



FAQs about the Freeland Force Travel Soccer Team



WELCOME TO THE FREELAND FORCE

The Freeland Soccer Club is dedicated to educating youth of the area in the rules and regulations of soccer. We strive to teach players about fair sportsmanship, as well as teaching skills essential to be successful in the game of soccer.

By providing experienced coaches, strength and conditioning services, and specialized position training, the Freeland Force is a competitive soccer program, at a great value, in your own local community.

The Freeland Soccer Association Complex is located at the Freeland Middle School at 8250 Webster, Freeland MI 48623.

2023

FORCE LEADERSHIP

BEN WATKINS

DIRECTOR OF TRAVEL

ERNIE MARTINEZ

DIRECTOR OF COACHING

What age group does my child fall into?

Teams are determined by birth year. Please reference the chart below that also includes this years tryout schedule.

Freeland Force 2023/2024 Travel Tryout Schedule			
Birth Year	Age Group	Saturday 6/10	Sunday 6/11
2015-16	U9	8:30AM - 10:00AM	8:30AM - 10:00AM
2014	U10	8:30AM - 10:00AM	8:30AM - 10:00AM
2013	U11	10:30AM - 12:00PM	10:30AM - 12:00PM
2012	U12	10:30AM - 12:00PM	10:30AM - 12:00PM
2011	U13	12:30PM - 2:00PM	12:30PM - 2:00PM
2010	U14	2:30PM - 4:00PM	2:30PM - 4:00PM
2009+	High School	4:30PM - 6:00PM	4:40PM - 6:00PM

Do I have to tryout both Saturday and Sunday?

It is not required, but highly recommended. However, it is required that ALL players go through a tryout process.

I am not available for tryouts, is there a make-up time?

If you are not available for tryouts, coaches may hold alternate tryout times. Please complete the tryout registration and contact the Director of Travel, Ben Watkins, at benwatkins05@yahoo.com.

Can I just sign up before tryouts?

No, the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA) requires that placements on teams cannot be offered prior to the first day of tryouts, June 10, 2023.

What is the difference between MMYSL Team and Premier Team?

MMYSL is a local league, travel will be closer to home and competition may vary. Premier plays in a statewide organization that has many levels. These team are more competitive and travel may be further.

How do I know if my child will be on a MMYSL or Premier team?

The Force does offer Premier teams starting at at U13. Your coach will let you know if you will be offered a spot on a Premier team.

What is the cost and when is it due?

There are a few different costs associated with the travel program. First, the cost for MMYSL Team is \$375 and Premier Team is \$425. This covers the fall 2023 and spring 2024 season and is due at the team registration meeting. Second, the cost of the jersey which is typically around \$120 for a full kit and can be used year after year. The final costs are for tournaments and winter training which is divided between those participating. The team registration meeting time will be communicated by coaches and is typically held 2-3 weeks after tryouts. There is no cost to tryout.

How far do I "travel"?

For MMYSL teams, most games will be within the greater Tri-City area, with Alma/Mt. Pleasant/Davison/Traverse City being the furthest reaching points. For Premier, it will depend on the division, but typically within a two hour drive for the furthest game. For both teams, half of your games will be home and half away.

What does a typical season look like?

A typical schedule includes:

Fall - Practice, twice per week, begins in early August with games starting the end of August. There will be 8 to 10 league games with the possibility of 1 to 2 tournaments. The season goes through October.

Winter - Training will take place in January - March with Futsal leagues in the winter. Futsal is optional.

Spring - Practice, twice per week, begins in early April with games starting at the end of April. There will be 8 to 10 league games with the possibility of 1 to 2 tournaments. The season goes through the beginning of June.

Can I play for just fall or spring season?

Yes, if you are available for just fall/spring, please communicate that prior to tryouts. Half season cost is \$240 for MMSYL and \$290 for Premier.

Can I play another sport at the same time as Travel?

Yes, this is more common with middle school athletes that play volleyball and track. If you are in this situation for any age, please communicate this to the coach **prior** to accepting a spot on the team to ensure schedules can be coordinated.

My child excels for their age, can they play on an older team?

Yes, MSYSA allows players to play up 2 years of age, as well as girls may play on boys teams.

How do I know that a coach is being fair at tryouts and not just picking friends?

Each tryout group is assigned an independent evaluator. The evaluator will ensure that the coaches decision are fair and make sense.

What do I do once I arrive at tryouts?

You will check in at the registration table and receive a number based on birth year. You will then be directed to the field for the age group you are trying out for. Please have your child wear that number both days.

I have more questions that are not listed, who can I contact?

Please attend our Informational Night on **Tuesday, June 6th at 6:00pm**. If you cannot attend you may contact the Director of Travel, Ben Watkins at benwatkins05@yahoo.com or the Director of Coaching, Ernie Martinez at freelandscdoc@gmail.com.