



2017 - 2018
Center of Excellence
Program

U7 & U8 Boys & Girls
Birthyears 2010 & 2011

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CESA

Center of Excellence

Program

Ambition. Passion. Excellence.

Introduction

CESA's Center of Excellence Program is designed to support and guide players who wish to make the transition from recreational to competitive soccer. The program is designed for the more technically and athletically advanced recreational player who has a strong desire to increase those technical skills while also learning more about the tactical aspects of the game. In addition, the Center of Excellence Program will provide an introduction to our Junior Academy Program.

The most important aspect of CESA's Center of Excellence Program is training. Technical and tactical training is provided 2 times per week (M-F) in 1.5 hour sessions by our professional coaches, who will also coach the team in all matches. Players will have the option to participate in additional training sessions with other teams. Center of Excellence Players are offered additional optional Goalkeeping Sessions and Finishing Sessions on Wednesdays. Center of Excellence teams compete in the CESA Recreational League and CESA Junior Academy League on Saturdays and Sundays. Players are expected to work at home on basic technical skills such as juggling, receiving, passing, etc. It is important that the player understands that a commitment to practice must be made, or the other players will soon surpass them in skills.

Commitments August thru May

Financial

- ❖ \$30 Player Placement Fee is non-refundable or transferable.

Upon accepting the position offered on a Center of Excellence Team, the parents are responsible for the following:

- ❖ Center of Excellence CESA Club Fee \$650 per year:
 - \$275 required within 48 hours of team posting.
 - Remaining \$375 can be paid in full (July) or 8 installments of \$42 (August thru March) and 1 final installment of \$39 in (April).
- ❖ CESA Club Fee includes:
 - 2 CESA Training Tops
 - 2 Training Sessions M-F @ 1.5 hours
 - Additional Goalkeeper and Finishing Sessions
 - SC Youth Soccer Registration Fees
 - Referee Fees
 - League Fee
- ❖ Uniform Cost (Year 2 of 2-year Cycle): \$120 includes:
 - 1 adidas black match jersey
 - 1 pair of adidas black shorts
 - 1 pair of adidas Socks
 - 1 long sleeve red training top
 - **Purchased @ Lloyd's Soccer**
- ❖ Players and their families are responsible for their own travel costs.

Training

- Arrive on time for practice
- Attend every practice and make-up practice
- Attend all league games
- Practice at home on basic technical skills

Parent Commitment

- Parents are asked to support their coach and the CESA Center of Excellence Program by ensuring their child attends training as listed above.
- Parents are asked to represent CESA in a positive manner with correct sideline behavior and to set a good example for their player.

- Center of Excellence parents will be asked to volunteer for team and tournament duties. Your support is needed at all CESA tournaments and functions throughout the year.

Joining a Team

- Players will be evaluated throughout the Recreation Program season.
- Players will be invited to join the Center of Excellence Program by one of our professional coaches.
- Players are evaluated at the CESA Center of Excellence Evaluations in May and late November.
- Registration must be completed online at www.carolinaelitesc.com.
- Players can also request to be assessed for potential inclusion in the CESA Center of Excellence Program at any time during the year, however, they must honor any commitment made to their Recreation teams for that particular season.

Games, Tournaments and Travel

- League games are on Saturdays and Sundays at the MeSA Soccer Complex.
- Center of Excellence players are required to participate in the CESA Fall and Spring Challenge Soccer Tournaments.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Is the Center of Excellence the same as the Junior Academy or Travel Soccer Programs?

A: No. The Center of Excellence Program is specifically designed for the U7 & U8 age groups. The Junior Academy is for the U9 thru U12 age groups. The Travel Program is for players in the U13 thru U18 age groups. Like the Travel Program and the Junior Academy Program, the Center of Excellence Program provides professional advanced training.

Q: Can a player join a team if he or she did not start the Center of Excellence Program at the U7 level?

A: Yes. Players can be evaluated for a team in their age group any time during the year. Prior inclusion on Center of Excellence team is not required.

Q: What is a “Pool of players”?

A: Some Center of Excellence Teams are pools. A pool is a group of players that train together with more than one coach.

Q: Do all teams train at the MeSA Soccer Complex?

A: Center of Excellence teams may train at any of our fields, including MeSA and Wenwood.

Q: Can I choose to have my player on a team that trains by our home?

A: The coach makes the decision about where a team trains. Requests are taken into consideration.

Q: Do all teams train 2 times each week?

A: Teams train two nights each week. Each player has the optional benefit of participating in the Goalkeeping Sessions and the Finishing Sessions on Wednesdays. Some “pools” may train an additional night per week at the coach’s discretion.

Q: On which days do “pools” practice?

A: Pools will train any combination of days throughout the week determined by the Center of Excellence staff. Requests are taken into consideration.

Q: When and how do we find out about game and tournament schedules?

A: Game schedules are posted online via a link on the CESA website and are updated throughout the season. The August schedule posts late July and the fall schedule posts in September. Coaches will provide splits of the team “pool” by the Tuesday of the weekend’s match.

Q: Are there ways I can be involved with coaching my player?

A: No, the Center of Excellence staff of professional coaches will train the pool each practice and coach in matches.

Q: Can I still be a “team parent” for my child’s team?

A: Center of Excellence teams rely on parents to fill volunteer jobs. Positions include:

Team Manager - responsible for maintaining team records, budgeting, tournament registration and communicating information to the team

Team Treasurer - responsible for budgeting and managing team funds by collecting fees and paying expenses

Volunteer Coordinator –responsible for organizing volunteers to fill volunteer requirements for tournaments held by CESA

Q: Are all fees due at the beginning of the season?

A: \$650 Center of Excellence CESA Club Fee may be paid incrementally.

May/June:

\$275 required within 72 hours of team posting.

August – April:

Remaining \$375 can be paid in full (July) or in 8 installments of \$42 (August thru March) and 1 final installment of \$39 (April).

Q: Is Financial Assistance available?

A: Yes, Financial Assistance is available for those who qualify. Application Forms are located on the CESA Website. Follow the link to “Junior Academy” and then to “Forms.” All Financial Assistance Forms must be turned in by the deadline.

Important Dates

April: Online Player Placement Registration

May: Player Placements

June 5: Parent Meetings

July 24-28: Center Of Excellence Camp at Furman University

August-December: Fall Season

January-May: Spring Season

For more information about the CESA Center of Excellence Program, please contact CESA CoE Program Contact, Cole Atkins, atkins.cole@gmail.com or 864.329.1113.