

Berkeley Heights Youth Soccer Club 2011 Tryout Manual

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Note: Throughout this manual, the “U” level refers to the “rising” level of a player or team, unless specifically noted otherwise; for example, “U12G” refers to the 2011-12 U12G level, and the players who are U11G for the 2010-11 season.

2011 BHYSO Tryout Manual

U7/U8

U7s and U8s will play in the Pre-Travel Development Academy, our in-town program that trains players for travel soccer. There are no tryouts; all players are accepted.

U9/U10

It is the goal of the Berkeley Heights Youth Soccer Club (BHYSO) and Tryout Committee (TOC) to place every U9 and U10 player who wishes to play travel soccer on a team. This isn't always possible; however, the TOC will make every effort to achieve this goal.

U9s and U10s will play on small-sided teams in the Mid-New Jersey Youth Soccer Association (MNJYSA) or the Inter-County Youth Soccer League (ICYSL). Teams will have a minimum of 11 players and a maximum of 14 players. Players are assigned to teams based on evaluations by UK Elite trainers in the PTDA, or on evaluations by UK Elite trainers during new player tryouts. Teams are assigned to leagues based on coaches' requests and team history.

There are no "A" or "B" teams at the U9 and U10 levels. Teams are formed at U9 based on an equal distribution of talent; i.e., players ranked 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, etc. go to Team Blue, and players ranked 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, etc. go to Team White. New players at mid-year in U9 or at U10 are added to teams based on the teams' numeric needs.

Players are expected to play with the same team throughout their U9 and U10 years.

U9 tryout process:

- The last scheduled PTDA session will be open to players new to BHYSO; evaluations will take place at this session.
- PTDA trainers will assign a grade to all players from 1 to 5, 1 being the best. In addition, trainers will force rank all players receiving a 1 or a 5.
- The TOC will create evenly balanced (by skill) teams and email rosters to parents. Recruitment of coaches can affect placement of players on teams.
- Players are given priority for placement on teams in this order:
 1. PTDA players
 2. Player grade/rank
 3. Players who attended tryouts
 4. Players who did not attend tryouts

U10 tryout process:

- A one-day, 90-minute session will be held in May.
- Trainers will assign a grade to all players from 1 to 5, 1 being the strongest player. Trainers will force rank all players receiving a 1 or a 5. In addition to giving new players a grade, trainers will force rank them as a group.
- The TOC will place new players on current teams. Priority for placement of new players is in this order:
 1. Players who attended tryouts
 2. Player grade/rank
 3. Players who did not attend tryouts

Players on a current team will not be moved to another team. A request by a parent for a transfer will be considered by the TOC, but a parent request will not automatically result in a transfer.

Missing Tryouts and Make-ups at U9 and U10:

While the TOC understands that conflicts arise, we cannot justify asking the entire tryout class to attend multiple tryouts solely for the purpose of providing alternate dates. We will make every effort to place players who did not attend the tryout on a team; however, barring extraordinary circumstances, **priority goes to those players who attend the tryout.**

U11

U11s will play on full-sided teams in the MNJYSA or ICYSL. Teams will have a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 18 players. If enough players try out, two or more teams will be formed; there will be an "A" team and a "B" team(s).

The Tryout Committee (TOC) forms all U11 teams; all decisions are final.

The U11 tryout process is as follows:

1. By the end of Week G (5/1/11), all Head Coaches are required to submit a player evaluation form to the TOC. Assistant Coaches are invited to submit their own player evaluations. The TOC believes it is important that each coach on a team submit an unbiased, independent evaluation of each player; therefore, we suggest coaches not submit "group" forms that several coaches wrote together. The form will include a forced ranking of players and comments about each player, including athleticism, skill, positioning, and 'coachability'.
2. By the end of Week G (5/1/11), all UK Elite trainers for U11 teams will submit a player evaluation form to the TOC. The form will include a forced ranking of players and comments about each player, including athleticism, skill level, positioning, and 'coachability'. U10 coaches are encouraged to invite their trainers to games to assess their players' skills in competitive situations.

3. The BHYSO will pay for the trainer to attend a game before the evaluation is submitted. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to schedule this game day evaluation with the trainer. The trainer's time at the game does not affect the quota of hours (15) assigned for training the team.
4. A two-day tryout will be conducted for all potential U11 (2011-12) players in May: one on "Tryout Saturday" (5/7/11) and the second on 5/14/11. Each session will last approximately 90 minutes. Players will be force ranked at each session. Players will be given tryout numbers at each session to use when checking for tryout results and final rosters on-line.

The TOC strongly encourages players to attend both tryout sessions.

5. The TOC will assess the data and form the teams, with recommendations for leagues and flights from coaches and trainers.
6. The TOC will send the Head Coaches of the current U10 teams the rosters. **All decisions of the TOC are final.**
7. Rosters using tryout numbers will be posted as soon as possible following the final U10 game played in the BHYSO (boys and girls may have separate publishing dates).

Players new to the BHYSO are invited to participate in the tryout sessions; the lack of experience or affiliation with a BHYSO team will not be held against new players.

Depending on the number of players registered for tryouts, a "B" team may be formed from U11 and U12 players. That combined-age team will play as a U12 team in ICYSL; the TOC may grant an exemption and allow the team to play in MNJYSA.

U12/U13/U14

The U12-U14 tryout process is as follows:

If there are currently two teams at these levels:

1. By the end of Week G (5/1/11), all Head Coaches are required to submit a player evaluation form to the TOC. Assistant Coaches are invited to submit the same form. The TOC believes it is important that each coach on a team submit an unbiased, independent evaluation of each player; therefore, we suggest coaches not submit "group" forms that several coaches wrote together. The form will include a forced ranking of players and comments about each player, including athleticism, skill, positioning, and 'coachability'.
2. By the end of Week G (5/1/11), all UK Elite trainers will submit a player evaluation form to the TOC. The form will include a forced ranking of players and comments about each player, including athleticism, skill level, positioning, and 'coachability'.
3. The BHYSO will pay for the trainer to attend a game before the evaluation is submitted. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to schedule this game day evaluation with the trainer. The trainer's time at the game does not affect the quota of hours (15) assigned for

training the team.

4. A one-day tryout will be conducted for all U12-U14 (2011-12) players in May (schedules to be posted on the BHYSO website). The session will last approximately 90 minutes. Players will be force ranked at this session. Players will be given tryout numbers at the session to use when checking the new team rosters on-line.

During this session, new players and current players from the B Team will be identified whom the evaluators feel could play on the A Team, given the A Team's current flight. Any player identified, up to a certain maximum number of players determined by the TOC, will be invited to the "Tactical Evaluation."

NOTE: Some current B Teams are "combined" teams (i.e., a team may have U11 and U12 players). Depending on numbers, the TOC may elect to use the "one team" method below for either or both of the levels represented by the combined B Team. The TOC will make every effort to include the B Team trainer in the tryout session.

5. A Tactical Evaluation will be conducted on the next available weekday UK Elite training session of the A team. Invited players are:
 - All current A Team players
 - Any current B team players, or new players, identified at the tryout or otherwise allowed to attend by the TOC.

Players will be force ranked at this session. Professional trainers from UK Elite will do the evaluations and make the final rankings available to the TOC.

6. The top fourteen (14) ranked players will be assigned to the A Team for the following year. The coach of the A team from the previous year will be able to complete the team's roster (up to the maximum number of players determined by the TOC; although the coach may take less players than the maximum) with players from the tryout who score above a certain level determined appropriate by the TOC to compete on the A team. If the A team coach from the previous year will not be continuing with the team, the TOC will complete the rosters. TOC members must recuse themselves if their own sons or daughters are trying out.
7. The TOC will send the Head Coaches of the current A and B teams the new rosters. **All decisions of the TOC are final.**
8. Rosters using tryout numbers will be posted as soon as possible following the final game played at each level.

If there is currently only one team at these levels:

1. By the end of Week G (5/1/11), the Head Coach is required to submit a player evaluation form to the TOC. Assistant Coaches are invited to submit the same form (see above).
2. By the end of Week G (5/1/11), all UK Elite trainers will submit a player evaluation form to the TOC (see above).

The BHYSC will pay for the trainer to attend a game before the evaluation is submitted. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to schedule this game day evaluation with the trainer. The trainer's time at the game does not affect the quota of hours (15) assigned for training the team.

3. A Tactical Evaluation will be conducted during May (schedules to be posted on the BHYSC website). New players will be invited to this session. Players will be force ranked by their current trainer, who will submit the final roster to the TOC.
4. The top fourteen (14) ranked players will be assigned to the team for the following year. The coach of the team from the previous year will be able to complete the team's roster (up to 18 total players at the coach's discretion) with players from the tryout who score above a certain level determined appropriate by the TOC to compete on the team. If the coach from the previous year will not be continuing with the team, the TOC will complete the roster. TOC members must recuse themselves if their own sons or daughters are trying out.
5. The TOC will finalize the roster and send it to the Head Coach. **All decisions of the TOC are final.**
6. Rosters using tryout numbers will be posted immediately following the final game played at each level in the BHYSC.

Other Information

“Tryout Saturday” for 2011-12 Season – May 7, 2011 – and remaining tryout schedule:

A link to the Tryout Website is at the BHYSC.com main website.

All schedules, times, dates, and rosters will be posted there.

Missing a Tryout:

The tryout process provides multiple opportunities for players with unavoidable conflicts to participate. It is, however, a measure of commitment to travel soccer when a player attends all tryout events. **The TOC strongly encourages all players to attend all tryout events.** If a player

has an unavoidable conflict, they should contact the TOC; attendance issues will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Coaches should also encourage their players to make the most of these opportunities by attending both sessions.

Team Size:

Small-sided teams (up to U-10) have a minimum of 11 and a maximum of 14 players. Full-sided teams (U-11 and up) have a minimum of 14 and a maximum of 18 players. Spots for full-sided teams are only guaranteed to the top 14 ranked players. Depending on the number of players, the TOC may allow a roster size of only 14 (especially if this allows two teams at a level to be formed).

Current MNJYSA rules state all rostered players should play at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of the game. Coaches and the TOC will keep this in mind when rostering the additional players.

Preparing for Tryouts:

As a coach, one of your primary responsibilities is to prepare your players for the tryout process. This includes:

- Working with your players throughout the spring season on the development of their skills so that they can have a successful tryout.
- Polling your players to see who will be returning next year.
- Older players (U12-U14) should constantly be reminded and made to understand that by practicing on their own and staying in shape they can improve their overall level of play, and improve their chances of making a BHYSO / school team.

Tryout Day and the TOC:

At all tryouts, the TOC will attempt to provide a member to serve as a “facilitator/coordinator”. His/her responsibilities will include:

- Pre-tryout discussion and explanation with all parents
- Liaison between UKE assessors and coaches.
- Gathering and tabulating results from the tryouts.
- Communicating and reviewing the tryout results with the TOC and then with the Head and Assistant Coaches.
- Special Note: Coaches are not to approach or work with evaluators directly; all tryout-related contacts are made through the TOC Representative.

All Head and Assistant Coaches are invited to observe tryouts from the sidelines and take notes on their observations. Their feedback may be solicited during the process to ensure its accuracy. All parents must watch from the areas outside the fields.

The evaluations/assessments of the Coaches will have no official bearing on the results of the Tactical Evaluation sessions.

Injured Players:

Injured players who are not able to try out should give advance notice to both their Coach and the TOC. Their ranking may be based solely on input from the Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, and UK Elite Trainer (including the trainer from the previous season). The entire TOC will review the final decision.

The decisions made by the TOC are final.

Player Communication:

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD A PLAYER KNOW HIS OR HER RANK OR GRADE THROUGHOUT THIS ENTIRE PROCESS!

NO PLAYER SHOULD BE INFORMED OF HIS OR HER PLACEMENT ON A TEAM BEFORE TRYOUT RESULTS ARE PUBLISHED!

The TOC takes any breach of confidentiality in the process very seriously, and will recommend sanctions to any coach, trainer, or other party who reveals evaluation scores, or who reveals team rosters before they are published publicly. These sanctions may include the suspension of or full loss of a coaching position in the BHYSC.

Post-Tryout and Mid-Season Player Additions

If there is a place on a team for a child who wishes to play on a BHYSC club team, and if he or she did not participate in the tryout (e.g., just moved to town), he or she will be invited to practice with the appropriate team at their age level. The Head Coach, Assistant Coaches, and UK Elite Trainer will evaluate the player.

The Head Coach has full discretion to take the player on to the team. An A Team Head Coach may either take the player or recommend they play for the B Team.

NJYS Travel Team Age Divisions, 2011-12 Seasonal Year

Age on 1-Aug-11	Birth Date [falls on or between]	Age Group
7	8/1/03 to 7/31/04*	U8
8	8/1/02 to 7/31/03	U9
9	8/1/01 to 7/31/02	U10
10	8/1/00 to 7/31/01	U11
11	8/1/99 to 7/31/00	U12
12	8/1/98 to 7/31/99	U13
13	8/1/97 to 7/31/98	U14

*Players born after July 31, 2004 may play in the Pre-Travel Development Academy if they will be in first or second grade during the 2011 - 2012 school year.