

Bayou Soccer Club



2025-2026

Blackhawks Players and Parents Handbook

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Table of Contents

MISSION STATEMENT.....	3
PHILOSOPHY	3
VISION	3
CORE VALUES	4
CLUB AFFILIATIONS	5
PLAYER PLACEMENT PROCESS.....	6
PLAYER PLACEMENT PROCESS FORMAT.....	7
START OF SEASON.....	9
END OF SEASON.....	9
PLAYING TIME.....	9
PLAYERS AND COACHES EVALUATION	10
PRACTICE (TRAINING FREQUENCY).....	10
COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS TRAINING PRIORITIES.....	11
GOALKEEPER ACADEMY.....	15
CLUB RULES	17
FINANCIAL COMMITMENT	19

MISSION STATEMENT

BSC'S competitive program mission is to provide a top, quality competitive soccer program that will develop committed athletes into outstanding soccer players and team members in a competitive atmosphere of excellence, fair play and continuous improvement. Our goal is to instill passion, maturity and self-confidence that will help all players both on and off the field throughout their lives.

PHILOSOPHY

The BSC program is designed to develop each aspiring player to his/her fullest potential through ball/skill mastery and commitment to team. It is our intent to develop a club with players that are technically and tactically equipped which will allow us to play a possession-oriented style of play.

VISION

Our vision is to produce a program of soccer excellence recognized throughout the state of Louisiana and Region III. To achieve this we will:

- Select players who are dedicated to and capable of training and playing at a high level.
- Provide a training environment that allows each committed player to maximize his/her potential.
- Provide training sessions that are fun, age appropriate, challenging, creative, innovative and consistent with the trends of modern day soccer.
- Instill each player with a greater appreciation of the sport, self-confidence, accountability, and responsibility.
- Maintain a staff of highly qualified coaches and provide continued coaching education opportunities for their personal and professional growth as well as the club's.
- Treat all participants with respect and fairness, valuing diversity, and taking individual responsibility to realize our personal and club potential.
- Focus on communication: within the club to ensure that all players understand their personal importance and needs and that their families are well informed of schedules, requirements and the club's player development philosophy; and to the outside community to promote our club through its successes.

BSC CORE VALUES

1. Commitment to Excellence

We commit to providing excellence in both soccer programming and customer service to our members and understand the impact and importance of our work to the community. To accomplish this, we will:

- Work collaboratively across programs to achieve our common goals
- Make every effort to deliver, on time and within our guidelines, the commitments that we make to each other and to each member
- Welcome change and seek to marry improvements in process and product to the traditions that have served us well
- We aspire at all times to improve our work in every dimension

2. Innovation

We will constantly seek out new and innovative ways to improve our work and impact on our community. To accomplish this, we will:

- Seek out new, more efficient ways to accomplish our goals
- Create new programs to better serve our community, especially traditionally under-served populations
- Invest time and resources to assure the success of new, innovative programs
- Be willing to adapt to new ways of thinking, operating, and working

3. Togetherness

We will form a cohesive unit that is supportive of others and works collectively to accomplish our goals. To accomplish this, we will:

- Provide support to our coworkers, both emotionally and by lending a helping hand when needed
- Advocating for our coworkers and our organization in the community

4. Leadership

We strive to develop and become the leaders necessary to realize excellence. We establish bold visions and invest others in working towards them. To accomplish this, we will:

- Invest in staff development for all staff, both full-time and associate
- Plan strategically, both in our own work and in terms of organizational growth

- Provide leadership, education and guidance to associate staff and members regarding safety, programming, and developmentally appropriate activities for our members

5. Respect

All members of the organization will show respect to each other, to community members, and to all physical spaces and property. To accomplish this, we will:

- Model respect in our everyday activities and interactions
- Treat others with dignity and respect, while expecting others to do the same
- Make a concerted effort to keep our work areas, including our fields, professional, well-maintained and safe

AFFILIATIONS: Bayou Soccer Club is affiliated and complies with the authority, rules, and guidelines of the United State Youth Soccer Association (USYSA), United State Club Soccer (US-Club) and Louisiana Soccer Association (LSA). Through LSA, HTSA is also affiliated with Region III, which includes the following state associations: Louisiana, North Texas, South Texas, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Oklahoma. Our Competitive teams will compete in one of more of the following: Louisiana Classic Soccer League (LCSL), Regional Premier League (RPL) or Premier Soccer League (PSL).

2025-2026 PLAYER PLACEMENT PROCESS **INFORMATION**

2015 (U11), 2014 (U12), 2013 (U13) Teams:

BSC Player Placement Process – PPP (Tryout): April 14th – April 1th

The PPP (Tryout) Period shall commence the Monday after the conclusion of the Louisiana Open Cup and the Bob Abbot Cup tournament weekend.

Invitation Date: April 29th (after 12:00 p.m.)

Players will be notified of their placement via invitation email.

All responses MUST be made online on or by Tuesday, May 13th

2012 (U14); 2011 (U15); 2010 (U16); 2009 (U17); 2008 (U18) & 2007 (U19)

Teams:

BSC Player Placement Process (Tryout): May 27th – June 5th The PPP (Tryout) Period shall commence the Tuesday after the conclusion of the Competitive State Cup Championship weekend.

Invitation Date: June 17th (after 12:00 p.m.)

Players will be notified of their placement via invitation email.

All responses MUST be made online on or by Tuesday, June 24th

PLAYER PLACEMENT REGISTRATION (competitive evaluations)

PPP registration will be offered online. We highly encourage everyone to register online to make check-in run smoothly.

Online registration is \$20 and includes a free t-shirt. Players must wear their t-shirt to all evaluations.

Online registration will close at 9:00 a.m. of the first day of evaluations for the applicable age group. (i.e. first tryout for 2013 is April 15, 2025, therefore, online registration closes at 9:00 a.m. on April 15, 2025 for players born in 2013.)

Registration at the field is \$25.

2015 (U11) – 2013 (U13) PLAYER PLACEMENT PROCESS FORMAT

All activities will be soccer specific and realistic. Each player must bring a ball and dress appropriately (e.g. shin guards, shorts, socks). The format is as follows:

Day 1:

- Ice Breaker (fun games) & Stretch
- Technical application (First touch, dribbling, passing, receiving and turning, etc.)

- Small (1V1, 3v2, 3v3) group tactical application possession-oriented games
- Large (4V4-5V5) group games (this allows us to see if the players can transfer their technical and tactical skills into the big game)
- **Note**-Goalkeepers will work with our goalkeeper coach for some of the session

Day 2:

- Warm up & Stretch
- Technical application (First touch, dribbling, passing, receiving and turning, etc.)
- Large (8V8-9V9) group games (this allows us to see if the players can transfer their technical and tactical skills into the big game)
- **Note**-Goalkeepers will be integrated with the rest of the field players after first twenty-five minutes

Players will be issued a number at check-in/registration. They will go through a training progression (see above) and our staff will evaluate their performance relative to the components of soccer listed below

- **Technical Ability** – skill proficiency
- **Technical Speed** – ability to execute skill at top speed
- **Tactical Application** – understanding of time and space, movement with and without the ball, field vision, ability to combine with other players, speed of thought, etc.
- **Physical Attributes** – speed, strength on the ball (tackling & shielding ball)
- **Psychological Dimensions** – competitiveness, work ethic, interaction with teammates, coachability, etc.

2012 (U14) – 2007 (U19) PLAYER PLACEMENT PROCESS FORMAT

All activities will be soccer specific and realistic. Each player must bring a ball and dress appropriately (e.g. shin guards, shorts, socks). The format is as follows:

Day 1:

- Ice Breaker (fun games) & Stretch
- Technical application (First touch, dribbling, passing, receiving and turning, etc.)
- Small (3v2) group tactical application possession-oriented games
- Large (4V4-5V5) group games (this allows us to see if the players can transfer their technical and tactical skills into the big game)
- **Note**-Goalkeepers will work with our goalkeeper coach for some of the session

Day 2:

- Warm up & Stretch
- Technical application (First touch, dribbling, passing, receiving and turning, etc.)
- Large (11V11) group games (this allows us to see if the players can transfer their technical and tactical skills into the big game)
- **Note**-Goalkeepers will be integrated with the rest of the field players after first twenty-five minutes

Players will be issued a number at registration. They will go through a training progression (see above) and our staff will evaluate their performance relative to the components of soccer listed below

- **Technical Ability** – skill proficiency
- **Technical Speed** – ability to execute skill at top speed
- **Tactical Application** – understanding of time and space, movement with and without the ball, field vision, ability to combine with other players, speed of thought, etc.
- **Physical Attributes** – speed, strength on the ball (tackling & shielding ball)
- **Psychological Dimensions** – competitiveness, work ethic, interaction with teammates, coachability, etc.

We will select players/teams based on overall rating and coach's comments.

START OF SEASON: All BSC Competitive teams will commence training the week of August 4th, 2025. Some of our teams will kick off their season by participating in a tournament on “Labor Day” weekend.

END OF SEASON: Once teams are done with Louisiana Open Cup, Bob Abbot Cup, President’s Cup, State Cup and/or the Regional tourney, their season will be over. They will not participate in any tournament thereafter without the permission of the Director of Coaching. Rationale – we want to reduce the risk of “burn out” amongst the players and parents. We know that sometimes coaches and parents feel a void at the end of the season, but that is not a good reason to continue to play. Players need time off in order to progress and not get bored with the game. We encourage each team to have an end of season function at which time the coach should provide the team with an overall team assessment, individual player evaluation, off season training options, tryout information, etc.

PLAYING TIME: **Playing time in the competitive programs will vary based on the age and level of the team/competition. 2015 (U11), & 2014 (U12) Teams:** It is advised that players will play at least 50% of all game minutes in a season, but this is to the coach’s discretion. This may mean that they play less or more any given week, but that overall their playing time should be approximately 50% of the team’s minutes played. This may change based on practice attendance or other issues that may come up throughout a season. Playing time for players playing at the 2013 (U13) and above level will vary based on team level and age.

2013 (U13) Gold Teams: The 2013 (U13) year is a year of transition to a bigger field, larger rosters, and physical growth for some players. With this in mind, 2013 (U13) Gold level players will be guaranteed to play approximately 25% of all game minutes in a season. Players may play less or more any given week as deemed appropriate by the team coach. As always, practice attendance, effort, and other considerations will be taken into account.

2012 (U14), 2011 (U15), 2010 (U16), 2009 (U17), 2008 (U18), & 2007 (U19) Gold Teams: There is no guarantee of playing time at any time. Gold level players are expected to challenge themselves at all times and compete for playing time. Our Goldlevel teams will attempt to gain a result from each game. Playing time is determined by the coach and can be based on situations, matchups, need for a result, or many other factors. As always, practice attendance, effort, and other considerations will be taken into account.

2013 (U13) 2012 (U14), 2011 (U15), 2010 (U16), 2009 (U17), 2008 (U18), & 2007 (U19) Navy Teams: Players should play in at least 50% of a team’s minutes played in a season. In any given game, there is no playing time requirement, but rather throughout the whole season. As always, practice attendance, effort, and other considerations will be taken into account.

PLAYERS AND COACHES EVALUATION: Our coaching staff is required to provide each player with a written evaluation in the middle and at the end of the season. Each family is asked to submit a coach's evaluation at the end of the season. Evaluation will be emailed to each family. Both of these evaluation forms can be found on our website. The player's evaluation provides feedback to players and their families on each player's present ability level. The coach's evaluation enables us to assist our individual coaches as needed. Families can print and mail in the coach's evaluation if that method is preferred.

PRACTICE (TRAINING FREQUENCY): In general, we have two practice time slots a) **5:00pm – 6:30pm** and b) **6:30pm – 8:00pm**. Teams typically train 2-3 times (Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday) a week for 1.5 hours with game(s) on the weekend (coach's discretion). However, there is no prescribed amount of training sessions for any one team. The frequency of training sessions depends on what is needed for that particular team and coach to further their development. Players may train with a team in an age group above or below his/her current team. Player's must first obtain permission from our DOC, Holly Moran, to train with another team. Our coaching staff will develop training sessions based on the individual and collective needs, ability and playing personalities of their respective team, as well as the club's training priorities for that particular age level (*see training priorities*). Our staff also provides individual private training sessions for an additional fee. Email inquiries to hmoran@houmasoccer.com

BSC COMPETITIVE PROGRAM TRAINING PRIORITIES

2015 (11U) and 2014 (12U)

Developing & Improving Individual Technique/Technical Speed Individual and Small Group
Tactics: 1v1, 2v1, & 2v2, 4V3, 4V4, 5V3, etc.

Competition must be integrated in ALL aspects of the training environment.

At the 11U & 12U age levels, the program's seasonal objective is to provide players with an extensive soccer vocabulary and vivid understanding of:

PRIMARY EMPHASIS:

- First Touch
- Complete breakdown of passing, dribbling, shooting using every surface (both feet)
- Heading
- Passing lanes
- Angles
- Individual Defending
- Small Group Defending, 2V1, 2V2, 3V2
- Pressure, Cover, Balance
- Basic Team Shape: Triangles, Diamonds
- Marking (goal side, ball side, etc.) and Tracking Opponents
- Communication; turn, man on, drop, time etc.
- Combination Play (wall pass, take over, fake take over)

SECONDARY EMPHASIS:

- Team Play
- Positional Play

2013 (13U) and 2012 (14U)

Developing Individual Technique/Technical Speed Individual and Small Group Tactics: 1V1, 2V1, up to 11V11

Competition must be integrated in ALL aspects of the training environment.

At the 13U & 14U age levels, the program's seasonal objective is to provide players with a vivid understanding of

PRIMARY EMPHASIS:

- Movement with and without the ball
- Ball Possession and its importance to overall team success
- Directional Touch Away From Pressure
- Shielding, protecting the ball
- Speed of Play (technical speed in relation to ball movement)
- Combination Play
 - Takeovers
 - Overlaps
 - Wall Pass
- Switching the Point
- Marking and Tracking opponents in relation to the ball
- Pressure, Cover, Balance, Depth
- Delaying or containing opponents
- Individual and small group defending
- One session in three devoted to 1v1's, 2v2's, 3v3's
- Team Shape, vertically and horizontally
- Communication; turn, man on, time, switch, drop, step, etc.
- A flat back four system of play; a) 1-4-4-2; b) 1-4-3-3

SECONDARY EMPHASIS:

- Pattern Play
- Functional Tactical Play – Offense vs. Defense
- Set Plays

2011 (15U), 2010 (16U), and 2009 (17U)

Developing and Improving Group Skill, Technical Speed and Tactical Awareness and Application at the 15U, 16U & 17U age levels. The program's seasonal objective is to provide players with a vivid understanding of **"Team Play."**

Competition must be integrated in ALL aspects of the training environment.

PRIMARY EMPHASIS:

- Possession! Possession!! Possession!!!
- Movement with and without the ball
- Speed of Play (in relation to technical speed, quick decision and execution)
- Crossing and Organization in the box
- Combination Play
 - Takeovers
 - Overlaps
 - Wall-pass
 - Double pass (with J run)
 - Inside run
 - Third man running
- Small group defending
- Instruct one session in three devoted to 3v3's, 4v4's, 5v5's
 - Pressure, Cover, Balance, Depth, Double team
 - Communication – who, what, when
 - Compactness
 - Balance – Role of the weak side defenders (protecting the vital area)
 - Depth – Role of the strong side defenders
- Concentration and Mental rehearsal
- Mental toughness
- A flat back four system of play: a) 1-4-4-2; b) 1-4-3-3

SECONDARY EMPHASIS:

- Functional Tactical Play
- Offense vs. Defense
- Pattern Play
- Set Plays

2008 (18U) and 2007 (19U)

Defining and Developing Specific Roles with Respect to Positional Play Team Tactical Awareness and Application: 11V11, etc.

Competition must be integrated in ALL aspects of the training environment.

At the 18U & 19U levels, the program's seasonal objective is to produce the **“Whole Player”** Technically, Tactically, Physically and Mentally,

PRIMARY EMPHASIS:

- Maintaining Physical and Mental sharpness
- Sessions devoted to Functional/Phase of Play: run of play and set play
 - Attacking/final third roles and responsibilities
 - Middle third roles and responsibilities
 - Defending third roles and responsibilities
 - Attacking and defending roles on set plays
- Crossing and organization in the box
- Match related sessions: offense vs. defense, numbers up vs. numbers down, protecting a lead etc.
- Shadow play
- Match conditioned
- Dictating rhythm/speed of play
- All players should have a complete understanding of every aspect of our system of play

BSC GOALKEEPER ACADEMY

Mission Statement

Goalkeepers are often the overlooked individual in the team. At BSC, we have put a goalkeeping program in place to produce our vision of the complete goalkeeper.

Goalkeeping is a crucial and privileged playing position. BSC GK Academy will deliver specific goalkeeping instruction in a professional attitude and demonstrate a useful approach in their training.

Our objective is to provide the foundation and grounding goalkeepers need to improve their technical skills to succeed in soccer.

BSC is dedicated to developing fundamentally sound goalkeepers whom our teams can depend upon and our opponents fear. We expect our goalkeepers to serve as our team's last line of defense and first line of offense. At BSC we strive for the following:

- For goalkeepers to learn and enjoy the art of goalkeeping. To have fun while training.
- To improve their technique through simple and realistic practices.
- To improve their understanding of the position by giving them the skills and knowledge they require to be successful, consistent, and a reliable performer.
- To develop movement skills and patterns specific to goalkeeping.
- To teach the key tactical aspects of goalkeeping.
- To help the goalkeeper with decision making and other psychological aspects of the position.
- To ultimately improve match performance.

The training available at BSC will be conducted to the highest of standard, thus creating an atmosphere that goalkeepers will feel proud to attend and be part of. The club recognizes them as valuable assets and the key to a successful team.

Goalkeeping Philosophy

With soccer players training year-round, and the level of competition continually improving, there is a greater demand on goalkeepers to perform. When a team wins a game because of the strength of their goalkeeper, it is then when one can be thankful that specialized goalkeeper training is available at their club. It is no longer seen as a benefit, but a necessity, for a club to develop their goalkeepers with specialized training, in order to learn the skills needed to perform at the next level.

Our philosophy at Bayou Soccer Club is to teach and coach our goalkeepers to become fundamentally flawless goalkeepers. Emphasis is always placed on the following; Technique,

Positioning, Distribution, Decision making, and the Psychological part of the game. Our goalkeepers achieve this through continuous repetition and attention to technical details. We firmly believe that it does not make sense to do physically taxing exercises for the sake of making goalkeepers tired with little attention given to the proper method of goalkeeping. The majority of goalkeeping can be done by staying on your feet, if you have good footwork, you don't have to rely on diving to every ball, and the save is made to look easy. This allows for quicker distribution and easier recovery to any rebound. We expect our goalkeepers to lead by example through their hard work in training, and games. They should be leaders on and off of the field within their team.

CLUB EXPECTATIONS

24-Hour Rule:

Parents and coaches should refrain from discussing any potentially conflicting opinions within a **24-hour period**, (e.g. time, player position, substitutions, etc.).

To avoid misunderstanding between parents and coaches (and club), it is highly recommended that all staff coaches:

- Know the club rules and abide by them.
- At every opportunity, meet and explain to parents (e.g. at your parent meetings) the restrictions that are placed on you as a coach for a particular age group.
- Prepare a fair substitution schedule before each game and follow it as best you can.
- Meet with parents periodically to inform them about the dynamics within your team(s) and how the team is evolving. More importantly, meet just to educate them about the game in general.

We ask that all team issues or concerns be addressed in the following steps:

- **First** – Direct communication with the **Head Coach**
- **Second** – Communication with the **Director of Coaching and Director of Soccer Operations**, Holly Moran and Audra Keiser, if issue is not resolved
- **Third** – File formal written grievance as outlined in BSC by-laws, if issue is not resolved.

Practice Dress Code (players):

All players practicing twice a week should wear the team practice t-shirts. If a team practices three times a week, the third day is optional as far as color or type of shirt. Finally, all players must wear shirts at practice (**Absolutely NO shirts vs. skins**), and girls may not wear tank tops. Players must practice like they play. They must wear shin guards, which must be fully covered by socks.

Communication:

All club communication from the BSC office will be done via:

- Mass Email, email to entire competitive program, individual team, managers and coaches.
- Mass text, text to entire competitive program, individual team, managers and coaches.
- Announcement banner posted on our website

Practice Cancellation: In case of inclement weather, families will be notified via:

- Mass Text
- Posted on our Facebook page
- Cancellation at the field (in the event we did not have the opportunity to cancel practice ahead of time)

Team Travel Procedure:

Team chemistry is vital to any team's overall success; with this in mind and the lack of social interaction amongst our players/teams we must provide every opportunity for player interaction away from the field. As our teams continue to travel in an effort to seek higher levels of competition, it is recommended that:

- Curfew is 10:00 across the board during travel - coaches can adjust times depending on the competition schedule
- Coaches will impose appropriate consequences for any player who breaks curfew and inform parents of the infraction and the consequence thereof
- Have the team eat all meals together
- Do all other social and recreational activities as a team.

Team Expenses and Travel Procedure:

The coach's total hotel expenses for any given trip will be paid from the team fees. This includes any travel outside of the Houma area.

USE of Foul/Abusive Language:

BSC will not tolerate the use of foul/abusive language. If a player uses inappropriate language towards his/her teammates, opponents (players/parents) and or referees:

He/she **MUST** have a one on one conference with the coach

He/she **MAY** be removed from the game.

If this type of behavior persists, the player **CAN** be removed from the team.

**BSC Financial Commitment:
2007-2015 Competitive Team League Teams
2025-2026**

Cost of playing as a competitive player in BSC is \$650/year. This fee includes: Coach/Trainer fees, BSC and LSA player fall and spring registration fees, state required secondary insurance coverage, home friendly referee fees, field maintenance, repairs and improvements, field equipment and supplies, office and administrative support, rent, postage, printing and many other expenses that are required to support and develop BSC. This fee will be payable online, through Blue Sombrero, at the time of competitive registration.

Not included in the competitive fees are a player's personal travel expenses, personal gear, uniforms and team fees. Also not included is a \$12.00 Bayou Country Sports Park usage fee which BSC pays to Terrebonne Parish.

Uniform Costs – Payment for uniforms will be made directly to Third Coast Soccer. Below is the pricing for our new uniforms for the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 soccer years. Jersey numbers will be handled through the BSC administration.

Required Items	Youth, Men's and Women's	Optional Items	Cost
2 game jerseys (navy & white)	\$54.50/jersey	Add'l Training Shirt	\$32.75
1 Training Shirt	\$32.75	Track Jacket	\$54.25
2 pairs of shorts (navy & white)	\$22.50-navy \$15.75-white	Backpack	\$57.00
2 pairs of socks (navy & white)	\$9.75		
Total + Tax	\$199.50 + TAX		

Training Shirts – All BSC competitive players are required to wear the official training shirt to all practices. The competitive training shirts for the 2025/2026 seasons are the same as the 2023/24 seasons training shirt purchased through www.thirdcoastsoccer.net. All players will be required to wear the training shirt to all training sessions.

Cost Reduction: Fundraising – Many teams choose to do team fundraisers to offset team expenses. Fundraisers are optional and each team is required to obtain approval from Audra Keiser (Director of Soccer Operations) and/or Holly Moran (Director of Coaching) before initiating any fundraising venture.

NEED BASED ASSISTANCE – It is not the intent of BSC to turn any child away due to their inability to pay the required fees, therefore we offer need-based assistance if funds are available. If you would like to be considered for financial assistance, please download the form from our

website @ <https://www.houmasoccer.com>. All instructions are on the form, however, if you have any questions, please contact Audra Keiser, @ htsafinancialaid@gmail.com for additional information. Regular attendance and effort at practices and games are required to continue to receive financial assistance after initially awarded. The finance committee will review your application and you will be contacted via email with their decision. It is recommended that you apply PRIOR to acceptance invitations being emailed to allow adequate time for processing. Please note, need based assistance does NOT apply to team expenses or uniforms. You must be able to pay all team expenses upfront or via prepaid monthly installments.