACTS

Recreational Program

RECREATIONAL DIRECTOR (RD)

The RD together with the TD, establish, implement, evaluate, and lead all aspects of the mission for all recreational programs serving ages 3 to 19. The RD must be passionate about working with developing players, and that energy must carry over to the Recreational staff and to volunteer Team Managers. The RD works closely with the Rec Administrator (RA) to oversee administrative tasks and implementation of duties for all Recreational programs.

RECREATIONAL SITE COORDINATORS (SC)

Site Coordinators (SC) are generally present at facilities where recreational teams have training sessions and games. Typically we assign one to each facility. SC's are there to provide oversight and have the authority to step in and make adjustments to the game format and/or standards of play if necessary to ensure a developmentally appropriate environment for your recreational player(s). In addition to these general responsibilities, SC's are often coaching, supporting Team Managers, and assisting the Recreational Player Development Coach (RPDC); however, they can be counted on to answer questions and point you in the right direction.

RECREATIONAL PLAYER DEVELOPMENT COACH (RPDC)

RPDC's report to the SC's and ultimately to the RD and TD. They are responsible for the overall experience of the players during their training sessions. Our RPDC is expected to arrive at scheduled practices with enough time to conduct any required setup before the session's official start time and conduct meaningful and inspired training sessions that are congruous with the RISE player development curriculum.

RECREATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR (RA)

The Recreational Administrator is responsible for leading all aspects of the administrative and customer service functions for the RISE Rec program, to ensure they are efficient, effective and meet the needs of the club constituency. Additionally, the RA will help support the TD and RD to ensure the needs of the Recreational Program are met.



SECTION VIII: IDENTITY AND VALUES

Through a shared passion, collaboration, and commitment to talent development, we connect our community, families, and players by cultivating a club culture of respect, improvement, success, and empowerment through and for the advancement of soccer.

TOGETHER WE RISE.





SECTION IX: MISSION AND VISION

Mission

RISE develops youth soccer players that embody our commitment to provide an unparalleled player environment led by the most talented and qualified coaches who embrace and inspire the talents of all players.

Vision

Our goal is to be a top 25 youth soccer club in the country. We must be able to consistently develop, retain, and attract talent. Simply put, we always want our teams, regardless of their level of play, to be a threat to go all the way. The success of the club is uniquely tied to the success of its players. RISE will prepare our players and teams to compete against anyone, anytime, and anywhere.





SECTION X: CODE OF CONDUCT

The RISE Code of Conduct clarifies what can be expected from the Club, and it also defines the behavior expected of our constituents. The Code of Conduct has been adopted to emphasize the values and principles that govern our relationship with our constituents, customers, business partners, and other stakeholders. It also serves as a starting point for RISE's relevant policies and procedures.

The RISE Code of Conduct, and the club policies set forth within, are intended to promote an orderly and efficient operation that enhances the experience for all of our constituency. Violations, therefore, shall be regarded as cause for disciplinary action. Not all of our policies and procedures are set forth in this Handbook. We have summarized only some of the more important ones in this Handbook. As a reminder, constituents are responsible for their guests of family members when attending all RISE activities or events.

If you have any questions or concerns about this Handbook or any other policy or procedure, please contact the Operations Director and the Recreational Administrator. If your concern is a soccer matter, please contact the Recreational Director.

Acknowledgment

Upon registering your player at RISE Soccer Club, Inc. (the "Club"), you and your player(s) agree to adhere to the RISE Code of Conduct and Club Policies. Although the Code of Conduct does not cover all the policies of the Club or address all potential issues, it addresses several matters that arise with regularity.

This Handbook describes many of the current policies and procedures of the Club. I understand that this document does not describe all of my obligations to the Club or all of the Club's obligations to me. I agree to abide by and be bound by the rules, policies and standards set forth in this Handbook.

I also understand that business conditions can change. The Club, therefore, reserves the right to change any of the policies, practices or benefits that are described in this Handbook, at any time, without prior notice. All such revisions, deletions or additions must be in writing. No oral statements or representations can change the provisions of this Handbook. I acknowledge that nothing in this Handbook, no oral statement or statements by any member of the Board of Directors, the Technical Director or any other Club Employee can alter these policies.



About the Handbook

This Handbook contains information about the policies and procedures of RISE Soccer Club, Inc. (the “Club” or “We”, “Our” or “RISE”). We expect each parent and/or guardian to read the Handbook carefully as it is a valuable resource to reference. The Handbook is provided to you as a guide to the Club’s policies and procedures. It is not intended to create, and should not be construed as, a contract between the Club and any one or all of its constituents. These Handbook provisions supersede any existing policies and practices and may not be amended or added to without the express written approval of the Board of Directors of the Club.

Our Handbook describes many of your responsibilities as Club constituents, and outlines the programs developed by the Club to benefit your player(s). The RISE Handbook cannot anticipate every circumstance or question about policy. As business continues to change, the need may arise and the Club reserves the right to revise, supplement, or rescind any policies or portions of this Handbook from time to time as it deems appropriate, in its sole and absolute discretion. Constituents will be notified of such changes as soon as reasonably practicable.

Player insurance plans (that cover Club fees families owe to the Club), to the extent they are offered, are defined in plan documents. Any questions that arise about the nature and extent of these plan benefits or if there is a conflict in language, the formal language of the plan documents will govern, not the informal wording of this Handbook.

Violations to the Code of Conduct

Non-compliance or violations of the RISE Code of Conduct may result in appropriate disciplinary action up to and including reassignment or removal from the team and/or club for any constituent. Ignorance of the Code of Conduct policy is not an acceptable excuse for violation.

If a RISE Staff Member, Team Manager or Club Official determines that a player or parent demonstrates unsportsmanlike or inappropriate conduct at a training session, game, or club event, that is in conflict with the RISE Code of Conduct or any club policies, they may take either of the following actions:

- Immediately remove the player or parent from the training session, game or club event.
- Refer the matter to a RISE Staff member, a Recreational Site Coordinator, or the Recreational Director for review and possible sanction.

RISE will investigate and determine what, if any, sanctions will apply. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, a warning, suspension, probation and/or dismissal from the Club. Our procedures will be in accordance with all state and/or local guidelines for participation and promoting the mission and values of RISE. In all cases of disciplinary sanction, our Technical Director’s decision is final and not subject to appeal. In the event a player or parent is dismissed from the club, they will not be eligible to receive a refund or relief from any unpaid future dues.



SECTION XI: CLUB PHILOSOPHIES

Soccer Philosophy

At RISE, we take a systematic approach to unlocking the value in our club. Developing soccer players is a long-term process, so building relationships within our community and earning the trust of our constituents are critical to our process.

We offer well-structured, community based soccer programs that are efficiently and effectively delivered by professionally licensed coaches whose ultimate focus is on individual player development. By establishing large player pools at the youngest ages, we rely on our coaches to educate, prepare and guide our players through our program with the understanding that the success of our club is uniquely tied to the experiences, opportunities and successes we give our players and their families.

Our vertically integrated model allows RISE to assume control of the development process at an early age to best position your player for success. RISE players benefit from the excellent environment, minimal geographical challenges, flexible programming, and multiple pathways.

Coaching Philosophy

Coaches are the key to player development. RISE boasts one of the most highly licensed coaching staffs in the nation. Like professionals in any industry, your probability for success increases with education. RISE is committed to developing our players by having the most talented and qualified coaches lead our players and oversee our programming. There are simply no shortcuts to developing world class players or creating an environment that breeds this tradition. Philosophically, we believe that the best results are achieved with preparation.

RISE has a program specific coaching staff to lead all of the club training sessions, unless stated otherwise. RISE Player Development Coaches follow a proprietary training curriculum that covers technical, tactical, physical, and mental themes which are essential to a player's full development. Training is age and skill appropriate, but the ideas and methodology are consistent throughout the RISE program.

It is important to understand that a portion of the fee you pay to RISE is for coaching and not specifically to pay for the coach assigned to your players team. The coach who is assigned to your team may not always be the team's regular coach in training sessions and/or games. Most RISE coaches work with multiple teams and those teams often play or train at multiple locations, so there are often conflicts that the club has to resolve on a weekly basis. These types of conflicts are more specific to RISE Advanced which includes the Youth Academy, Competitive, and Elite Programs.

While we understand that parents may have concerns about not having the same coach at every training session, or game, there are many positives for players to hear different voices and opinions. Our coaches have different personalities, communication skills, and motivational methods that will often create different synergies because of the unique way in which each coach relates to a certain player and/or team. Ultimately, we want as many RISE Player Development Coaches as possible to get to know your player and the player pool so that the club can have a broader and more in depth evaluation of each age group and gender. RISE spends a great deal of time and resources in hiring, educating, and supporting our Player Development Coaches to ensure they add value to your player's development process.



Player Development Philosophy

There are debates in youth soccer about winning vs. development. RISE believes in balancing both to have successful teams, and most importantly, successful players. RISE will not sacrifice player development for the sake of winning. Player development, especially at the younger ages, must be more important than the win itself.

Our philosophy focuses on a balanced approach. We encourage players to take more risks and to value the fact that life's best lessons are learned from our mistakes. In our younger age groups, we participate in a developmental league during the fall and spring. We use these games to apply training objectives taught in training sessions that week. During games, we guide and observe the players in order to determine what to focus on in upcoming coaching sessions. We allow players the freedom to be creative in game environments without fear. The balance to this is that there are events for each team in which we play to compete.

We focus on building players with a strong technical foundation and teach the fundamentals of the game. We provide age-appropriate training for every player, at every level. We educate and communicate with players and parents on the balance between competition and development, and we establish goals and milestones for the team and each individual player.

Winning can be important for our older teams to secure berths in elevated levels of competition such as leagues and showcases. Winning can also be important for team morale, recruiting, team dynamics, and confidence.

Player Development is important because we want to end up with a team of well-rounded players. Shortcuts lead to sacrifices, and RISE is not willing to sacrifice competition for development or development for competition. In order for this balance to be realized, every component within the club and within each team must work together.

Team Formation Philosophy

Our first responsibility is to ensure RISE players are being instructed by qualified, capable, and motivated coaches as the success of the club is directly correlated to the success of your player. At RISE, we work diligently to prepare your players to compete at the highest level they desire. Ultimately, the responsibility to develop, identify, and facilitate the transition of players to the next level falls on our Player Development Coaches.

In general, players in our younger age groups play on community based teams, while limited programming is offered to older players who wish to do the same. Players who age through our program and seek a more competitive experience will begin to be placed on teams that are tiered and formed from players from multiple campuses that train at a specific location.

RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

After players have paid their registration fee, they are assigned randomly to teams in order to preserve the integrity of the program's non-competitive nature. Parents have the ability to designate the home campus of their choice upon registering their player. RISE uses the pool training concept to ensure players are consistently in a high quality, RPDC-led training environment, unless specified otherwise. Pool training shifts the focus away from team development and prioritizes individual player development. Prior to forming any Recreational team, there will need to be a volunteer Team Manager in place.

By building deep recreational player pools, we are able to grow organically while developing players congruent with our philosophies who are armed with a strong technical skill foundation. Through this trust building process, and certainly not for every player, those players interested can matriculate from our Recreational Program to our Advanced Program at the appropriate age group, and they will have a better understanding of the club's mission, culture, and player development philosophies.

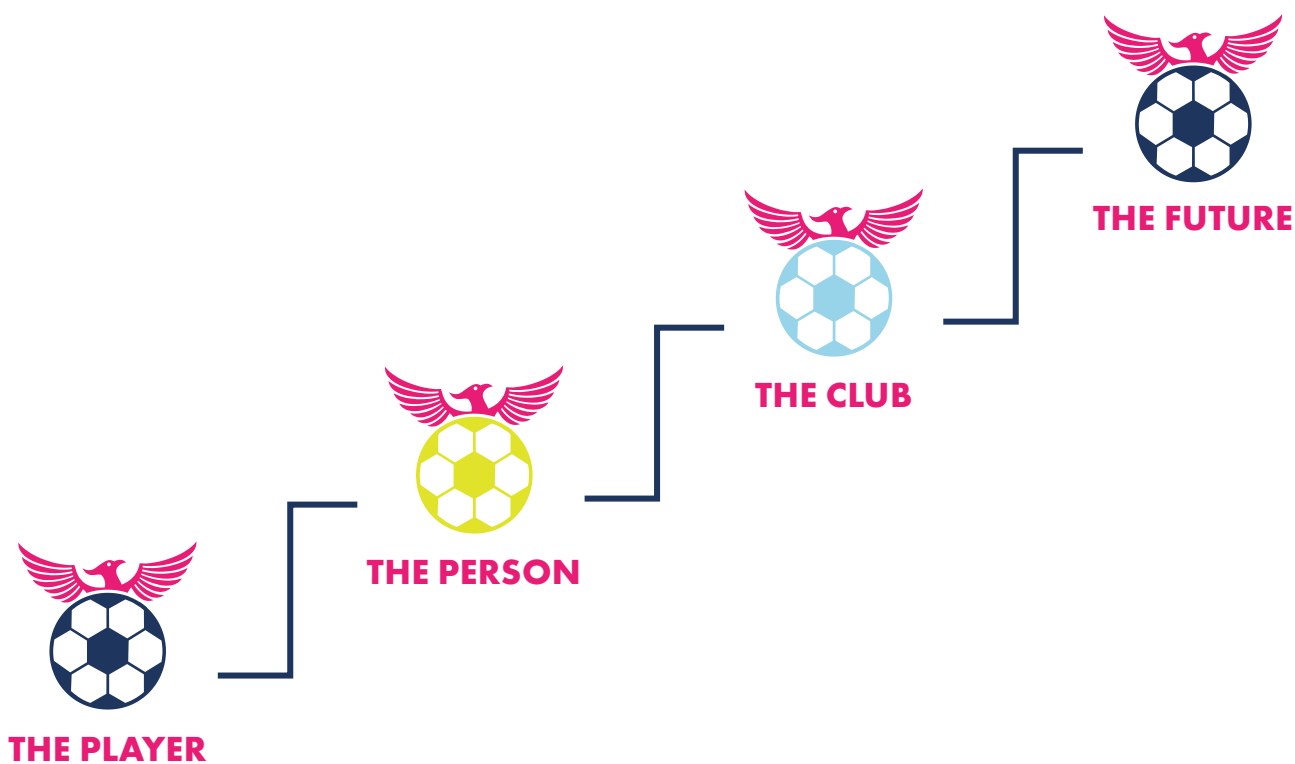


Develop the Player:

At the core of any decision at RISE is the impact it will have on player development. RISE exists to support its players. Our development processes encompasses the 4 key components of the game (technical, tactical, physical, psychological). RISE will provide players of all levels of play the opportunity to advance.

Develop the Person:

RISE plays an integral role in the lives of our youth athletes. We lead by example and uphold high ethical standards. We guide, mentor, and build strong relationships with our players who in turn make society better.



Develop the Club:

The success of your player is tied to our success. The legacy clubs who formed RISE understood and believed this. Our environment is player centric, highly collaborative, and designed to keep your player supported and at the forefront. Together we RISE.

Develop the Future:

We work closely with our players and coaching staff to ensure they are positioned to achieve their goals. Bespoke plans are created to use a guiding force as they progress through the club.



PROGRAMMING



SECTION XII: RECREATIONAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The RISE Recreational Program “RISE Rec” or “Rec” is, at heart, a community-based program, with teams formed from numerous geographic locations, including the: West University, Bellaire, River Oaks, Braeswood Place, Meyerland, Westbury, Sugar Land, First Colony, Missouri City, and Sienna areas.

RISE provides an fun, safe, instructional soccer experience for players who are new to soccer and trying to build their individual technical skills. We strive to instill a love for the game in each of our players and to provide an environment where your player may participate according to his or her interest and ability. RISE Rec is NOT competitive or designed to be.

Our main objective is to help your player build a strong technical foundation so that they are comfortable with the ball at their feet and confident in their decision making abilities when playing. The RISE Rec curriculum focuses on individual skill development, building confidence in players, and maximizing creativity by allowing players to learn the game gradually in a fun, stress-free and engaging environment.

RISE Recreational teams are coached by Recreational Player Development Coaches Staff in training sessions and by volunteer parent Team Managers during games. Team Managers will be guided and mentored by the RISE Player Development Staff and provided parent education opportunities. Together, they will work to ensure that we are providing an excellent environment for your player to learn the fundamentals of soccer. All RISE Coaching Staff members and Team Managers are required to pass a background check before being official roles within the program and/or being allowed to lead any activities with the kids.

SECTION XIII: RECREATIONAL PROGRAM STAKEHOLDER EXPECTATIONS

Recreational Player Development Coaches

Prior to each season, the Recreational Director assigns a Recreational Player Development Coach (RPDC) who is tasked with the coaching responsibilities for the recreational player pools they are assigned to. Our success as a club is uniquely tied to the success of our players, so we work diligently to ensure that we are providing players with an unparalleled player environment that is conducive to player development.

PARENTS MAY EXPECT RISE (RPDC) MEMBERS TO:

- Conduct meaningful and inspired training sessions that are congruous with the RISE curriculum.
- Arrive at scheduled practices and games with sufficient time to conduct any required setup before the session’s official start time.
- Maintain professional conduct at all times.
- Always to be in RISE gear so they are easily identifiable.
- Encourage and teach players in a manner that is positive, engaging and conducive to individual player development.
- Work with the Team Manager, when necessary, to establish clear and timely communication of essential team information.
- Deal with any and all team/parent/player issues per club policies.
- To the extent practicable, protect a player from playing injured.
- At all times, support and uphold all club policies.



Recreational Program Parents

Parents and/or guardians play a special role in fulfilling the needs of, and contributing to, the development of children – and not just their own children. Through encouragement and setting good examples, parents and guardians can help assure that all RISE athletes learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. To this end, the role of each RISE parent or guardian is very simple: behave as a parent, not as a coach, referee or television commentator -- in addition to supporting your players in fulfilling their commitment to the club and their teammates.

RISE EXPECTS THE FOLLOWING FROM PARENTS:

- Pay your player's fees on time and in full, and be mindful of the club refund policy
- Wait 24 hours following the end of any game or training session before approaching a RISE Staff member, Team Manager, Club Official or Volunteer to discuss a complaint or concern arising from a game or training session
- Keep your household information with the club up to date including current address, phone numbers and email addresses
- To the extent that your player relies on you for transportation, ensure that they arrive on time for all training sessions and games
- Keep an eye on your player at all training sessions or games
- It is imperative that your player wears the appropriate RISE uniform kit to all training sessions and games so that they are easily identifiable
- Always bring both home and away uniform kits to all games
- Remain clear of the field during training sessions and games unless you are a RPDC or a Team Manager
- Support your son/daughter's play in a positive manner and also that of their teammates
- Do not be a sideline referee
- Do not give your player or any player on the team any instructions as they may conflict with the coaches instructions
- Avoid negative communication – verbal or non-verbal – with RISE players and coaches during training sessions and games
- Avoid negative communication of any kind with referees, opposing parents, players and/or coaches during or after games

- Avoid the use of profanity and abusive language at any RISE events
- Avoid the use of alcohol or tobacco at all RISE activities
- Observe all rules applicable particularly to parents and to spectators in general as promulgated by the gaming league(s) in which your player participates
- Parents are responsible for the behavior of their guests at RISE activities and events
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times
- At all times, support the club and uphold its policies

Recreational Program Players

The primary role of RISE Recreational players is to have fun, to learn and to be exceptional teammates.

RISE EXPECTS THE FOLLOWING FROM PLAYERS:

- Demonstrate 100% effort, sportsmanship and a positive attitude at all training sessions and games
- Arrive at all training sessions and games at or before the time designated by the club, your RPDC, or your Team Manager
- Wear your approved RISE training kit to all training sessions
- Wear your approved RISE game kit to all games and always bring your complete home and away uniform kits
- Bring your gear, including cleats and/or flats, shin guards, an appropriately-sized and inflated soccer ball and water to all games and training sessions
- Be match ready: get adequate sleep and nutrition prior to each game
- Show respect at all times for club policy, coaches, teammates, opponents and referees
- Players are responsible for the behavior of their guests at RISE activities and events
- At all times, support and uphold all club policies



Recreational Program Team Managers

The role of parent volunteer Team Manager is critical to the success of any RISE team and to the overall experience of our players.

Team Managers serve in positions of great trust and, therefore, are expected to be ambassadors of RISE to parents and players and to support RISE policies and procedures as set forth in this handbook and on our website. In general, the Team Manager is the hub of communication among parents, players, the team's RPDC and RISE. Key information regarding players' participation in club activities is often disseminated to parents through Team Managers.

RISE EXPECTS THE FOLLOWING FROM TEAM MANAGERS:

- Attend all RISE Team Manager meetings
- Attend all RISE team meetings
- No club employee (full or part time) can be a Team Manager
- Work with the club and/or RPDC's to ensure the team's parents are up to date on all matters relating to the upcoming season such as the team's training, game and event schedules, postgame beverages, etc
- Assist RISE in welcoming and orienting new parents/players who join the team late
- Team Managers should attend the team's training sessions as frequently as possible
- For all games, have a first aid kit, bench and canopy
- All Recreational games are run by the volunteer parent Team Managers
- In the event that a member of the RISE Coaching Staff attends a game or training session, they are permitted, by default, to take over the coaching duties from Team Managers
- No more than one 2 RISE volunteer parents (Team Manager plus an Assistant Team Manager) may be present on the team sideline of a RISE team's game
- The sideline coaching rule does not pertain to RISE Coaching Staff Members
- If applicable, collect appropriate fees for team activities not covered by fees paid directly to the club.
- Register teams for RISE approved events as directed by the Club
- All RISE Team Managers and Assistant Team Managers are required to pass a background check
- RISE Team Managers or Assistant Team Managers do not have the authorization to change, cancel or add any additional training sessions or games
- At all times, support and uphold all club policies



SECTION XIV: RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Our Recreational Program is unique in that all training sessions are led by professionally licensed coaches. We do this to ensure that we are delivering a consistent training environment to our youngest players with a clear focus on individual technical skill development. We want all RISE players to have the same excellent training environment rather than to leave their earliest experiences up to fate.

RISE Rec - Preschool

The RISE Preschool Program is our introductory level offering to our youngest players, most of whom are new to soccer. Depending on your home campus, the once weekly training session for RISE Preschool is led by the RISE Advanced Coaching Staff, who are the most experienced, highly licensed, and among some of the best coaches in the country. There is not a better way for your player to learn the basic fundamentals and to become ingrained in the culture at RISE. Our coaches use fun, age-appropriate activities to emphasize fundamental skill development and proper technique on the ball via our curriculum-based program. Volunteer parent Team Managers lead the games for these teams.

RISE Rec - Grade School

Players participating in this program are typically seeking a seasonal activity to exercise, develop friendships, and learn about teamwork. Most RISE Rec players consider soccer one of their favorite sports, but have multiple commitments outside of soccer. This program usually consists of beginners who are still mastering the basic fundamentals. These teams typically value a less competitive environment.

Players who would benefit from the RISE Rec are excited to play soccer and learn about new ways to manipulate the ball with their feet. Rec players will try to excel in an environment by showing the willingness to learn. Rec players will value the stable training environment and professional coaching oversight. Rec teams will play games against other teams in the Rec Program, but there will be both team and individual player opportunities outside of those games.

Players will have 2 pool training sessions per week with a low coach-to-player ratio and a game on the weekend. Volunteer parent Team Managers are encouraged to work in tandem with their coach to assist them if needed during training sessions. Volunteer parent Team Managers lead the games for their teams on the weekend against other RISE Rec teams.

RISE reserves the right to move any player out of the Rec Program and into the Advanced Program, where competitive play begins, given it is age-appropriate and the RISE Recreational Director or Technical Director determines that said player is compromising the integrity of the non-competitive nature of the Rec Program and its player development initiatives.



SECTION XV: RECREATIONAL TRAINING FORMAT

Training Sessions:

Players on RISE teams are expected to demonstrate a consistent dedication to improving their play through regular attendance at training sessions. Only players, RISE RPDC's and authorized Team Managers are permitted on the field during training sessions. Parents, siblings, friends and other interested spectators are encouraged to be present, but must strictly limit their involvement to observing. Unless a parent is specifically solicited by a RISE Coaching Staff Member to assist them. Players must wear their approved RISE uniform kit to all training sessions.

Pool Training

RISE uses the pool training concept to ensure players are consistently in a high quality, coaching staff led, training environment. Pool training shifts the focus away from team development and prioritizes individual player development. During pool sessions, RISE players will be grouped together with players who have similar skill levels, with the understanding that players develop in different stages. Increased competition, an improved training environment, and accelerated player development are all by-products of the pool training.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS OF THE POOL TRAINING METHOD

- Deliberate and consistent implementation of age-appropriate training activities
- The objective is to develop individual players, not teams.
- The specific needs of players can be addressed individually.
- By grouping players by birth year and ability, the developmental gaps between players is narrowed and meaningful competition is improved.
- Flexibility and fluidity ensure that players are consistently being placed in the right training environment.
- Improved club culture and spirit
- Opportunities to build relationships and friendships across an age group
- Allows young players to expand their social boundaries
- Consistent evaluation and feedback provided by numerous members of the coaching staff

Developing Skilled and Creative Players

There are no shortcuts to player development; success requires a long term approach and commitment. Player success is directly correlated to the player environment a young athlete is exposed to. RISE provides your Rec player with a developmentally appropriate learning environment where our licensed (RPDS) coaches help your player develop their technical skills in ways that encourage them to express their individual creativity without the fear of making mistakes. The RISE Rec program encompasses both formal and creative learning methods to accomplish these goals. The program is designed to help the growth and development of young players both socially and technically so they are prepared to advance within the game at the level they desire.

Formal Learning - Fundamental Skills

RISE coaches want players to feel comfortable and confident when they have the ball at their feet. To accomplish this, our coaches will help players build a strong fundamental skill foundation seasonally, by introducing proper ball-handling basics and technique through a series of age-appropriate activities that will grow progressively.

Creative Learning - Street Soccer

The street soccer concept is a learning method that emerged from playing soccer in the street. This informal and unstructured play format was essentially a neighborhood pickup game where any player could simply just jump in and play. By introducing street soccer to our weekly recreational programming, the (RPDS) will have the flexibility to mix players together by their play levels, regardless of their genders and age groups. This format will keep the games fresh, meaningful and engaging for our players.



SECTION XVI: RECREATIONAL GAME DAY

Player Environment

RISE aspires to provide a fun, safe, instructional soccer experience for players that is conducive to individual player development within the team concept. Helping our individual players build a strong technical foundation is our priority. RISE, where possible, will adhere to the Player Development Initiative recommendations put in place by the U.S. Soccer Federation.

BEST PRACTICES

All “players/teams” registered to RISE Soccer Club are “players/teams” of RISE, per se, and not “players/teams” of any particular Team Manager(s) or RISE Coaching Staff member(s). As such, RISE expects all players, parents, Team Managers, and RISE Coaching Staff members to adhere to the standards of play and game formats detailed in our programming to provide our players’ with the best possible environment.

RISE encourages Team Managers, parents, and spectators to cheer for their “teams and players” as long as it is in a positive and wholesome manner. Together, RISE, team managers, and parents are expected to create and promote a fun and safe environment for the players. There will be no tolerance when it comes to overly competitive or aggressive Team Managers, parents, or spectators who pressure players to perform, win at all costs, or engage in combative exchanges with others. RISE Site Coordinators and/or RISE Staff Coaches who are at game locations are there to provide oversight, enforce the game formats, playing standards, and evaluate players. They have the authority to step in and make adjustments to the game format and/or standards of play if necessary to ensure a developmentally appropriate environment for the players.

In age groups where games do not have referees, parent Team Managers are expected to manage the game environment from the touchline using our stated standards of play and their best judgment. In age groups where a referee is provided, Team Managers should still manage the games from the touchlines.

Prior to each season, the Recreational Director will circulate a game day guide to Rec Team Managers to ensure the games are being played in a manner that is developmentally appropriate and geared to individual player development.

Games

Most RISE Recreational games are run by volunteer parent Team Managers. Non-Team Managers, including, but not limited to parents, are strictly prohibited from instructing players during games. In the event that a RISE Coaching Staff member is at your game(s), they may take the coaching lead over a parent Team Manager. This is common in events or in certain auxiliary programs.

During games, RISE Coaches and the Team’s Manager (1 Team Manager) plus an Assistant Team Manager (1 Assistant Team Manager) are the only adults permitted on the team sideline. In part, this is for safety, but it is also to keep the sideline calm and professional. If a RISE RPDC is not present at a game, the Team Manager and Assistant Team Manager should be the only adults on the team sideline.

Players must wear their approved RISE uniform kit to all games and bring all of their game uniform kit items in the event they are required to change. All players in the Recreational players must play 50% of the game.



POLICIES & PROCEDURES



SECTION XVII: CLUB POLICIES

We believe there is a place for every child who wants to play soccer at RISE. We adhere to FIFA's Fair Play Code in addition to our own. Our players are taught to play fair and respect the laws of the game, as well as their opponents, teammates, referees and families. We play to win, but accept defeat with dignity and always promote a positive experience. We expect our board members, coaches, administrators, volunteers, parents and players to be ambassadors for RISE and the game.

Competitor clubs, players, parents and referees will judge us by how we behave on the sidelines and on the field. We expect appropriate behavior from our board members, coaches, administrators, volunteers, parents and players, all of whom should maintain a positive and encouraging demeanor. Parents and players from competitor clubs and referees are not the enemy.

Together with the RISE Code of Conduct, our club policies, club philosophies and expectations were created to promote an orderly and efficient operation that enhances the experience for all of our constituency. By adhering to these policies and working together, we can create an environment where we can make material differences in the lives of youth athletes.

The Player Development Coaches at RISE continually monitor the progress of players; and in an effort to enhance individual player development, coaches may move players between teams, genders, age groups or leagues. Player Development Coaches may also move teams between genders, age groups or leagues.

RISE does not guarantee that a player will remain on any one team during a season or year. Further, RISE does not guarantee that any coach assigned to a particular team in a given season or year will be in attendance at every game and/or training session.

SECTION XVIII: CONFLICT RESOLUTION

RISE recognizes that situations may occur between every conceivable relationship in the club. The most satisfactory solution to addressing these concerns is usually reached through a prompt and respectful discussion. RISE recommends that our constituents take a 24-hour "cool down" period before addressing conflicts that occur. Complaints and concerns regarding your experience should be directed according to the following guidelines.

Concerns regarding the coaching staff, team manager, or your player's team

Initially you should try to resolve any concerns directly with the other party involved. If you are unable to reach a suitable resolution, please document your concern in detail and direct it in writing to the attention of the Recreational Director.

Concerns regarding RISE

Concerns regarding RISE's player development philosophies, programming, administrative policies or any other club level concern should be documented in detail and directed to the attention of the Recreational Director, Recreational Administrator, Operational Director, and the Technical Director.

Upon receiving a written concern and after determining that the procedure to initiate the concern was followed, the Club Directors will research your issue. While RISE provides it's constituency the opportunity to communicate their concerns, please understand that the Club will operate within the confines of its policies and procedures which constituents agree to upon registering to the club.

Not every issue will be escalated to the level that you may feel is necessary, or resolved to your satisfaction, and only certain issues are serious enough in nature for them to be considered Board of Director level items. The severity of the issue and the means and resources by which they intend to resolve the issue will be determined by the Club Directors. Within a reasonable amount of time, your concern will be addressed by a designated Club Director(s), who will provide you with the final club decision regarding your concern. This decision is not debatable or appealable.



SECTION XIX: SOCIAL MEDIA

Definition and Scope

RISE understands the influence that social media has on our society. The club also recognizes that a picture or comment can immediately have a positive or negative impact and widespread effect.

This Social Media policy applies to all RISE constituents and is intended to provide guidance on appropriate conduct when you engage in social media that relates in any way to the RISE's business, employees, customers, vendors or competitors, and/or which identifies your affiliation with the Club (other than as an incidental mention in personal social media activity unrelated to the Club).

For purposes of this policy, "social media" is defined to include all types of communication on the internet, including without limitation, postings on social networking sites (such as, but not limited to: Instagram®, Twitter®, SnapChat®, Tik Tok®, Facebook®, and Tumblr®), blogs and other on-line journals and diaries, bulletin boards and chat rooms, and any Club-sponsored sites; microblogs (such as Twitter®); and viewing or posting video or audio on media sharing sites, such as YouTube®. Social media also includes permitting, or failing to remove, postings by others where a RISE constituent can control the content of postings, such as on a personal page or blog.

RISE constituents who engage in social media activity should be mindful that their social media activity, even if done off premises and while not engaging in club activities, could affect the Club's legitimate business interests. In addition, some readers may mistakenly view you as a spokesperson for the Club.

GENERAL POLICY

This policy applies to constituents' social media activity whether or not the constituent posts anonymously or uses a pseudonym. RISE values its established brand reputation and goodwill relationships. These are important corporate assets. When you engage in social media activity that identifies you as a Club constituent, or in any way relates to the Club, you should bear that in mind and follow the guidelines listed below. In the event that a particular area or issue is not covered specifically by this policy, the Club relies on the professionalism and judgment of its constituents to ensure that social media activity is used appropriately:

- Constituents should minimize their participation in social media during club activities or events
- Constituents should not represent in any social media content that they are authorized to speak on behalf of the Club, or that the Club has reviewed and approved their content
- Constituents should not post content about the Club, management, co-workers or customers that is vulgar, obscene, threatening, intimidating, harassing, or a violation of the Club's policies against discrimination or harassment on account of age, race, religion, sex, ethnicity, creed, nationality, age, disability, or other protected class, status, or characteristic
- Constituents should not unlawfully disparage the Club's Board of Directors or the Club's products or services, or the products or services of the Club's vendors or competitors
- Constituents should not use any club provided communication tools to comment or give their personal opinions regarding the club, coaching staff, volunteers, team, players or any other stakeholders that are not conducive to a positive experience
- Constituents should not use any club provided communication tools to solicit any goods or services not provided or related to the club
- Constituents should not use the Club's logo, trademark or proprietary graphics in a way which suggests that they are representing the Club or while engaging in conduct that violates Club policy.
- Constituents should not post photographs or video of the non-public areas of the Club's premises, or of the Club's processes, operations, or products without the Club's prior written approval
- Constituents should not communicate, publish, use or disseminate any of the Club's confidential business information
- Constituents should consider using available internal resources, rather than social media activity, to resolve any types of complaints or issues with the club
- Any constituent may reject, without fear of retaliation, any request from any other club constituent that, if accepted, would permit access to a restricted social media page, such as a friend or connection request
- Constituents or Volunteers who have a club issued e-mail account may not use it to register for any social media account or site, or as an identifier needed to participate in any social media activity, when engaging in social media activity for non-business purposes



Enforcement

The Club will, in its discretion, review social media activities relating to or affecting the Club to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law. Please note that this policy applies even if constituent participation is anonymous or conducted under a pseudonym; and the Club will, in appropriate circumstances, take steps to determine the identity of any such person or persons. Constituents who need clarification of any aspect of this policy should contact the Operations Director. Failure to comply with this policy may lead to discipline up to and including removal from the club, legal action and/or criminal prosecution. The Club also may report suspected unlawful conduct to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

SECTION XX: FEES, PAYMENTS, AND REFUNDS

Fees

Your player's commitment plays a crucial role in the growth, continuity and the unparalleled player environment we seek to provide to your player at RISE. Your acceptance or registration to a RISE team confirms your player's commitment to the team, the Club, and the fees associated with your player's participation for a full year or season, depending on the program.

Fees vary significantly between and within our RISE Recreational and RISE Advanced program offerings, depending on your player's age group and/or level of play. In the Recreational Program, teams are formed seasonally and the Advanced Program forms both seasonal and yearly teams. It is recommended that parents/guardians understand the respective program they are registering their player to and, if necessary, inquire regarding potential club and/or team costs prior to registering.

Payments

Keep in mind that RISE is not a bank, and the club takes significant risk offering payment plans to parents. Therefore, the Club enforces a strict **"No Pay, No Play Policy"**. Players with any unpaid fees or balances from any previous season or the current season will be immediately declared ineligible to participate in any training sessions, games, activities, or events until they are once again current on their fees.

In the event that player fees owed to RISE go uncollected for longer than 15 business days, and a plan between the Club and the parent and/or guardian is not agreed upon to collect these outstanding fees, the Club will secure the services of a collection agency to collect these fees. The debt collection process may have a negative effect on your credit score and will most likely result in collection calls and letters from third party organizations.

RISE will notify parents when their player is not current on their fees so they can resolve this debt immediately. At the moment a player is determined to be ineligible:

- The club will send a notification to the player's parent/guardian to seek immediate payment.
- The club will inform the RPDC to not allow the said player(s) to participate in any training sessions, games, activities, or events until they are cleared Administratively to participate again.

These issues are unfortunate, and the club goes to great lengths to detail the cost of participation so parents can make informed decisions before registering. We ask that parents pay their fees on time so that their player doesn't miss any time on the field and their team isn't negatively affected. Keep in mind that when a player is ineligible, that is a situation between the Club and the Parent/Guardian. Any RISE Coaching Staff member that allows a player who is ineligible to participate in club activities of any sort could be terminated. Please do not put them in a situation that could be detrimental to their career, as they are simply doing their job.



Refund Policy

If your player cannot keep their commitment to the club, the impact may be widespread and result in financial strains to the club and/or negatively impact other players registered to the same program, age group or team as your player. RISE works year-round to provide soccer programming for players of all ages, abilities and socio-economic means. In preparation for each upcoming soccer season, RISE secures Player Development Coaches and Administrators to lead our programs, pays for field maintenance and repairs, places uniform orders, gives deposits to leagues on behalf of expected teams, scheduled activities and events, etc. based on the number of players we registered. By the time the season begins, a significant portion of the registration and club fees we receive has already been allocated toward current or future expenses. Therefore, refund requests have an immediate effect on Club planning and jeopardize the high level experience and quality of programming we strive to provide.

If at any point after the stated refund deadline, a recreational player voluntarily withdraws or is removed for any reason, the player shall not be entitled to a refund of any fees paid and shall remain obligated to make all future payments still pending for the current seasonal year. Players with unpaid balances of any fees from previous seasons are not eligible to register for future seasons until all prior fees due are paid in full. Furthermore, RISE will not grant any player releases until all pending payments are settled. By accepting an invitation to join a competitive team, the player's parents or legal guardians, as applicable (herein, the "payee"), is deemed to automatically, expressly, irrevocably and unconditionally agree to all financial obligations relating to such participation to the fullest extent under law. Such payee expressly, irrevocably, and unconditionally acknowledges and agrees that payee's completion of all such financial obligations are a material inducement to RISE extending such invitation and such invitation would not have been extended but for payee's full acceptance of such financial obligations.

RISE employs a **"No Pay, No Play Policy"**. Players who are not current on their fees will not be allowed to participate in any training sessions, games, or events until they are once again fully current on their fees.

In general, fees are non-refundable, and future financial obligations to RISE shall continue to be due and owing, subject to the following:

REFUNDS PRIOR TO TEAM FORMATIONS

Participants in the RISE Recreational Program who withdraw prior to the stated seasonal refund deadline communicated in our registration agreement must notify the RISE Recreational Administrator and the Director of Operations in writing in order to be eligible to receive a full refund for the Program Fee, less a \$25.00 processing fee. All other costs, including, without limitation, uniform costs, payment processing fees and any fees associated with auxiliary programs including are non-refundable. All requests after the applicable deadline will not be considered.

SEASON-ENDING INJURY

Any RISE player who incurs a season-ending injury while participating in RISE activity that precludes further participation in RISE activities for the balance of the seasonal year is eligible for a partial refund of fees paid (less a \$25.00 processing fee) which cover the remainder of the applicable seasonal year, dating from the time the player's parent or legal guardian provides written notification to the RISE Recreational Registrar and the Director of Operations - supported by documentation from a licensed physician - that a player is no longer able to participate for the remainder of the seasonal year due to the injury. Such refundable amount does not include uniform costs, payment processing fees or any portion of fees paid which cover the player's participation in leagues, tournaments or other events.

RELOCATION

Any player who moves to a location more than 50 miles distance from the RISE field location used by the player's team is eligible for a refund or waiver (less a \$25.00 processing fee) of the portion of fees which covers the remainder of the applicable seasonal year dating from the later of either the player ceases participation in all RISE activities or the date the player's parent or legal guardian provides written notice to the RISE Recreational Administrator and Director of Operations that the player is no longer able to participate in RISE activities due to the relocation. Proof of relocation will be required as a condition to any refund.

UNABLE TO PLACE

RISE will try to place every player on a team. Occasionally, RISE will offer players a roster spot on a combined team or in a different age group to ensure that the player has an opportunity to play. In the event that RISE cannot place the player on a team, a full refund will be issued.



Camps & Auxiliary Programs

Program fees and all associated costs and expenses for any RISE camps and/or auxiliary are non-refundable.

Failure to Make Payments

In the event any payee, fails to make any payments when due and owing or otherwise files a dispute with their credit card company for the purpose of retracting an otherwise due and owing payment (the "Breaching Party"), RISE shall be entitled to declare the full amount to be paid immediately due and owing, which shall include both the overdue amount plus all sums which would have been paid on a periodic basis pursuant to any program terms. All such sums shall bear interest at the highest per annum rate allowed by law (measured on a per diem basis) from the date of breach until paid. In such an event, RISE shall be entitled to exercise any and all rights and remedies available at law or in equity against the Breaching Party. In addition to all sums set forth herein, the Breaching Party shall also be responsible for all damages, costs and other liabilities and obligations resulting from or due to the consequences of the participant's withdrawal during any season or during any other scheduled event (i.e.- costs and expenses of other participants whose experience is affected or cannot play because the team no longer has a suitable number of players, costs and expenses of coaches and affiliates, costs and expenses incurred by RISE, etc.). In the event this matter is placed in the hands of an attorney for collection, or if collected through the Bankruptcy or Probate Court or by any other legal proceedings, the Breaching Party agrees to pay all expenses incurred by RISE, including, without limitation, all reasonable attorney's fees. No delay or failure on the part of RISE in exercising any right, remedy, privilege or option hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof or a waiver of any default, nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right, remedy, privilege or option preclude any further exercise thereof, or the exercise of any other right, remedy, privilege or option, all of which are cumulative.

SECTION XXI: UNIFORM KITS

Our branding guidelines exist to help achieve a consistent look for RISE, so that our constituency can perceive us as a strong, compassionate, and reliable organization. In order to preserve the integrity of our brand, all teams, whether recreational or competitive, shall follow the uniform policy for practices, games, activities, and events ensuring that all teams are readily identified as representing RISE Soccer Club. Every player must purchase a minimum of 1 new uniform kit (every item RISE requires) specific to the program they are joining directly from Soccer.com during the current uniform cycle regardless at which point the player joins the club. RISE requires players to be in the club approved gear at all training sessions and games.

Nike & Soccer.com

Nike is the exclusive uniform provider for RISE; [Soccer.com](https://www.soccer.com) is the exclusive distributor for RISE uniforms. Players are encouraged to use Nike products such as: cleats, shin guards, balls, headbands, goalkeeper jerseys and gloves to match their Nike uniform kits. All RISE players are expected to wear the RISE approved training kits without any variation to all training sessions and the RISE approved game kits to games. Any RISE branded items that are not Nike should not be worn to any club sanctioned events.

RISE members enjoy a 10% discount during each soccer year, after the initial uniform purchase, on all [Soccer.com](https://www.soccer.com) products and receive a free Goal Club Membership. All RISE branded items at [Soccer.com](https://www.soccer.com) automatically include the Club discount. Parents will order their player's uniform directly from Soccer.com, and they will ship your kit to you.

Uniform Cycle and Ordering

RISE switches to a new uniform every two years for both the Recreational and Competitive Programs, which run concurrently with the product life cycle offered by our sponsor Nike. The Fall 2019 season marked the start of our current 2-year uniform cycle. All players were required to purchase a new uniform prior to the Fall 2019 season which may be used through the Spring 2021 season, which is the end of the next two-year uniform cycle. Players who join RISE in the middle of the current uniform cycle will be required to purchase the full uniform kit and can use that uniform kit until the current cycle ends.



CURRENT UNIFORM CYCLE

Year 1: (Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 seasons)

Year 2: (Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 seasons)

NEXT UNIFORM CYCLE

Year 1: (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 seasons)

Year 2: (Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 seasons)

Uniform Use

For all RISE Recreational teams, the dark colored kit is considered our home uniform and the light colored kit is considered our away uniform. Gaming leagues and tournaments may have different rules to determine when dark or light colored uniforms will be designated home or away. RISE will communicate to its constituency what tops they should wear to training. It is mandatory that kids wear their approved RISE uniforms to all training sessions as well as games so they are easily identifiable. We do this primarily for the safety of the children. Any player not in the club required RISE uniform kit will be held out or asked to leave any training sessions or games. While you may not care how your player looks, we care deeply about how our club and brand is being represented.

In most, if not all gaming leagues and tournaments, including our in-house leagues, jersey color conflicts can occur. For this reason it is imperative all players should bring both full uniform kit sets to every game in order to avoid having to sit out because of a color conflict. Failure to resolve a color conflict could result in a forfeiture being awarded against the Home team. During cold weather practices players should wear their RISE warm-up top (if issued) with the required training kit underneath. For games, warm-ups are worn during the warm-up session and are not allowed to be worn during the game unless a player is subbed out. Players may wear long sleeved undergarments beneath the game jersey but only so long as the color of the undergarment is a Nike product whose color matches the primary sleeve color of the jersey beneath which the undergarment is worn. The same policy applies to shorts.

Jersey Numbers and Number Conflicts

Recreational teams do not have numbers on their jerseys.

Uniform Modifications

Uniform Modifications to any item of the RISE uniform kit are not allowed. RISE's practice uniforms, game uniforms, backpacks and warm-ups may not be modified in any way (for example, applying names, changing numbers, adding numbers, modifying numbers or adding patches, etc.).

Any player or team that violates the uniform policy may be removed from the club or will be required to replace the modified uniform piece(s) at his/her sole expense and will be declared ineligible to participate in further RISE activities until the compromised items are replaced.

While we don't want our families to take on additional expenses, we also have a professional standard and culture at RISE that we want to uphold.



SECTION XXII: FACILITIES

The facilities where we hold training sessions and games are essentially our home, and we do our best to keep our fields and equipment in pristine condition. There are facilities that RISE owns, manages, has priority use of and/or rents. Each of these parks and/or facilities has a unique set of rules and regulations associated with it.

RISE facilities where noted with signage, are private property and for the private use of RISE and its partner organizations. On facilities that RISE maintains or has a priority use agreement in place, our policies may vary. Use of RISE fields without prior written consent from the Technical Director is strictly prohibited. Requests for field use – including but not limited to use for scrimmages and private training sessions – must be made in advance to the Technical Director or his/her designee. Players are only allowed to be on fields during their designated training and game times and there must always be a RISE Coaching Staff member present.

The following activities are strictly prohibited at RISE facilities:

- Activities where a RISE Coaching Staff member is not present
- Pets of any sort
- Smoking, alcoholic beverages or illegal substances
- Destroying or defacing soccer facilities or equipment such as goals, nets, corner flags, bleachers, grass, walkways, etc

Please observe these guidelines when parking at RISE facilities:

- Allow pedestrians the right of way
- Maintain less than 10 MPH speed
- Please park your car in an orderly manner so as to maximize use of parking space and to maintain driving lanes
- Parking at our facilities is at your own risk
- RISE will not be liable for any damages or theft of vehicles on our properties
- Enter and exit facilities only through appropriately designated gates
- No parking on any grass areas
- Children should avoid walking through the parking lots as much as possible

SECTION XXIII: INCLEMENT WEATHER

RISE prioritizes the safety of its constituents. When we are faced with challenging weather, every effort is made to hold training sessions and games as scheduled. In order to avoid premature field closures and unnecessary cancellation, we always try to make the weather prove itself before finalizing any field closure decisions. At each facility we operate, we deal with varying degrees of control over the field closure procedure. It ranges from no control on fields that we rent, to full control on fields that we own. It is common for 1 facility to be closed and another to be open on the same day. In the event of inclement weather, the following procedures will be followed:

- A decision whether to close the fields is made by 3pm daily. However, because weather at 3pm may not be the same as at 5pm or 8pm, sometimes a later notification becomes necessary
- If a training session or game is stopped due to lightning, all players and parents must go to their cars immediately and wait for further notification from RISE or the RISE Coaching Staff before returning to the fields
- As soon as any decisions on field closures or re-openings are made, parents will receive a notification from RISE using a service of its choosing
- League game cancellations are determined by the policies of the respective gaming leagues and by the policies of the clubs on whose fields the games are played. For further information on league game cancellations, please visit the appropriate league website if applicable



PARENTS



SECTION XXIV: VOLUNTEERING REQUIREMENT

To offset the cost of hiring part-time help, other organizations increase their fees or charge opt-out fees to ensure they have enough personnel in place to run organized programs and events. At RISE, we try to avoid fee increases by expanding our volunteer base. Volunteering for RISE is a simple and fun way to impact the children in your community and improve your soccer knowledge. You don't have to be a soccer expert to volunteer. Many of our volunteers just love soccer and want to help keep the club lively and exciting. Volunteer roles range from being a Team Manager, to helping with a tournament, to selling fan gear, or serving on the Board of Directors. Every RISE team is responsible for having a parent volunteer available to assist the club at RISE's request. Club-level functions in which volunteers will be needed include, but are not limited to: helping with fan gear sales, player evaluation set up, tournaments or other club events. A RISE administrator will contact your Team Manager after your initial team meeting to organize your support.

SECTION XXV: FAN GEAR

RISE volunteers will organize fan gear sales several times throughout the year at numerous locations. There is no better way to show support for RISE at games, tournaments, or school events than by wearing your RISE gear. Fan gear sales typically occur when training sessions begin prior to the fall and spring seasons, at our club tournament and around mid-season as needed. The club is permitted 2 tax-free sales annually.

SECTION XXVI: DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIPS & FUNDRAISERS

RISE is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and as such is a qualified organization for tax deductible contributions. Our success in developing young soccer players and serving the Houston community depends on the generosity of our sponsors, which include corporations, foundations and individuals. In accordance with federal law, generally you can deduct your contributions of money or property that you make to, or for the use of, a qualified organization. Contributions for which a tax deduction will be sought should be made to RISE, and not to a specific team or individual. Under current Federal recordkeeping rules, a donor claiming a deduction of over \$250 is required to obtain and keep a written acknowledgement for the Club, which is available upon request. Please consult with your accountant to confirm your specific circumstances and eligibility.

Donations

Large donations have helped us provide youth soccer players with some of the finest facilities in the country. Having greenspace for athletes to get outside in the heart of Houston is priceless. Because of generous past donations, your player and family reap the benefits today. You and your children will spend a considerable amount of time at our facilities over the years. Please consider making tax-deductible donations to the Club and paying it forward. Your donations can help us add all-purpose fields, install lighting, expand campuses, build additional futsal courts, restrooms and storage facilities. These types of improvement have a lasting impact on the player environment and future of RISE.



Sponsorships

Each partnership with RISE is unique, and we will work closely with you to craft a high-impact initiative that meets your goals. Your tax-exempt donations help youth athletes realize their dreams. With your financial support, our community's children can rise to new heights, both on and off the field. Due to our unique demographics, RISE counts Reliant Energy, Nike, and Houston Methodist Hospital as its major partners.

RISE is able to provide players an unrivaled experience with minimal geographic challenges to a large majority of Houstonians, while still maintaining the community element. Due to our central location, platform, and infrastructure RISE currently draw players from over 150 zip codes in the Houston area. Our facilities, coaching staff, and administrative resources uniquely position RISE to provide opportunities for our players, 1.1 million people of whom live within 6 miles of our Central facilities. RISE offers soccer programming for boys and girls ages 4-19 of all levels of play in the heart of Houston.

GRAND SPONSORS - \$50,000+ (MULTI-YEAR)

We like to be flexible and creative with partnerships at this commitment level to make sure your sponsorship is strategic and reaches every level of our constituency and the communities in which we operate. Multi year commitment required. Let's talk about it!

EVENT TITLE SPONSOR - \$10,000 (2 YEARS)

RISE hosts multiple highly visible tournaments and events annually. Each RISE event attracts around 200 teams any given weekend. Our events take place at each of our three major campus areas – South-central Houston and Sugar Land/Missouri City – all among the highest-quality demographics in the U.S. and all in lively, thriving areas of the Greater Houston area. The youth athletes participating in these events are between the average age range of 7 to 15. With this sponsorship tier, your brand can have the exclusive naming rights to the Volt Classic, Texas Warm Up Cup or Woodsoc. In addition to:

- Sponsor logo on the RISE website which links to your business
- Sponsor logo on the event marketing for the event you name
- Sponsor logo and/or name on the event marketing for all RISE events

- Sponsors will be able to set up a tent or exhibition in a prime location at every RISE event
- Sponsor logo on 4 event specific communications
- Direct promotion on 4 club-wide communications per year
- Sponsor names will be incorporated on any trophies or awards (if applicable)
- Sponsor name or logo representation at an award ceremony
- The RISE Coaching Staff will host 1 adult or youth soccer camp for your company at our facilities (36 adults/children maximum and other conditions may apply)

NAME A FIELD - \$5,000+ (PER YEAR)

Name a field! We host multiple highly visible tournaments and events annually, along with weekly league games, all of which bring thousands of players, parents, coaches and volunteers from all over the state to our facilities on a weekly basis. Sponsorship levels and brand promotion opportunities include naming opportunities for signage on our marquee fields. Field naming rights at \$5,000 per year. Our field signs are beautiful, high-quality, 9-foot structures with great visibility. In addition to:

- Sponsor logo on the RISE website which links to your business
- Direct promotion on 2 club-wide communications per year
- Sponsors will be able to set up a tent or exhibition in a prime location at every RISE event
- Sponsor logo and/or name on the event marketing for all RISE events

**GAMEDAY SPONSOR - \$2,500 (PER YEAR)**

Are you in the hospitality business? Do you want a lot of new customers? RISE teams compete in leagues that consist of teams from around the country. These leagues require teams to travel significantly because they play home and away games and frequently require overnight stays. For roughly 24 games a year we host teams who travel with groups of 100 persons. It is customary for host clubs to provide visiting clubs with a Gameday document that helps them become familiar with the area they will be visiting. This document would typically have a weather outlook, directions to our facility and points of interest around Houston. That's where you come in. We will recommend your business to all of our out of town visitors who are natural consumers. They have to stay, eat and be entertained while they are in town. In addition to:

- Sponsor logo on the RISE website which links to your business
- Direct promotion on 2 club-wide communications per year
- Sponsors will be able to set up a tent or exhibition in a prime location at 2 RISE events
- Sponsor logo and/or name on the event marketing for all RISE events
- Featured placement in our "Gameday" Document

Eligible Programs:

- Girls Academy (GA)
- MLS Elite Player Development Platform
- Boys Elite Clubs National League Program (ECNL)

PROGRAM SPONSOR - \$1,000 (PER YEAR)

RISE positions your brand to reach thousands of families in the heart of the Houston market with additional exposure in other desirable communities. The RISE constituency is engaged year-round, so your brand impressions are countless. Besides getting your brand on our most viewed digital assets, your donation will help improve the player environment for the kids. Player Development Sponsors will have their brand name on their choice of Recreational Program age bracket/gender or a Youth Academy age bracket/gender. In addition to:

- Sponsor logo on the RISE website which links to your business
- General promotion on 1 club-wide communication per year
- Sponsor logo and/or name on the event marketing for 1 RISE event

PASS IT FORWARD - \$300 UP TO \$1,000

For a lot of families playing at a top tier soccer club, with beautiful facilities, a positive environment and excellent coaches is a major sacrifice. With a minimum donation of \$300, you can help a player with their uniform fees or player fees. Just think about the facilities your player is playing on today. People before us made sacrifices to make it better for our kids. Being part of RISE can make an important important impact on the life of a young athlete. Players learn discipline, structure, how to compete among many other things, but most importantly they make great friends in the Club. Please consider making a donation and help lower the economic barrier to play at RISE.

SPONSORSHIP CONTACT

If you are interested in discussing a sponsorship opportunity with RISE, please contact the Club Administrator directly.

Fundraisers

It is considered fundraising when a RISE team seeks financial support from inside or outside of the Club for their team's benefit. Any sort of fundraising that requires use of the RISE name or its logo is strictly prohibited without written approval from the Club Administrator.



SECTION XXVII: LOST AND FOUND

RISE does not maintain a lost and found and is not responsible for players' property left unattended at RISE fields. Because players have similar equipment and kits, items such as soccer balls, backpacks, warm-ups, etc., should be clearly identified in a manner that is also consistent with the uniform policy.

SECTION XXVIII: PLAYER SAFETY

RISE makes every reasonable effort to provide a safe environment for all of its players. However, parents should not leave players unattended at any facility. Please make sure that your player's Coach or Team Manager is present before dropping off your child at any training session or game.

Get to know other RISE Player Development staff members, parents and players in the club and, in particular, those on your player's team and on the teams which practice on adjacent fields. Players should practice the "Buddy System" when using restrooms at games and training sessions. Parents and parent appointed chaperone's are responsible for their respective players when traveling. Be aware of your surroundings.

U.S. Soccer has developed the Safe Soccer Framework as a foundation from which all participants in the soccer community, be they athletes, coaches, referees, administrators or volunteers, play an active role in creating an environment free from emotional, physical or sexual abuse. The Safe Soccer Framework is a comprehensive program of policies and process, screening, education and training, reporting, monitoring and enforcement designed to help participants detect and report abuse, respond to it, and prevent future occurrences.

SECTION XXXI: PLAYER SECONDARY INSURANCE COVERAGE

Limited secondary insurance coverage is automatically provided to registered RISE players through STYSA and US Club Soccer. Such coverage applies only to certain sanctioned events including regularly scheduled training sessions and games and requires the player to have completed and submitted the appropriate Medical Release Form. This coverage supplements the player's private health insurance policy. For players without private health insurance, this policy may serve as limited primary insurance. Details on the foregoing secondary insurance coverage may be found on the following websites:

STYSA: stxsoccer.org

US Club Soccer: usclubsoccer.org



SECTION XXIX: PLAYER HEALTH

Waiver and release of liability, express assumption of risk and hold harmless agreement.

In consideration of being permitted to attend and participate or allowing my minor child or attend and participate in RISE Soccer Club practices, games and other events related to being a member of a RISE Soccer Club team (collectively, the “Activities”), I hereby agree as follows:

The “Released Parties” means RISE Soccer Club, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation and its officers, directors, employees, contractors, coaches, agents, representatives, successors and assigns.

1. I expressly, irrevocably and unconditionally acknowledge that participation in the activities involves potential risks relating, directly or indirectly, in whole or in part to possible exposure to the covid-19 virus (the “virus”) that could result in illness, emotional injury or death to myself, my spouse, my children or third parties attending or present at any activities. I understand and acknowledge that the inherent risks of undertaking any activities due to the virus and resulting epidemic simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activities. Accordingly, I hereby expressly, irrevocably and unconditionally acknowledge and agree on behalf of myself and the releasing parties that I am voluntarily participating in the activities and further expressly, irrevocably and unconditionally acknowledge and agree that all of the activities are undertaken at my own risk, and that I assume all of the risks existing in undertaking the activities as relating to the virus or otherwise. To this end, I assume all risk of illness, emotional injury or death to myself, my spouse, my children or third parties in attendance with me at any activities that might result relating to the virus or otherwise. I elect to participate in the activities notwithstanding the inherent risks associated with the activities.
2. On my behalf and on behalf of the releasing parties, I hereby voluntarily, fully, expressly, irrevocably and unconditionally waive, release, and forever discharge the released parties from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, or liabilities, known or unknown, for any injuries, including, without limitation, illness or death, or any kind of damages incurred by me, my spouse, my children or any third party in attendance with me, my spouse of my children which in any way arise out of or are connected with participation in the activities, or any acts or omissions of the released parties, including, without limitation, the negligence or fault of the released parties whether relating to the virus or otherwise.
3. On my behalf and on behalf of the releasing parties, I hereby voluntarily, fully, expressly, irrevocably and unconditionally waive, release, and forever discharge, the released parties from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, or liabilities, known or unknown, for any injuries, including, without limitation, illness or death, or any kind of damages, which in any way arise out of or are connected with my minor child[ren]’s participation in any activities, or any acts or omissions of the released parties, including the negligence or fault of the released parties whether relating to the virus or otherwise.