

Chili Soccer Association Tryout FAQs



1. How do the changes to the USYS age matrix affect my player?

US Soccer has approved a significant change to the player age matrix heading into the 2026-27 season. In previous years, players were assigned to an age group based on their birth year. Starting with the upcoming season, US Soccer has tried to align the age matrix to more closely match a player's school age by defining age brackets from August of a given year through July of the following year. For example, the U13 bracket for the upcoming season will include players born between August 1, 2013, through July 31, 2014. Please see the graphic below to determine your player's age within the matrix.

Birth Year and Season Matrix

When determining the age group for a season, the year the season ends should be used for determining the birth year. Also note that the format "U followed by age" really means that age and younger.

Birth Year	2026/27 Seasonal Year Age Chart (Team Age Banding)											
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2007	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19
2008	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19	U19	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18
2009	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18	U18	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17
2010	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17	U17	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16
2011	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16	U16	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15
2012	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15	U15	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14
2013	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14	U14	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13
2014	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13	U13	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12
2015	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12	U12	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11
2016	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11	U11	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10
2017	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10	U10	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9
2018	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9	U9	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8
2019	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8	U8	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7
2020	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7	U7	U6	U6	U6	U6	U6
2021	U6	U6	U6	U6	U6	U6	U6	U5	U5	U5	U5	U5
2022	U5	U5	U5	U5	U5	U5	U5	U4	U4	U4	U4	U4
2023	U4	U4	U4	U4	U4	U4	U4	U3	U3	U3	U3	U3

Rec Banding	U6 = U6 and U5	8/1/2020-7/31/2022
	U8 = U8 and U7	8/1/2018-7/31/2020
	U10 = U10 and U9	8/1/2016-7/31/2018
	U12 = U12 and U11	8/1/2014-7/31/2016
	U14 = U14 and U13	8/1/2012-7/31/2014
	HS = U15 U16 U17 U18 U19	8/1/2007-7/31/2012
HS High School		

2. My player is already on a CSA team, but according to the new age matrix, they are too young for the team they are on. Does that mean they need to switch teams next year?

No! CSA has made the decision that we are not forcing our teams to align strictly with the new age matrix. Our teams are allowed to keep or add players to their roster that fall within the new age matrix or who would have been age-appropriate according to what the age matrix was when the team would have been formed. For example, a U13 team within CSA may count any player who falls within the new age matrix (August 1, 2013 – July 31, 2014) and who would have been eligible to be rostered at the time the team was formed (born at any time in 2014) as age-appropriate for their team. Please note that depending on your player's birthday, you may need to select the option to try out for an older team to get your player registered to try out for the team they already play on (this will likely be true for all birthdays August 1 – December 31).

Important note: CSA is phasing in the new age matrix beginning with the U8 Academy teams for the 2026-27 season, meaning that all players trying out for the U8 Academy teams must fit within the appropriate age of the team according to the updated age matrix. This is true for all teams entering the program beginning at this age group or younger moving forward. Players may not “try out up” for the Academy teams as they will not be eligible to participate in league play that year due to age restrictions.

3. Does the new age matrix mean that my player cannot try out for an older team?

Except for the U8 Academy teams, players may try out for teams up to two years older than they are according to the new age matrix. Players may only try out for teams older than two years above their age with approval from the Board of Directors. Please note that CSA only allows teams to roster a certain number of underage players per season.

4. Can current CSA players try out for teams younger than the one they are currently on if the age matrix shift makes them eligible?

Yes. Players born between August 1 and December 31 of any given year are now eligible to “play down” on a younger team due to the shift in the age matrix if they so choose. It is not required that they do so, but it is an option.

5. We are new to CSA. Which team should my player try out for?

When registering, the registration site will allow you to register your player for all tryouts they are eligible to attend based on their age. Many players will have the option to try out for multiple teams and be considered age appropriate according to CSA policy. For example, a player born in November of 2013 would be considered age-appropriate for our U13 and U14 teams according to our policy. This is because the new age matrix would map them to a U13 team. However, since they were born in 2013, they would also be “grandfathered in” to the U14 team because they would have been age-appropriate for this team according to the previous age matrix that was in place at the time the team was formed. We encourage players to try out for multiple teams to increase their chances of receiving an offer.

6. Do I need to pay individually for each tryout my player attends?

No. The \$25 non-refundable registration fee includes a tryout top and admission to all tryouts for which they are eligible.

7. Who do I contact if I want more information about a CSA team?

Please contact the head coach via the email address listed on the CSA Tryout Schedule. If you do not receive a timely response, please email travel@chilisoccer.org for additional assistance.

8. When will my player receive an offer to join a team?

Every team is different. Typically, teams send out official offer letters once their tryouts are completed. Our teams are asked to send their potential rosters to the club for approval prior to August 1. Teams may begin sending out offers once the board has approved their roster. Coaches will likely discuss their timeline at tryouts.