

RSL-AZ West Valley

2024-2025 Parent/Player Handbook



TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. General Information

Mission, Vision, Values

Philosophy

Non-Discrimination & Inclusion

II. RSL-AZ West Valley

Club-Team Name

Coaching Staff

Training

Curriculum

Physical Preparation Program

Community Service

Post-Graduation Advisory Program: U15-U18 Players

III. Team

Team Roster

Fields

Team Manager & Treasurer

Tournaments

IV. Player Expectations

Equipment

Absences & Tardiness

Commitment

Conduct

Social Media

V. Parent Expectations

Supporter Responsibilities (Parent/Guardian)

Suggestions and Complaints

Conduct

VI. Finances

Player Costs

Club Fees and Registration

Uniform Kits

Team Fees

Volunteering

Incidentals

Financial Obligation

Past Due Accounts

Scholarships and Deferred Payments

Team Budget

VII. Tournament & Travel Guidelines

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Mission, Vision, Values

The mission of Real Salt Lake-AZ West Valley is the development of youth in the sport of soccer through progressive, comprehensive curriculum targeting technical, tactical, physical, and psychosocial aspects of the game to instill both a love for and understanding of the game that grows with the player.

The vision of Real Salt Lake-AZ West Valley is to be leaders in the development of youth soccer, setting the standard for holistic player and team development, encouraging both the identification and development of talent which incorporates all aspects of the game of soccer.

Real Salt Lake-AZ West Valley embraces the values of respect, service, leadership, integrity, and discipline. Players, parents and coaches are all expected to conduct themselves respectfully and show respect to others they interact with both on and off the field. Players are provided opportunities to serve with their teams and encouraged to prioritize an attitude of service, putting their team, club, family, community, and others, ahead of themselves. Leadership is valued at all levels and can be demonstrated through the example one sets through their actions. Players observe leadership modeled for them through their coaches and teammates and are given roles and direction to become leaders as well. Players are taught the value of integrity, doing the right thing regardless of who may be watching and following through on the commitments they make. Discipline is essential for the growth and development of any player, being structured and diligent to put in the necessary work to become better, even when the motivation may not be there.

Philosophy

The club aligns its philosophies with those of US Soccer and believes that identifying and developing players from an early age helps to maximize their potential, by developing through small group play at the youngest ages and progressing to large group and team play in the older age groups. By exposing players to a variety of qualified coaches to encourage their development and understanding of the game at a young age and providing a comprehensive curriculum which progresses with the players based on their technical, tactical, physical, and psychosocial skills and understanding, Real Salt Lake-AZ West Valley prioritizes holistic player and team development. By remaining player focused and well-rounded in its approach, the club identifies and develops players of intelligence, character, athleticism, and skill. By teaching and modeling on and off the pitch a spirit of servant-leadership and growth mindset, players grow as individuals and as a team with skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

Non-Discrimination & Inclusion

RSL-AZ West Valley has a zero-tolerance policy pertaining to discrimination of any kind. Language and/or actions of a discriminatory or derogatory manner used toward a member of the club, opponent, or referee is prohibited. Players will not be discriminated against due to their race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sexual orientation, social class, religion, or any other

protected group status. RSL-AZ West Valley is committed to the equitable treatment and inclusion of all players, families, coaches and staff as well as the education and growth of the entire club.

II. RSL-AZ West Valley

Club-Team Name

In accordance with the naming structure of Real Salt Lake AZ, the name of the club is Real Salt Lake AZ West Valley. The name of teams will be the RSL-AZ West Valley followed by the birth year, gender, and coach name. The purpose of the naming convention is to build a club atmosphere rather than a “team-only” concept. All teams are RSL-AZ first, regardless of their geographical location and further identified by region, age group, and gender from there. This naming convention also helps from a branding perspective on a local, state, regional, and national basis as well as the recognition of being a club with high standards and expectation.

Coaching Staff

The coaching staff is expected to attend training and matches, but it is important to note that there may be times when the head coach cannot attend, and the assistant coach, another RSL-AZ coach, or a staff coach will be at the session or match. All efforts will be taken to minimize such conflicts, but please expect this to occur occasionally. Coaches should not be cancelling practices – if there is a conflict with their attendance, coaches are required to have arranged coverage. Only club management may cancel practices due to inclement weather or other field-related conflicts. Just as players have a responsibility to attend all practices, training sessions, games, and tournaments, coaches also are required to not only be in attendance, but also fully prepared and engaged.

Training

The training emphasis for all RSL-AZ West Valley teams will be on continuing the technical and tactical improvements on the field and developing maturity and impendence off the field. RSL-AZ West Valley encourages successes in the academics, service, and community in addition to the soccer field. The importance of players being well-rounded, disciplined, servant-leaders cannot be overstated.

Curriculum

The RSL-AZ West Valley coaching staff is committed to implementing a comprehensive developmental plan that enhances and perpetuates a competitive environment. The curriculum will create an atmosphere of learning, competition, and, most importantly, fun. The program is centered on skill building. Players will learn in small and large group play. The players will become proficient in all aspects of the technical game. With a focus on offense, defense, and in transition RSL-AZ West Valley instills a style of play that can compete at every level and develops complete players and a total soccer concept.

Players will be required to attend all scheduled practice sessions per week with additional training sessions available to them. The majority of practice and training sessions will last 1 to 1.5 hours. Practice and training schedules will typically be structured as follows:

Level	Play In	Team Ages	Practice Length	Practices Per Week
Academy	Rec/Excel	U7-U8 4v4	45min-1hour	2
		U9-U10 7v7	1.5 hour	2
Championship	Open Leagues	U11/U12 9v9	1.5 hour	3
		U13/U14 11v11	1.5 hour	3
		U15/U19 11V11	1.5 hour	3
Premier (ADP)	State League	U11-U12 9v9	1.5 hour	3
		U13/U14 11v11	1.5 hour	3
		U15/U19 11v11	1.5 hour	3
Elite 64 RL		U13-U14 11v11	1.5 hour	4
		U15/U19 11v11	1.5 hour	4
<p>**E64 teams will have 2 additional Performance Training sessions per week; other select teams will also participate in one performance training session per week. On an evening a team has both practice & performance training, practice times will be reduced to 1 hour.</p>				

It must be understood that players mature at different rates. Age determines to a certain degree what players are physically, mentally and socially capable of on the soccer field. Some players will be capable of more complex skills and thought processes than others as they develop. The objectives laid out by the coach provide a foundation for development, **but it is up to the individual coach to know and understand their players and introduce more advanced aspects of the game, as it is appropriate**. It is vital to practice and master the basics in order for players to succeed at the next level.

With this in mind, the RSL-AZ West Valley curriculum includes:

- Technical (Handling a ball)
- Tactical (Decision-making & Playing within a team)
- Athleticism & Effort (Covering ground & Game demands)
- Psychosocial (Mental Toughness, Emotional Maturity, Growth Mindset, Facing Challenges, Competitive Edge)
- Overall Soccer IQ (Knowledge & Understanding Positions, Formations, Runs, and Plays)

Physical Preparation Program

Each player will take part in the most comprehensive conditioning program appropriate to their age and physical development. Included in this program is:

- Strength – Plyometrics and Light weight training
- Fitness – Nutrition, Sleep, Meditation, Healthy Habits
- Speed – Training to not only accelerate the physical development, but also form to optimize the efficiency of movement.
- Agility – Comprehensive system designed to maximize players' ability to respond to the game more quickly.

Community Service

Critical to the development of the individual and team is service to others. Coaches will plan events for players and parents to participate in community service activities as time permits, preferably once per month in lieu of one team practice session. This is typically best planned following a tournament weekend when the players could benefit from a "rest day" from their regularly scheduled practice. These activities encourage players to:

- See "life's big picture."
- Learn to function as a team off the field.
- Develop meaningful relationships with one another.
- Grow into mature men and women.

Post-Graduation Advisory Program: U15-U18 Players

At the beginning of the season (around the first week of August) each player will begin a comprehensive four-year preparation process for post-graduation athletics. The process will be monitored in the players' notebooks. The process will be as follows:

- *Freshman Year. Education, planning, initial contact, and prepare*
 - Education- Each player will receive an education about the diversity and the breadth of colleges' choices that exist in the U.S. Furthermore, each player will receive information about qualifying for college and how to select the best school (i.e., DI, DII, DIII, NAIA). As not all players have the intention or desire to pursue a college education, other post-graduation athletic opportunities will also be discussed, including MLS or NWSL, USL Champions, USL1 & NISA, USL2, UPSL, NPSL, USASA.
 - Planning. Each player will be taken on a step-by-step process toward gaining acceptance at an appropriate college their senior year, or earning a tryout through one of the many semi-professional leagues available.
 - Initial Contact. Each player will contact 10 schools in writing as the first step toward learning about the many college choices and soccer programs and/or attend 3 semi-professional matches and meet with their staff to learn about other avenues toward a post-graduation athletic career.
 - Prepare by competition, meeting college and/or semi-professional coaches, training, and excelling in the classroom (regardless of college intentions).
- *Sophomore.* Same as freshman year plus campus and/or semi-professional team visits and more personal contact with college and/or semi-professional programs. Player marketing campaign begins, assembling a resume and networking.
- *Junior.* Same plus attend college and/or semi-professional summer camps, informal visits, and narrow list.
- *Senior.* Same plus make formal visits and finalize selection.

Although it is discouraged to opt out of this program, players may elect not to participate. This will be notated and kept on file in lieu of a player notebook.

III. TEAM

RSL-AZ West Valley teams will participate in the appropriate leagues as determined by the club management staff with input and feedback from the coaching staff. Teams will play against the best competition possible in order to build consistency in performing against aggressive opposition.

Team Roster

The number of players participating on the team will be based on the plans of the club and coaching staff as well as the age group. The optimum number of players can vary based on the makeup of the team. The roster size could increase or decrease due to injuries, dropouts, or other unforeseen circumstances.

Once a player has committed to join an RSL-AZ West Valley team, the intent is that the player remains with the club for the entire season. Players may move from one roster to another if the coach deems this is in the player's best interest.

Fields

RSL-AZ West Valley's fields may vary, but the club will do everything in its power to provide reasonable notice of field changes and work with all available resources to provide quality fields for games and training. Players and families are expected to clean up after themselves following all trainings and games. No trash should be left behind.

Team Manager and Treasurer

Each team must have a Team Manager and a Team Treasurer. These administrators will coordinate the financial aspect of the team's operation and also the organizational flow of other areas such as player registration, tournament registration, fundraising, payment of team activities and other related tasks. The Team Manager may coordinate these tasks directly or may have other team volunteers participate in this role.

Typically, the Team Manager will be the conduit where information from the coaches is distributed to players -- information that was not given to the players at practices or at matches. The Team Manager, more than likely, is the one that contacts the players of any schedule changes or assignments given to parents or players.

The Treasurer will be responsible for creating a team budget, monitoring the team account, and collecting funds for the team. The Treasurer will also be responsible for submitting the quarterly financial report to the Club Finance Manager.

The Team Manager and Team Treasurer shall refer to the Team Operations Manual for additional policies and information regarding managing the team and team's finances.

****A Head Coach's spouse/significant other may not serve in the Team Manager role and no immediate family member or significant other of the Head Coach may serve in as Treasurer.**

****Even with volunteer helpers on the team, the Head Coach is ultimately responsible for the overall success and management of the team.**

Tournaments

The tournaments entered over a season are carefully selected to enhance individual and team development. In an effort to develop independence and maturity, older players on teams U15-U19 travel to out-of-town tournaments with the team. Parents will always be welcome to join the team at all matches, but the importance of having the players travel and room together develops skills very important for their transformation into successful college student-athletes. The coaches and chaperones will be solely responsible for the players during these trips. Parents/guardians will be permitted to sign their player out only under pre-arranged circumstances and for approved reasons. The intention is to keep teams together during travel tournaments; however, we understand certain circumstances may warrant a player being signed out for a short period and then be returned to the team. Players will be asked to act in a mature and responsible manner at all times. There will be ZERO tolerance for any abuses regarding behavior on these trips. Players are expected to be “ambassadors” for the club and are expected to behave appropriately. *See RSL-AZ West Valley Tournament Travel Rules.*

IV. PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

Equipment

Each player must provide shin guards, proper shoes, water, and a **fully inflated ball** at all practices and games. RSL-AZ West Valley encourages the use of quality balls at training.

Players must wear the RSL-AZ West Valley practice gear to every practice - navy RSL-AZ training jersey, navy shorts, and navy socks. The only approved alternative to this is the team’s spirit shirt used for pre-game warm-ups. It is very important that players look mature and professional at all training sessions and matches. Mismatched and non-soccer attire is highly discouraged.

Bring all uniforms to every match along with a fully inflated ball, soccer shoes (flats and studs), socks (extra pairs), and the RSL-AZ West Valley pre-game warm-up spirit shirt. In the case where a player has forgotten one of these items, they may not be able to play.

Absences and Tardiness

The tone of both practices and matches is typically set within the first 5 minutes. Therefore, it is extremely important that the players be prompt to practices and matches. Players are expected to be at matches 45 minutes prior to the scheduled start or time specified by coach. Players should be prepared for practice and ready to participate at whatever time practice is scheduled to begin. Absences and tardiness to practices and matches will not be considered a normal event. It is understandable that there are reasons for this to occur, however every effort should be made to be on time.

RSL-AZ West Valley follows an attendance policy based on a 90/10 premise, which requires all players to attend, at a minimum, 90% of their scheduled practices, trainings, games, and tournaments. This does not mean that players should only plan to attend the minimum, but rather, it allows players and families to account for the scheduled events they may need to attend as well as any unplanned emergencies or illnesses. Religious, family, and school associated events are acceptable reasons for missing, if communicated in advance. All of these can be planned, so there is no reason for unexcused absences. Players must communicate these conflicts in advance to their coach. It is understood that emergencies and illnesses come up unexpectedly; in those circumstances, it is imperative the coach is notified as soon as possible.

For attendance and scheduling purposes, the 2024-25 season as a whole is divided into two sections: Fall Season & Spring Season. If a player surpasses their permitted absences for a season, they will be charged a \$10 fee for all additional missed practices, with fees going straight to the team's fund to be utilized at the coach's discretion. Players will not be permitted to play in any games or tournaments until these fees are paid.

Team managers are responsible for keeping attendance and submitting it to the Club Attendance Manager who will charge players for any fees incurred as a result of excessive absences as well as suspend players who fail to pay those fees.

If for whatever reason a player knows that they are going to be late for practice or a match, they must inform the head coach. The coaches plan for practice and matches. If the coaches are unaware of a player's expected absence or tardiness, it could affect the team. If a player is going to be tardy or absent, it is the responsibility of the player to contact the Head Coach. It is not the parents' responsibility. Obviously, a parent can call, but it is the player's responsibility to ensure that the coach is notified.

Absences and tardiness may affect playing time. Each week there are players that will be competing for starting positions and playing time in matches. As quality players continually show their desire to play by their skills and attitudes towards the team, they will be rewarded - those players that are constantly tardy or simply absent without the coach's knowledge may have their match playing time adversely affected.

Unexcused absences or continual tardiness to practice is unacceptable. If a player is continually absent, the player may be asked to no longer participate on the team. Withholding of playing time or starting positions will not be arbitrary nor will it be a surprise to the player. The coach will discuss with the player at the appropriate time that the problem becomes apparent. Please see your Head Coach for any deviations from these guidelines.

[Commitment](#)

RSL-AZ West Valley will deploy a club-wide system of play. This club-wide system has been selected to ensure that not only do teams succeed, but individual players have success at higher

levels. The club-wide system is indicative of the training and development philosophy and is set by the RSL-AZ West Valley Director of Coaching. In order for the system to work properly, players and parents must maintain and fulfill their commitment to the club and their team. Each player commits for one season. Player Loan requests will not be honored, although players may be borrowed within the club and the greater RSL-AZ organization.

Conduct

RSL-AZ West Valley players are servant-leaders in the classroom, on the field, and in their communities.

RSL-AZ West Valley members will respect the game, coaches, teammates, the opposition, referees & any others in attendance of a game, tournament, practice, or training.

RSL-AZ West Valley is committed to equality and inclusion. Any demeaning or discriminatory language reported to have been used by a parent, player or supporter will be referred to the RSL-AZ West Valley Review Board for disciplinary review. The Board will analyze the report and examine the facts presented through incident reports, witness statements, and any audio or video evidence and provide guidance and feedback to RSL-AZ West Valley Leadership for next steps. Discipline could culminate in the suspension from games and training, as well as, removal from RSL-AZ West Valley. Disciplinary decisions made by RSL-AZ West Valley leadership are final, as violations of the Code of Conduct are not permissible and the club will not tolerate having members of the club exhibit such behavior.

Unacceptable behavior or misconduct by a player or any family member of a player may lead to suspension or the release of the player for reasons listed below, but not limited to:

- Disrespect to coaches or staff, teammates, or others (including referees, administrators, opposing players and supporters);
- Persistent unsporting conduct at practices and/or matches;
- Failure to meet the financial commitments of the team;
- Continued tardiness or absences at practices and/or games;
- Behavior that is detrimental to the team, RLS-AZ West Valley, ASA, US Club Soccer, or US Soccer;
- Vandalism;
- Alcohol, tobacco, drug or substance use determined to be unsafe and/or illegal;
- Hazing and/or Harassment;
- Threatening and/or physical violence;
- Exposing and/or exploiting minors with regard to sexually explicit material

Although these reasons are open for interpretation, the RSL-AZ West Valley Review Board comprised of coaching staff, team managers, and parents, will review each situation and notify the player and parents of any disciplinary recommendation submitted to RSL-AZ West Valley

leadership. The RSL-AZ West Valley program takes player removal very seriously and this option will be used in only the most extreme or severe instances or as a last resort.

Any other conduct not covered in this guideline may be subject to review by the Head Coach, the Director of Coaching, the RSL-AZ West Valley Review Board, and RSL-AZ West Valley Board of Directors.

Social Media

The Real Salt Lake Arizona (RSL-AZ) West Valley organization recognizes the importance of using social media services to improve communications with our community and club members, as well as creating awareness in the community by promoting our club, its players, and educating the community on the sport. Social media gives people access to immediate information and updates, conversations with RSL-AZ West Valley staff, and rich multi-media experiences. To ensure that these social media services are used in a positive matter, RSL-AZ West Valley maintains the following guidelines:

- Any online postings must be consistent with RSL-AZ West Valley policies and guidelines and will apply to the RSL-AZ West Valley Board of Directors, technical trainers, coaches, managers, assistants, players, parents, volunteers, and all others affiliated with RSL-AZ West Valley.
- RSL-AZ West Valley Social Media admins are restricted from tagging a player in any social media post without parental consent.
- RSL-AZ West Valley Social Media admins are restricted from “following” or “friending” a club player under the age of 18, under any circumstances.
- RSL-AZ West Valley Social Media admins are restricted from posting a player’s (full) name without the written consent of the parent or player if 18 or older.
- RSL-AZ West Valley reserves the right to post or remove club related social media content.
- The RSL-AZ West Valley initials, name, logo and/or visual identity cannot be used for personal social media without RSL-AZ West Valley approval.
- The purpose of using social media services is to support the RSL-AZ West Valley mission, goals, and programs, and to enforce the club’s philosophy on the sport of soccer.
- Members of RSL-AZ West Valley and their representatives are not permitted to post information, photos, or other representations of inappropriate behavior, or items that could be interpreted as demeaning or inflammatory.
- Public comments of a negative nature about officiating or any other member is not permissible.
- Any Information, announcements, and news will be approved by RSL-AZ West Valley leadership.
- Confidential or proprietary club information or similar information of third parties, who have shared such information with you on behalf of the RSL-AZ West Valley, should not be shared publicly on these social media channels unless approved by RSL-AZ West Valley leadership.

- Be mindful that all posted content is subject to review in accordance with the RSL-AZ West Valley Review Board.
- Please refrain from reporting, speculating, discussing or giving any opinions on RSL-AZ West Valley platforms regarding topics or personalities that could be considered sensitive, confidential or disparaging.
- The RSL-AZ West Valley organization encourages technical trainers, coaches, managers, assistants, players, parents, volunteers, office staff, board members, and the club's supporters/community (social media fans) to use social media but reminds users that at any time they can be perceived as a spokesperson of RSL-AZ West Valley.

RSL-AZ West Valley reserves the right to delete any comment or post that violates the Social Media Policy. Due to the evolving nature of social media, these policies and guidelines are subject to revision by RSL-AZ West Valley. Comments or posts that threaten or disparage a person will result in an investigation by the RSL-AZ West Valley Review Board and/or leadership team and may result in the following actions depending on severity of the incident:

- Warning and ban from using RSL-AZ West Valley Social Media sites;
- Corrective action plan to include written apology to the offended subject;
- Report to Law Enforcement;
- Termination of relationship. No refunds of any sort will be given to those individuals who are suspended or dismissed from RSL-AZ West Valley as a result of disciplinary measures.

V. PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Supporter Responsibilities (Parent/Guardian)

Parents, guardians or supporters of the team and its players play a major role in this program. As the person(s) driving the players to practices, matches and other events, this role is crucial and self-evident. In addition, the expense of running a quality program obviously requires supporter(s) financial support as well. The staff and players appreciate this support and encourage supporter participation in making the team a success.

At least one parent or guardian for each player must make themselves available to attend team meetings. These meetings are important as they will relate to the operations of the team and allow a forum where questions and concerns can be addressed before becoming problems. Team meetings occur monthly to provide crucial information, collect fees and give financial reports, and answer or address questions. Meetings are kept brief to respect all parties' time, but are essential in keeping the team running smoothly. The Head Coach may be available at this meeting to answer any questions, but is not required to participate at every meeting.

Supporters are expected to adhere to and help enforce the Social Media Policy as outlined in the Player Expectation section.

Suggestions and Complaints

The policy of the staff is to embrace open communications. If parents or guardians have questions or concerns, they are encouraged to contact the manager(s) or coaching staff to seek clarification. Allowing concerns or bothersome situations to continue without being addressed causes larger issues, so it is preferable that concerns be brought to the attention of the appropriate staff sooner rather than later. The staff also appreciate positive feedback as well as the negative. Ideally, the players will attempt to manage communication with the coach; however, in the event this is not successful, parents should communicate with the coach and player together.

RSL-AZ West Valley follows a chain of command for dealing with parent concerns. Any concerns should be brought up first to the player's coach. If they are not addressed by the coach, the family may then contact the Director of Coaching. Concerns will not be dealt with outside of this chain of command, as it is necessary for a coach to have the opportunity to address the issue before it is escalated to involve other parties.

While under no obligation to do so, it is helpful to have issues off the field communicated to the coach or other staff, such as problems in the classroom or living situations or other such circumstances, as these issues may affect a player's attitude or general well-being. If you feel that something is going on with a player that may explain certain behavior or attitude, let the coach know. With prior knowledge, it is easier to make adjustments and accommodate a special case rather than deal with the disruption of a behavioral issue on the field.

Conduct

There are some guidelines that the staff would remind all supporters to review before the season:

- Show respect to the teams we play, their coaches and their supporters;
- Show respect to the officials. **Refrain from criticizing the referees**, it is a detriment to the flow of the game and most likely would negatively affect the team you support;
- **Please do not coach from the sidelines**. First of all, you may contradict what the player has been told by the coaching staff. Secondly, we are trying to teach the players to manage the game themselves. Your comments could create communication misunderstandings. If you have a comment, speak to the coach or the player before or after the match;
- **RSL-AZ West Valley is committed to equality and inclusion. Any demeaning or racist language used by a parent, player or supporter will immediately be referred to the RSL-AZ West Valley Review Board who will provide guidance and feedback to RSL-AZ West Valley Leadership for next steps. Discipline could culminate in the suspension from games and training, as well as removal from RSL-AZ West Valley.**

- Please continue to encourage the team. Keep the comments positive, avoid negative comments. In addition, acknowledge good play from the team you support as well as the team you play. **Support effort** as well as accomplishment; Parental evaluation carries a great deal of weight with children. The attitude shown by parents at games towards their child, the opposing team, the officials and the coach, influences the child's values and behavior in sports. Criticism, disrespect for officials and opponents by over anxious or over-protective parents bent on immediate success, rather than long range benefits, undermines the purpose of playing soccer and brings into the game stresses beyond those of competition. These inappropriate stresses contribute to behavior that is not in keeping with the spirit of the game.
- Remember that kids are watching us and monitoring our behavior. RSL AZ parents are expected to be role models!
- Acknowledge the efforts of the team, staff and participate fully in:
 - Team and Club fundraising activities
 - Team and Club activities
 - Supporting ALL players, other teams, coaches, and parents. ***Parents are of vital importance to the success of your children and the team.*** *Your commitment to the team is larger than that of the players. THANK YOU !!!*
- **Generally, parents should set up across from their players. This might be changed by a league/tournament.** Players are expected to sit with the team when not in the game. Although parents mean well, contact with players during the game can be distracting.
- If a need arises where you have to speak to the coach, please do so away from the players and at a time when the coach is free to provide you with the attention you require. Just before, during a game, and just after a game are not appropriate times and are to be avoided as they are generally very busy times for the coach whose focus is on the match and the players.
 - If the conversation has to do with playing time or a complaint or concern directly related to the match and/or tournament, parents are expected to wait at least 24 hours after a game and 48 hours after a tournament before contacting the coach to discuss the matter. This gives the coach time to reflect on the game and the parent time for emotions to settle before discussing the issue.

VI. FINANCES

Player Costs

There are six categories of costs per player for RSL-AZ West Valley. By accepting a roster spot on a team, you are accepting the commitment of these fees for the full season. Fees are non-refundable.

- Player Registration
- Club Training Fees
- Uniform Kit (2-year uniform cycle)
- Team Fees

- Volunteer Bond
- Incidentals

[Club Fees and Registration](#)

Every player participating on an RSL-AZ West Valley team must pay their respective costs and expenses. The Club Training Fees cover items such as soccer specific conditioning equipment and training, speed and agility specific equipment and training, specialized position training, insurance, fields, lights, additional equipment, coaching fees and administrative costs. Club fees can be paid all at once or a payment plan may be set up. The Club Fee and Registration are paid directly to RSL-AZ West Valley. These fees are non-refundable.

Team Fees are team related expenses and will vary based on tournament, league and travel requirements. Team fees are paid directly to the team and the funds go into the team account which is managed by the Team Treasurer and Club Financial Manager. Monthly Financial Reports will be provided by this manager to the team at the monthly team meeting and a Quarterly Financial Report is provided from the Team Treasurer to the Club Financial Manager to ensure transparency and accurate financial records are kept.

Club Fees are broken down as follows:

Level	Play In	Team Ages	Registration	Cost Per Player
Academy	Rec/Excel	U7-U8 4v4	\$225	\$650
		U9-U10 7v7	\$225	\$750
Championship	Open Leagues	U11/U12 9v9	\$325	\$1,000
		U13/U14 11v11	\$325	\$1,100
		U15/U19 11V11	\$325	\$1,100
Premier (ADP)	State League	U11-U12 9v9	\$325	\$1,000
		U13/U14 11v11	\$325	\$1,100

		U15/U19 11v11	\$325	\$1,100
Elite 64 RL		U13-U14 11v11	\$400	\$1,600
		U15/U19 11v11	\$400	\$1,600
**Performance Training costs range from \$170-\$250 depending upon team participation in those additional training sessions.				

These fees apply to West Valley teams only; fee structures will vary for teams at different locations and for external players assigned to a West Valley E64 team

[Uniform Kits](#)

Uniform kits must be purchased online through Soccer.com These include a full home kit, away kit, and practice kit plus backpack. Optional items can also be purchased, such as warm-up pants and jacket, additional socks or uniforms, and fan gear.

Players will also purchase their team spirit shirt to be worn as the only approved warm-up shirt at games and tournaments. This spirit shirt is also approved to be worn during practices.

[Team Fees](#)

Team fees vary per player and team, depending on the number of tournaments and travel costs. Fees include items such as tournament registration fees (including the credit card fee and GotSport fee of \$20), team outings, field rentals outside of regularly scheduled practice, coach travel expenses, league and referee fees etc. This cost does not include player or family travel or accommodations. Fundraising is encouraged to offset these fees.

Coach travel expenses include covering reimbursement of gas mileage for all game and tournament travel 25 miles or more from the coach’s home to site location, all hotel, airfare, and other related transportation costs and incidentals (i.e. parking fees, tipping a rideshare service). Travel expenses that are not covered by the team include food and drink, upgrades or extra fees related to priority seating or boarding, or other unnecessary expenditures.

Team fees are split equally amongst the players on the team, with the exception of the children of the Head Coach and the Assistant Coach. Each player owes their portion of the team fees regardless of whether they are in attendance at any given event. This means, if a player will miss a weekend tournament for any reason, that player is still obligated to pay their portion of the tournament fees to the team fund and is not eligible for a refund.

Volunteering

Every family is required to fulfill 4 hours per player of approved hours for the club. **A \$150 Volunteer Bond will be collected in the registration process. This will be refunded if paid in full, upon completion of 4 approved volunteer hours and the selling of at least four RSL-AZ West Valley Scholarship Raffle Tickets.**

Incidentals

Other variable team costs consist of but not limited to additional administrative expenses (postage, copies, etc.), and team functions. These are usually minimal, unless the team organizes a major team event requiring such costs.

Financial Obligation

RSL-AZ West Valley is committed to ensuring that every player is able to play. At any point the following policies cannot be followed, contact the coach so appropriate steps can be taken to ensure that the player can play. Failure to communicate a need for help can hurt the team. RSL-AZ West Valley makes a commitment to each player and each team for one season by committing significant resources to each player's success. It is the responsibility of all participants within this program to meet their committed financial obligation to the team. Failure to meet the obligation will place unwanted burdens on the team, thus the commitment is for a full season regardless if the player chooses to quit. As previously mentioned, this is not a profit-generating program and care must be taken to maintain a sound fiscal policy. Players may be suspended or placed in bad standing with ASA and US Club from participation if the full financial obligation is not met. The following policies apply to financial obligations:

Past Due Accounts

*Any player with an account past due more than fifteen (15) days and less than thirty (30) days will have their player passes taken. Any player with an account past due more than thirty (30) days may be suspended from his or her team until satisfactory payment arrangements are made with the RSL-AZ West Valley Finance Manager. Suspended players will not be allowed to travel or practice with their teams. **A Late fee of \$25 per month may be assessed to delinquent accounts. Returned checks will be assessed a \$50 fee to the player's account.***

Scholarships & Deferred Payments

Players may apply to the RSL-AZ West Valley Scholarship Fund for scholarship assistance. The Scholarship Fund is established to award a limited number of scholarships in both the Competitive and Developmental Programs. The primary criterion for awarding scholarships shall be demonstrated financial need. All Scholarship requests are strictly confidential. Those requesting a scholarship must fill out the appropriate forms and submit them by the due date in

order to be considered. RSL-AZ West Valley cannot guarantee that all scholarship requests will be granted. No player will be granted a full scholarship, as it is necessary for all players to contribute toward their financial responsibilities associated with playing club soccer and granting full scholarships limits the number of players that can be assisted through the Scholarship Fund.

Deferred payments shall be subject to the discretion of the RSL-AZ West Valley Finance Manager. All deferment requests are strictly confidential. Those requesting a deferment must fill out the appropriate forms.

It is the responsibility of all participants within this program to meet their committed financial obligation to the team. Failure to do so will place unwanted burdens on the team. This is not a profit-generating program and care must be taken to maintain a sound fiscal policy. Players may be suspended from participation if financial obligations are not met according to the Player Financial Agreement Form.

Coaches will not be responsible for handling the team finances. This important obligation will rest with the Team Managers and Treasurer. Please contact the Team Manager or Treasurer with any concerns in regards to team finances.

[Team Budget](#)

The team budget shall be published to the entire team at the beginning of the season. Team majority will decide how team funds are spent with direction from the coach on team tournaments. At a minimum, the team budget must account for all mandatory tournaments, league and referee fees, coach travel costs, and incidentals. Note: small sided tournaments can be paid from team account only if the entire team is invited to take part. The Treasurer will publish quarterly expenses to the Club Financial Manager and monthly quarterly expenses to the team.

[VII. TOURNAMENT AND TRAVEL GUIDELINES](#)

Tournament travel is an opportunity for players to grow as a team, both on the field and off, learning to have fun and get the job done at the same time.

While on any trip as an RSL-AZ West Valley member players will play every minute on the field with class, respect and determination and carry themselves off the field as young men and women, respecting themselves, their teammates and the club, setting the standard for all RSL-AZ West Valley players to follow.

There are always consequences for actions, both positive and negative. Consequences for not following these rules will result in anything from reduced playing time to being sent home at the player's expense:

- Treat the room and campus/hotel grounds that you are staying at with the utmost respect:
 - Rooms will be kept relatively clean on a daily basis
 - Hallway and room discussions should be relatively quiet, as there are others around
 - Trash should be picked up and thrown away in the proper place
 - Stay out of hallways, lobbies, and other unauthorized hotel locations
 - No unauthorized play (including soccer) of any kind on hotel/campus grounds
- Be on time (Remember, “Early is on time, and on time is late!”) to every meeting, game, or any other function as set by the coach
- Adhere to “lights out” and curfew time as set by the coach
- If players go somewhere, they are to first ask a chaperone or coach and ALWAYS go with a teammate. - This means that for ANY off-grounds activity players are to be with somebody from their own team at ALL times
- Any additional rule set once teams arrive at the tournament by the coach or RSL-AZ West Valley staff. Be responsible for your own behavior
- Dress and behave as if being recruited! You never know who may be watching!
- Wear appropriate club gear to all team functions as directed by coach
- At no time are players to be alone with an adult other than their own parent/guardian
- At no time are players to be alone with a member of the opposite sex when no one else is around.
- *NO visitors other than players’ TEAMMATES are allowed in their room. Players are NOT allowed in the room of anyone other than their own team. There are NO exceptions!
- **Use of illegal substances or other substances will result in immediate suspension and possible removal from the club.*