



CELTICS – Information- Indoor 2024-25

The Celtics programs operate under the governance of the Prince Albert Youth Soccer Association (PAYS A). The Celtic program was formed in 1989 to help those soccer players wanting to play highly competitive soccer improve their skills while still participating in the house league recreational soccer program as well.

While PAYS A upholds the philosophy that soccer must always be fun, it is expected that Celtic players will have dedication to their sport and be prepared to demonstrate this dedication by endeavouring to attend all practices, games and tournaments. The Celtic program has a higher expectation from their players with the commitment being understood that soccer will be the first choice above all other extracurricular. Therefore attendance at all times is mandatory.

PAYS A Club structure is made up of two levels of programming:

1. **The First level** is our recreational House league, this concentrates on players having fun and developing a passion for play. They will experience success and build confidence by receiving positive recognition for participating. These are game only settings with no extra training involved.
2. **The second level** is Celtic teams which will be our Division 1 or 2, players who will be attending tournaments, Provincials and Club Days representing PAYS A. Players in this level will develop basic skills and continue to introduce advanced and position specific principles as well. Practises are twice a week with complex and demanding drills to address their strengths and weaknesses with the goal to improve. These players will also be participating in the House league first level.

Coaches and team managers are qualified to provide challenging opportunities for players to develop their abilities and pursue excellence at all levels. These coaches have been selected because they have shown this kind of commitment to the sport of soccer. Similarly, it is expected that players and their parents also show a real commitment to this Club!

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As a progressive soccer club, PAYSА is implementing the guidelines and recommendations established by Athletics Canada and the Canadian Soccer Association Long Term Player Development (LTPD) Model. LTPD encourages and supports the delivery of age appropriate programs that allows the development of:

- Sound physical literacy (movement, agility, balance, coordination)
- Technique
- Tactical awareness

The development of a youth player who is confident and technically proficient in the game of soccer is measured in years not a single game or season. With this in mind, the focus of our training programs and our selection criteria adjust from the time an athlete enters our program at the Under 9 age and continues his/her development all the way to the Under 19 age group.

FAQ'S

Q. Can I just register in the Celtic program?

A. No. To play Celtics the athletes must be registered in the PAYSА program first.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. The costs are outlined below:

1. **Celtic fee: U9: \$100**

U11 - U19: \$150

2. **Team fee:**

This fee will be determined by the manager according to the proposed team budget. It will cover all tournament registrations, travel expenses for non-parent coaches, wind-up parties and any other expenses incurred and decided by the team prior to the season starting.

3. **Player hotel accommodations and travel expenses** during out of town competitions are also the responsibility of the player.

Q. How does my child qualify for a Celtic team?

A. All players in the under 9-19 age division who are registered with PAYSА are eligible to participate in try- outs for the Celtic teams.

Q. My child did not make the Celtic team so now how can they improve their skills without playing at a Celtic level?

A. PAYSА now has a dedicated players program for all kids aged U9-U13 who are registered with PAYSА and want to improve their soccer skills. This runs every Friday FREE of charge. Details will be posted on the website.

Q. Are the coaching staff qualified?

A. PAYSA registers all coaches with the Saskatchewan Soccer Association (SSA). All coaches must have the minimum requirements as posted on the SSA website.

Q. My child is an extremely strong player. Can they move up to play with older players?

A. Only in extraordinary circumstances will this be approved. The Clubs philosophy in moving a player too quickly is that it is not usually the best approach for the player's long-term development. In order to move to up an age group, the athlete must fill out an application, which must be approved by both coaches and the Technical Director.

PLAYER COMMITMENT

Attendance:

As stated above soccer should be one of the main sporting priorities in the Celtic program. Players must commit to attending all practices. Sometimes vacations, family commitments and jobs make it difficult to attend all practices, however, it is expected that athletes who cannot attend a practice will inform the manager or coach in a timely manner prior to the practice or game. Please note: The Celtic program **MUST** be your first commitment.

PARENT COMMITMENT AND PARTICIPATION

All Parents are encouraged to participate in their athlete's Celtic experience; keeping in mind that they must respect the Rules and Regulations as set out by PAYSA. Parents must read and sign the Parent Code of Conduct document with their athlete at the beginning of the season.

Parent Volunteers are important for:

1. Volunteering for the manager's position and assisting with team fundraising efforts.
2. Assisting the manager in organizing transportation and organizing windups or any other activities planned by the team.
3. All players, parents and coaches must read and sign the Code of Conduct document at the beginning of the season.

If you have any questions, contact:

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