

# ***STORM FC***

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- ◇ **What are the costs to play with STORM?**
  - **Costs for the Fall 2026 season are between \$325-\$350 (one time fee due before the season begins), depending on final uniform package costs. This cost covers the entire AL State League Season, tournament, uniforms, training fee, etc.**
  - **STORM FC is committed to growing the club through sponsors and partners, NOT through increasing training fees.**
  
- ◇ **How much travel should I expect to have to do during the season?**
  - **This is a slightly tricky question, only because Alabama State League divisions are not set in stone, so we are not sure who will meet us in league matches until near the start of the season. Technically, we can play anywhere in the state, from Muscle Shoals to Mobile. However, we try to state as regional as possible. What age groups other clubs enter will affect much of that.**
  - **That said, the league season consists of 8 games – 4 home and 4 away. That means for league matches, there are only 4 days of travel! We also compete in at least one tournament a season, so that weekend would be an additional weekend of travel. We tend to stay in the Birmingham/Hoover area, however that is not mandatory!**

- ◇ **Do you play in the Spring?**
  - **STORM FC participates in Alabama State League during the Fall. For high school ages athletes, we strongly encourage playing for their local high school teams. If we have enough players who do not have a home team to play for, we could play in tournaments across the state.**
  - **For U12/U13 age players, STORM **WILL** field teams in the Spring.**
  
- ◇ **What makes STORM FC different from PARD or other clubs?**
  - **STORM FC is a competitive soccer club, which means the standards expected of players and coaches is higher, as well as the competition level across the league and tournaments. Not every athlete gets invited to join STORM. The tradeoff is that we provide higher level training that typical PARD programs.**
  - **STORM FC is also proud to boast that our Director of Coaching and Training, Coach Mooney, has played at the highest levels, including for his National Team (Jamaica!). He will be hands on as we work to develop athletes On the Field, On the Touchline, and In the Community. Our backroom team also includes coaches who hold professional coaching certifications at various levels.**
  
- ◇ **Can my child play on more than one soccer club?**
  - **The short answer is no. Most clubs must register players each season/year, and players cannot appear for multiple clubs. This keeps players safe and protects clubs as well, since the club pays to register them, etc.**

- ◇ **How does playing time work?**
  - **At competitive clubs, playing time is never guaranteed. However, STORM FC strives to only invite players who can make an impact on the pitch. Matchday squads can have 18 players, which leaves 7 subs. Playing time will vary. We have found that competitive environments often bring out the best in players, pushing them to grow and work harder to earn play time. This increases the quality across the club as players battle to win positions and minutes.**
  - **While AL State League allows for clubs to have teams with up to 22 players, STORM FC recognizes that to do that, up to 4 players would train but not get to participate in games. We will not carry more players on a team than we can bring to a game.**
- ◇ **There is more than one team in an age group. Is that normal?**
  - **Yes! Clubs do this all the time, and it means the area is ripe with talented athletes. This enhances training as they train alongside more of their peers, and can scrimmage full game situations against teammates. For competition, they must compete in different divisions/levels.**
  - **This means that often, there is a “premier” team that plays at the top divisions, while developmental teams might play at lower levels. The goal for your athlete should be for them to work and grow into whichever team best challenges them to get better every day!**

◇ **What is STORM FC's philosophy?**

- **The game is just that – a game. We use this beautiful game to play, grow, face challenges, overcome adversity, and learn to work as a team toward a common goal. It reminds us to dream, to have fun, and gives us a place to showcase our unique gifts and talents.**
- **While competition can produce disappointment, frustration, and all sorts of emotions, we always compete in a way that models sportsmanship. We learn from losses, act gracious in defeat AND victory, and remind ourselves that no matter how it might feel in the moment, this is a game.**
- **We hold coaches, players, and parents to this basic idea. We want the fields to be a place kids feel safe at and can enjoy and express themselves. We want to win, but we want our children to grow into great citizens and humans, as well. We will not compromise our integrity for a game.**

**Join us as we build success On the Pitch, On the Touchline, and In the Community.**