



ATHLETIC UNITED SC

ATTENDANCE & COMMITMENT POLICY

2026 CLUB EDITION

CONSISTENCY • ACCOUNTABILITY • TEAM COMMITMENT

This policy establishes the attendance, communication, punctuality, and seasonal commitment expectations for Athletic United SC players and families.

ATHLETIC UNITED SC

UNITED IN DEVELOPMENT. UNITED IN COMPETITION. UNITED AS ONE.

1. Purpose

Athletic United SC is committed to creating a competitive, professional, and development-focused environment for every player. Consistent attendance is essential to individual development, team chemistry, tactical understanding, and the overall success of each team.

By accepting a roster position with Athletic United SC, players and families are making a season-long commitment to their teammates, coaches, and the club. This policy establishes clear expectations regarding practices, games, tournaments, absences, communication, punctuality, and overall participation.

2. Player Commitment

Players who accept a roster position with Athletic United SC are expected to make a reasonable and consistent commitment throughout the registered season.

- Attend scheduled team practices.
- Attend league matches.
- Attend required tournaments and designated club events.
- Arrive on time and prepared.
- Communicate absences as early as possible.
- Maintain consistent effort, attitude, and participation.
- Respect the commitment made to teammates and coaches.
- Disclose known recurring scheduling conflicts before accepting a roster position whenever possible.

Athletic United SC understands that players have school, family, religious, and other personal responsibilities. The club does not expect perfect attendance, but it does expect reliable communication and a genuine commitment to the team.

3. Practice Attendance

Players are expected to attend all scheduled team practices whenever reasonably possible. Practices are a core part of the Athletic United development model and are where players improve technically, tactically, physically, and mentally.

Repeatedly missing practices may affect player development, starting opportunities, playing time, position assignments, tournament selection, and future roster placement.

Attendance alone does not guarantee playing time. Coaches may also consider effort, attitude, training performance, tactical understanding, fitness, position needs, and match circumstances.

4. Game Attendance

Players are expected to attend all scheduled league games unless excused by the coaching staff. Families should make every reasonable effort to avoid optional activities during known match dates.

If a player cannot attend a match, the coach or designated team contact should be notified as early as possible. Late game-day cancellations create difficulties for coaches and teammates and should be avoided whenever possible.

5. Tournament Commitment

Athletic United SC teams may participate in tournaments throughout the season. When a tournament is designated as a required team event, players are expected to participate unless an absence has been communicated and approved.

Families will receive tournament information as early as reasonably possible. Additional tournament costs, travel requirements, lodging, or other expenses will be communicated separately when applicable. Failure to attend after previously confirming participation may affect future tournament selection.

6. Excused Absences

Athletic United SC recognizes that legitimate circumstances may prevent attendance. Generally acceptable reasons may include:

- Illness or injury.
- Family emergency.
- School-required activity or significant academic obligation.
- Religious commitment.
- Significant family event.
- Previously disclosed travel.
- Other circumstances approved by the coaching staff.

Players should never participate when doing so would place their health or safety at risk.

7. Unexcused Absences

An absence may be considered unexcused when a player misses an event without notice, repeatedly cancels at the last minute without reasonable explanation, consistently prioritizes optional activities over team commitments, or misses after previously confirming attendance without communicating with the coaching staff.

The goal is not to punish families for occasional conflicts. The purpose is to protect the reliability and commitment required in a team environment.

8. Communication of Absences

Parents or guardians should notify the coach or designated team contact as soon as they know a player will be absent.

Event	Expected Communication
Practice	Notify the coach before the scheduled practice whenever possible.
Game	Notify the coach at least 24 hours before kickoff whenever circumstances allow.
Tournament	Notify the coaching staff as soon as participation is requested or confirmed.

Emergency situations will always be handled reasonably. Repeated failure to communicate may be treated as a commitment issue.

9. Arrival Times & Punctuality

Players are expected to arrive on time, properly equipped, and ready to participate.

- Practices: arrive approximately 10-15 minutes before the scheduled start time.
- Games: arrive approximately 30-45 minutes before kickoff, unless the coach communicates otherwise.
- Tournaments: follow the arrival time issued by the coaching staff.

Occasional delays happen. However, repeated tardiness can disrupt warmups, tactical preparation, and training activities. Consistent tardiness without communication may affect participation at the coach's discretion.

10. Playing Time & Attendance

Athletic United SC is a player-development organization, but playing time is not determined solely by registration or payment. Coaches may consider:

- Attendance and punctuality.
- Training performance and effort.
- Attitude and coachability.
- Tactical understanding.
- Fitness and readiness.
- Position and team needs.
- Opponent and match circumstances.
- Discipline and conduct.
- Individual developmental objectives.

Players who consistently attend training and demonstrate commitment should generally receive stronger consideration than players who frequently miss team activities. Final playing-time decisions remain with the coaching staff.

11. Injured Players

Players who are injured should communicate their status with the coaching staff. When appropriate and medically reasonable, injured players may still be encouraged to attend games or portions of team activities to remain connected to the team.

Players should never be pressured to train or compete while injured. Return-to-play decisions must follow applicable medical guidance and club safety procedures.

12. School & Academic Responsibilities

Athletic United SC recognizes that education is a priority. School-required activities, academic obligations, and significant educational commitments will be treated respectfully.

Families should communicate academic conflicts as early as possible so coaches can plan accordingly. The club encourages players to develop strong time-management habits and balance athletic and academic responsibilities.

13. Multi-Sport Athletes

Athletic United SC supports young athletes participating in multiple sports. Families should disclose significant recurring conflicts with another sport or activity before accepting a roster position whenever possible.

During the Athletic United season, players are still expected to maintain reasonable attendance and communication. If recurring outside commitments significantly prevent a player from participating with the team, the coaching staff may review that player's roster status.

14. Participation With Other Soccer Teams

Players who participate with another soccer program, academy, school team, or club should communicate potential scheduling conflicts to Athletic United SC. Participation with another organization must not regularly interfere with the commitment made to Athletic United SC.

Guest playing or participation with another team may also be subject to separate Athletic United SC policies and applicable league or governing-body regulations.

15. Extended Absences

Families anticipating an extended absence should notify the coach as early as possible. Examples include extended travel, medical recovery, family relocation, significant academic commitments, or temporary participation restrictions.

Extended absences will be handled individually. Roster placement and future participation may be reviewed depending on the length of the absence and the competitive needs of the team.

16. Repeated Attendance Concerns

When attendance becomes a recurring issue, Athletic United SC may use the following progressive process:

1. Informal communication between the coach and parent/guardian.
2. Formal attendance discussion if concerns continue.
3. Written warning or commitment review when necessary.
4. Adjustment of playing opportunities or tournament participation.
5. Roster review for serious or continued commitment issues.

Athletic United SC will make reasonable efforts to communicate with families before significant roster decisions are made.

17. Roster Position

Accepting a roster position represents a season-long commitment. A player's roster position may be reviewed for chronic unexcused absence, repeated failure to communicate, ongoing lack of participation, continued failure to meet team expectations, or conduct inconsistent with Athletic United SC policies.

Roster decisions will be made in accordance with the club's Player Recruitment, Evaluation & Roster Placement Policy.

18. Seasonal Commitment

Families should understand that team schedules may include regular practices, league games, tournaments, friendlies, club events, team meetings, player evaluations, and additional development opportunities.

Schedules may occasionally change because of weather, field availability, league decisions, tournament adjustments, or circumstances outside the club's control. Athletic United SC will communicate changes as quickly as reasonably possible.

19. Parent & Guardian Responsibility

Parents and guardians play an important role in helping young players meet their commitments.

- Review team schedules regularly.
- Ensure players arrive on time.
- Provide or arrange transportation when appropriate.
- Communicate absences promptly.
- Support reasonable team expectations.
- Encourage accountability in their player.
- Avoid creating unnecessary conflicts when team events are already scheduled.

20. Coach Responsibility

Athletic United SC coaches are expected to:

- Maintain accurate team schedules.
- Communicate schedule changes promptly.
- Treat legitimate absences reasonably.

- Apply attendance expectations consistently.
- Avoid using attendance expectations unfairly or as retaliation.
- Place player health and safety first.
- Communicate recurring concerns with families before escalating discipline whenever practical.

21. Weather & Club Cancellations

Players will not be penalized for practices or games canceled by Athletic United SC, the league, facility management, tournament organizers, or governing authorities. Weather-related decisions will follow Athletic United SC safety procedures.

Families should monitor official team communication channels for updates.

22. Accountability & Development

Athletic United SC believes commitment is part of player development. Learning to show up consistently, arrive prepared, communicate responsibly, support teammates, manage time, and honor commitments are important qualities both on and off the field.

The club's goal is to develop responsible athletes while maintaining an environment that recognizes the realities of family life and youth sports.

23. Acknowledgment

By accepting a roster position and participating with Athletic United SC, players and parents/guardians acknowledge that they have received, reviewed, and are expected to follow this Attendance & Commitment Policy.

Participation in Athletic United SC constitutes acknowledgment of the expectations described in this policy, including attendance, punctuality, communication, team commitment, and the potential impact of repeated attendance concerns on playing opportunities or roster status.

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