

Ridgecrest Republic FC Travel Team Information and Expectations

Our Mission

Travel teams at Ridgecrest Republic FC (RRFC) are designed for players who are ready for a higher level of commitment, competition, and accountability.

Our goal is to:

- Develop technically skilled players
- Build disciplined, coachable athletes
- Foster strong team culture
- Prepare players for competitive environments

Travel soccer requires a higher level of responsibility from both players and families. Please read the following expectations carefully.

Practice Commitment Expectations

Travel soccer is not recreational soccer. When a player accepts a roster spot, they are committing to the team for the full season.

Practice Attendance:

- Players are expected to attend all scheduled practices.
- Practices are where development happens — not just games.

Missing practice affects:

- Individual growth
- Team chemistry
- Game readiness

If a player must miss practice:

- Families must notify the coach in advance.
- Repeated unexcused absences may affect playing time.

Punctuality:

- Players must arrive before practice start time.
- Players should be fully prepared to begin at the scheduled start time.

Being late impacts:

- Warm-ups
- Team preparation
- Respect for coaches and teammates
- Habitual tardiness will be addressed on an individual basis with the player's coach

Game Expectations

We will request weekly games through a Lancaster-based league.

League Games (Lancaster League Requests):

- Game confirmations and times are provided by Thursday for Saturday matches.
- The dates for the potential games have been provided. Please have those dates available for travel to Lancaster.
- Game times may vary.
- Flexibility is required. This is part of competitive travel soccer.

Friendly Matches:

- We will schedule additional friendly matches throughout the season.
- Dates and times will be announced as they are confirmed.
- These games are part of development and provide an opportunity to have fun locally and out of town.
- Attendance is expected unless communicated otherwise.

Tournaments: (Spring Season guaranteed, Fall Season if available)

- The season will conclude with:
 - One home tournament (5-A-Side Memorial Day weekend)
 - One travel beach tournament (dates and location TBD)
- Tournament weekends require:
 - Full team availability
 - All-day commitment on game days
 - Possible overnight travel (details TBD)

Playing Time Policy

Travel teams are competitive teams.

Playing time is:

- Not guaranteed
- Earned through effort, attitude, and attendance
- Based on coach discretion

Factors influencing playing time:

- Practice attendance
- Work ethic
- Coachability
- Tactical understanding
- Team needs in specific matches

Development remains a priority, but competitive readiness matters.

If families have questions about playing time:

- Schedule a meeting with the coach.
- Do not approach coaches immediately after games.

Player Expectations

Travel players are leaders within the club.

Players are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect for coaches, referees, teammates, and opponents
- Maintain a positive attitude
- Accept coaching feedback
- Compete with effort and discipline
- Represent RRFC with integrity on and off the field
 - Personal social media accounts must maintain respect for the club, players, teammates, coaches, and any other person involved
- Respect their fellow teammates by acting positively and having good team spirit

Unacceptable behavior:

- Bullying will not be tolerated in person or online
- Phones or other devices are not to be used at practices and games unless arrangements have been made with the player's coach
- Profanity or other inappropriate language is not to be used at practices or games
- Fighting with teammates or with other teams will lead to discussions with families and possible suspension from playing

Parent Expectations

We know that parents are the backbone of the teams and help our teams function. We appreciate all of the help and encouragement that parents and caregivers provide.

We ask parents to:

- Support the coaching staff
- Avoid sideline coaching
- Model sportsmanship
- Encourage accountability at home
- Ensure timely communication
- Cheer for the teams and respect the coaches, referees, and opponents

Concerns should follow this process:

1. Player speaks with coach (if age appropriate)
2. Parent requests scheduled meeting
 - a. 24-hour rule after games before discussions
3. Coaches and parents meet about any concerns

Financial & Travel Responsibility

We know that travel soccer is a bigger commitment than rec soccer. The results are often worth the extra effort.

Travel soccer cost involves:

- Total cost of \$299
 - \$99 required at registration
 - \$200 once travel team rosters have been finalized
- League fees (included in registration)
- Tournament fees (included in registration)
- Other travel costs (gas, lodging, meals)

Families should be prepared for:

- Variable travel schedules
- Early mornings or late returns
- Last-minute game time updates

Commitment Acknowledgment

We are building a competitive culture rooted in accountability, effort, and development.

By accepting a roster position, families acknowledge that:

- Travel soccer requires consistent attendance.
- Playing time is competitive and not guaranteed.
- Flexibility with scheduling is required.
- Team needs may take priority over individual preference.

Player Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____