



NEWTON GIRLS SOCCER ACADEMY

2024 - 2025 SEASON OVERVIEW

Newton Girls Soccer (NGS) is delighted to announce details for the 2024 - 2025 Academy Soccer Program. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us at academy@newtongirlssoccer.org.

The Newton Girls Soccer Academy offers highly skilled and motivated NGS players an exceptional community-based club soccer program. The Academy is an invitation-only program for players in grades 1 - 8 seeking an additional competitive challenge and a developmental soccer experience in addition to their NGS Travel or Juniors Team. Players who accept our invitation make a 10-month, three-season (fall, winter, spring) commitment to their team.

In 2024 - 2025, we will provide professional training at two levels for elite players in the following age groups:

- Training-only NGS Academy Development teams for players in grades 1 - 2 (U8 - U9)
- Competitive NEFC-NGS Academy teams for players in grades 3 - 8 (U9 - U15)

Key Elements and Philosophy of the NGS Academy Program

The NGS Academy combines the best aspects of professionally coached club soccer with the unique strengths of Newton Girls Soccer, including:

- Personalized, girl-centric training from a staff of 20 experienced coaches, **including 12 highly skilled women** - Each team has a primary coach, but players have opportunities to work with all of our trainers. Our coaches know your player inside and out and can ensure that she thrives both on and off the field.
- Access to premier pathways - Newton Girls Academy propels young players toward exceptional outcomes. Our players graduate ready for the next level beyond the Academy and we provide guidance for the transition.
- Elite competition - Our partnership with the New England Futbol Club (NEFC) grants us access to top-tier competition in the New England Club Soccer League (NECSL) without compromising our distinctive culture.
- Family-friendly logistics - Our Academy is in sync with NGS teams to give players more

frequent, higher-level training and games without the scheduling hassles. Plus, all practices and home games (for our competitive teams) are in Newton leaving players more time for rest, family dinners, schoolwork and other activities!

- Supportive community - Coaches regularly collaborate and are very accessible. Families connect, share rides, and support one another. Our players are Teammates for Now, Friends for Life. We celebrate our close-knit community with a newsletter, social media, and special events.
- Holistic, balanced training - We emphasize the overall well-being of our young multi-talented athletes, actively addressing the importance of balancing physical, mental, emotional, and social needs to avoid overuse injuries and burnout.
- Positive coaching - Our coaches shape exceptional players by embracing the *Play the NGS Way* club style of training and an age-appropriate curriculum focused on the four pillars of player development: technical, tactical, physical, and psychological.
- Adaptability - We consistently go the extra mile, fine-tuning our program to deliver exceptional outcomes and participant satisfaction.
- Affordability - The Academy program is affordable at approximately half the cost of for-profit clubs. We are proud to offer financial assistance to families that need it.

About NGS Academy Development Teams

- Participants are in Grade 1 and Grade 2 (U8 - U9). (We no longer offer a 3rd grade development team. 3rd graders that cannot commit to the Academy are encouraged to register for one of our Skills Development programs.)
- Participants must commit to three seasons - fall, winter, spring
- Participants must commit to two teams - a NGS Development team and a NGS juniors team
- Are professionally trained by highly qualified, experienced coaches.
- Train in Newton twice a week in the fall and spring
 - 1x academy team practice
 - 1x juniors team practice
- Play games in Newton once per week in the fall and spring with their NGS Juniors Team. Their development team is for training only.
- Train indoors in Newton once per week during the winter months
- Are highly motivated and seeking an increased challenge
- Spots are offered on a first-come, first-served basis; there are no tryouts for this age group

About NEFC-NGS Academy Teams

- Participants are in Grade 3 - Grade 8 (U9 - U15)
- Participants must commit to three seasons - fall, winter, spring
- Participants commit to two teams - a Newton Girls Academy team and a NGS travel team
- Are professionally trained by highly qualified, experienced coaches
- Train in Newton three times per week
 - 1x technical skills development with pro trainers
 - 1x academy team practice
 - 1x travel team practice
- Compete in Newton or nearby towns games two times per week in the fall and spring
 - Club games on Sundays in the New England Club Soccer League (NECSL)
 - Travel games on Saturdays in the Boston Area Youth Soccer League (BAYS)
- Play futsal or indoor soccer locally two times per week throughout the winter months
 - 1x team training
 - 1x scrimmage
- Participate in a minimum of two tournament weekends. Additional pre- or post-season tournaments can be arranged, depending on player interest and availability.
- Receive free access to the Techne Futbol App
- Participants have the opportunity to review games recorded with our Veo camera
- Receive supplemental specialized skills clinics to enhance and challenge their development
- Are offered professional goalkeeper training
- Participants receive comprehensive, written evaluations to help with goal setting and progress
- Participants may not train with any other club team during their 10-month commitment to the Academy
- Participants perform at the top of their age level, usually with a division 1 or 2 travel team, and are invited to participate based on skill level and commitment
- Participants consider soccer to be their primary sport

Partners

New England Futbol Club (NEFC)



Our partner, [New England Futbol Club \(NEFC\)](#), is a premier soccer club which develops youth soccer players, ages 6-21 with training locations throughout Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. NEFC trains over 3000 youth players and competes in competitive, local and national leagues. NEFC also provides tournaments, player and coach education and college-placement resources for players.

New England Club Soccer League (NECSL)



[New England Club Soccer League \(NECSL\)](#) is a growing league with 85 clubs and over 2,000 teams. It is committed to working with the players, families, and clubs to provide as many opportunities as possible for players to enjoy soccer in a positive, safe playing environment. The goal of the NECSL is to provide a transparent, collaborative, and merit-based competitive platform for the clubs of the New England area. NECSL's sanctioning partners are US Youth Soccer and Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association

Pro-Trainers

Highly qualified, experienced coaches lead all practices and coach all games. With a commitment to continuous learning, our staff bring fresh ideas to the field each session to keep players engaged, motivated, and excited about playing soccer.

[Meet our Coaches](#)

2024 - 2025 Program Details

	NEFC-NGS Academy Teams	NGS Academy Development Teams
Overview	Academy Teams offer our highest skilled players professional training as well as an opportunity to play competitive NECSL club games on Sundays. We provide three-season training, supplemental skills sessions, futsal, tournaments, access to NEFC high school pathways and more.	Development Teams are an introduction to the Academy. We offer three seasons of professional training to 1st and 2nd graders who want to train with like-minded, competitive peers to improve fundamental technical skills in preparation for 3rd grade NGS Travel and Academy soccer.
Age	<p>U9 - U15 (3rd - 8th grades)</p> <p>Teams are created using player birth year, grade, or a combination of both. With this hybrid approach, we create the most competitive teams possible that can play at the highest appropriate level.</p> <p>We offer one or two Academy teams per age group. The number of teams that we form varies depending on the number of qualified applicants in each age group and their skill level.</p>	<p>U8 - U9 (1st - 2nd grades)</p> <p>Development teams are grade based.</p>
Eligibility / Selection	<p>These are our highest skilled players, performing at the top of their age level, usually with a division 1 or 2 travel team. Players must declare their interest to be considered. They are ranked and invited to participate based on NGS Travel Assessment results, written evaluations by their current coach, and observations of games and practices by NGS professional coaching staff during the fall and early spring seasons.</p> <p>If we need additional information about a player's skill or fit, they may be invited to join a practice with a current Academy team.</p> <p>Players must also be registered for a NGS travel team in the fall and spring.</p>	<p>Our Development teams are designed for highly motivated NGS Juniors who demonstrate a passion for soccer, are excited about improving their skills, and seek an increased challenge.</p> <p>We offer our limited spots on a first-come, first-served basis. There are no tryouts for this age group.</p> <p>Parents should carefully consider their child's readiness before registering, as the program falls on the more competitive side of the NGS Spectrum of Play.</p> <p>Participants must also be registered for a NGS Juniors parent-led team in the fall and spring.</p>

	NEFC-NGS Academy Teams	NGS Academy Development Teams
Commitment	<p>Positions on our NEFC-NGS Academy teams are limited and in high demand. Selected players must recognize that the opportunity to play at this level is a privilege and requires the right attitude and dedication. We expect all members to be ethical and honest in fulfilling their responsibilities to their team, their coaches, and the club. Once a player joins, the club expects their full participation and support for the entire soccer season. By accepting a spot on an Academy team, participants are agreeing to honor the commitments outlined here from September 1, 2024 - June 15, 2025.</p> <p>Participants must attend a minimum of 75% of team activities in addition to their NGS Travel team commitments. Practices, games, and tournaments are mandatory and should only be missed for special circumstances.</p> <p>By committing to this team, our players agree that they will not train or play games with another club without permission from NGS and the Academy Program. Players may not be registered on two NECSL Member Clubs at the same time.</p> <p>We take commitment seriously! Please review our entire commitment agreement, as there are penalties for early termination of our agreement.</p>	<p>Development players need the drive and time to commit to extra training for the fall, winter and spring seasons.</p> <p>Participants are expected to regularly attend development practices, in addition to their NGS Juniors team commitments.</p>

	NEFC-NGS Academy Teams	NGS Academy Development Teams
Roster Size	<p><u>11v11 teams</u> (U13 / U14 / U15) 18 rostered players</p> <p><u>9v9 teams</u> (U11 / U12) 14 rostered players</p> <p><u>7v7 teams</u> (U9 / U10) 12 rostered players</p> <p>Each team may also carry up to 2 alternates.</p>	<p><u>1st grade team</u> (U8) 16 players</p> <p><u>2nd grade team</u> (U9) 16 players</p>
Alternate Players	<p>Alternate players are training-only members of an Academy team. They enjoy full access to three-seasons of professional training, scrimmages, supplemental skills, and more. Alternates train with their team throughout the fall, winter, and spring. During the fall and spring NECSL seasons, alternates are also invited to participate in any games that need additional players. Game time is not guaranteed. If a space opens on a team, alternate players are considered for the position first.</p>	N/A
2024 - 2025 Season Dates (Tentative)	<p>Fall: Wed, Aug 28 - Wed, Nov 20</p> <p>Winter: Mon, Dec 2 - Sat, Mar 8</p> <p>Spring: Wed, Mar 12 - Sat, Jun 14</p>	<p>Fall: Sat, Sept 7 - Sat, Nov 9</p> <p>Winter: Mon, Dec 2 - Sat, Mar 15</p> <p>Spring: Tues, Apr 2 - Sat, Jun 14</p>
Games	<p>NEFC-NGS Academy teams participate in NECSL in the fall and spring. Games are on Sundays. Away games are usually under an hour away. Home games are played in Newton.</p> <p>In the winter, teams scrimmage in futsal and soccer at nearby indoor locations on Saturdays in January and February. Time slots are between 8:00 am - 3:00 pm.</p>	<p>Development teams are for training only.</p> <p>Participants will scrimmage on Saturdays as part of their parent-led Juniors team.</p> <p><u>Grade 1</u> Saturdays, 8:30 - 9:45 am or Saturdays, 10:00 - 11:15 am</p> <p><u>Grade 2</u> Saturdays, 1:00 - 2:00 pm or Saturdays, 2:20 - 3:20 pm</p>

	NEFC-NGS Academy Teams	NGS Academy Development Teams
<p>Practice Schedule: Fall / Spring</p> <p>(Tentative)</p>	<p><u>11v11 teams</u> (U13 / U14 / U15): 60-minute technical training session on Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm</p> <p>90-minute team practice on Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:30 pm</p> <p><u>9v9 teams</u> (U11 / U12): 60-minute technical training session on Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 pm</p> <p>80-minute team practice on Wednesdays, 6:10 - 7:30 pm</p> <p><u>7v7 teams</u> (U9 / U10): 60-minute procoach led <u>travel</u> team training session on Mondays, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm or 6:00 - 7:00 pm</p> <p>80-minute team practice on Wednesdays, 4:50 - 6:10 pm</p> <p>Each age group also practices 1 - 2 days per week with their NGS travel team at a time selected by their coach.</p>	<p><u>Grade 1 (U8):</u> 60-minute training session every week on Tuesdays, 4:00 - 5:00 pm</p> <p>75-minute Juniors Grade 1 training and scrimmages every Saturday, 8:30 - 9:45 am or 10:00 - 11:15 am.</p> <p><u>Grade 2 (U9):</u> 60-minute Development team training session every week on Tuesdays, 5:00 - 6:00 pm</p> <p>60-minute Juniors Grade 2 team training session every week at a time selected by the coach</p>
<p>Practice Schedule: Winter</p> <p>(Tentative)</p>	<p><u>11v11 teams</u> (U13 / U14 / U15): One indoor, 90-minute team practice per week. Weeknight between 6:00 - 9:00 TBD.</p> <p><u>9v9 teams</u> (U11 / U12): One indoor, 90-minute team practice per week. Weeknight between 6:00 - 9:00 TBD.</p> <p><u>7v7 teams</u> (U9 / U10): One indoor 60-minute team practice per week. Weeknight between 6:00 - 9:00 TBD.</p> <p>Younger age groups are generally assigned the early practice times.</p>	<p>One indoor, 60-minute practice per week. Weeknight or Saturday TBD.</p>

	NEFC-NGS Academy Teams	NGS Academy Development Teams
Tournaments	<p>Teams participate in at least two spring tournament weekends, including the NEFC March Showcase and a Memorial Day Weekend tournament.</p> <p>Additional pre- or post-season tournaments can be arranged for teams in August, November, March or June, depending on player interest and availability.</p>	N/A
Uniforms	<p>Uniforms are not included in the program fee.</p> <p>A NEFC-NGS Academy uniform kit is required for all players. The bundle includes home and away uniforms, plus a training top and backpack. It costs approximately \$315 and is purchased through WeGotSoccer.</p> <p>Returning players may elect to purchase only the NEFC-NGS training top and backpack which are new additions to the kit.</p> <p>Practice uniform consists of a navy jersey, shorts, and sky-blue socks. The practice bundle costs around \$78 and is purchased through the NGS Store.</p>	<p>Uniforms are not included in the program fee.</p> <p>Players wear a navy-blue practice jersey. The jersey costs around \$38 and is purchased through the NGS Store.</p>
Program Fee	<p>\$2190 for rostered player \$800 for alternate player</p>	\$750
	<p>Fee includes 3 seasons (fall, winter, spring) and covers all costs associated with the program features described above except for uniforms and any optional tournaments. Installment plans are available.</p> <p>2024 - 2025 fees have increased nominally to defray the rise in operating expenses (such as referee fees and facility rentals), as well as to support enhancements to the program.</p>	

	NEFC-NGS Academy Teams	NGS Academy Development Teams
Refunds	<p>Registrants of the NEFC-NGS Academy are NOT eligible for refunds. Only register if you are 100% committed. There are two exceptions to our refund policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registrants may receive a pro-rated refund of applicable registration fees if a season is entirely canceled due to league cancellations, school closures or other unforeseen circumstances. NGS Academy is a three-season program: fall, winter, and spring. Each season is valued at approximately 1/3 of the annual registration fee. Refunds will be reviewed and approved by the NGS Board of Directors and will be set at a level appropriate to the circumstances. • If a player has a season-ending injury, she may receive a prorated refund. You must notify your coach and submit a note from a doctor to the registrar within two weeks of the injury. 	<p>Cancellations made by October 31 are eligible for a partial refund. \$325 is nonrefundable. If fees were paid in full, \$425 will be refunded. Players on an installment plan will have their \$425 balance voided.</p> <p>After October 31, there are no refunds unless the program is canceled or the player has a season-ending injury. If a player has a season-ending injury or illness, she may receive a prorated refund. A note from a doctor must be submitted within two weeks of the injury.</p>
Financial Aid	<p>We offer limited, need-based financial assistance for the Academy program. NGS uses the HUD Section 8 Income Limits for our region as a benchmark for scholarship eligibility. After you receive the invitation to join the Academy, email the registrar to accept your invitation and request financial aid. Then, complete an application form. If financial assistance is approved, we will send you registration instructions via email. We are also able to set up extended payment plans.</p>	
Application, Registration, and Selection Process	<p>Mid April - Early June</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit Academy application form. • Register for the NGS travel program (\$490) • Participate in travel assessments • Invitations are extended over a period of several weeks. • Invited players have 48 hours to accept the roster spot. 	<p>Mid May - Late June</p> <p>Registrations are accepted until the program is full, then players are added to the waitlist. Last year, the program was filled within days of registration opening.</p>