



Azzurri Storm Soccer Club exists to harness the power of soccer to positively impact the lives of young athletes, and the community as a whole. If you want to train, develop, and advance then it begins here, at the most dynamic club in Southwest Florida. Club Tryouts launches the 2024/2025 season.

Azzurri Storm welcomes all players, families, and coaches to join our soccer club. We will work hard to find the best playing and development opportunities for every child and the best coaching opportunities for any coach that would like to join our club.

We hope this information helps you prepare for tryouts but if you have further questions, please reach out to us: [registrar@azzurristorm.com](mailto:registrar@azzurristorm.com) or [kherrmann@azzurristorm.com](mailto:kherrmann@azzurristorm.com).

## TRYOUT PROCEDURES

- Arrive 30 minutes prior to your scheduled time slot.
- Wear the proper attire for soccer. Bring shin guards, cleats, water and a ball (size 5 for players born 2012 and earlier and size 4 for players born 2011 or later).
  - Wear a light colored or white shirt, dark soccer shorts and socks.
  - Bring a dark shirt to change into for scrimmages.
  - There will be no sharing of equipment or water.

- Check in at the registration table located at the North Gate at Paradise Coast, the Center Soccer Pavilion at North Collier Regional Park, or concession stand at Vineyards Park.
  - Players only need to check-in the first time they attend the tryout.
  - Each player initially attends the session for the birth year he/she was born in. See below for more information.
  - Players will receive a tryout number and 4 pins. Attach the number on the front of your shorts and retain that number for the remainder of tryouts. Should a player lose their tryout number they should return to the registration table.
  - There will be no walk-up registration this year. Players should be registered online.
- Players will be directed to the appropriate field after checking in.
  - Parents will not be allowed to stay in the facility after checking in players. Parents may watch tryouts from their car or outside the complex.
  - Tablets will be available for in-person registration and for those who need assistance registering at check-in.
  - Uniforms will be available at check-in to help players determine their size. Once selected to a team, you will receive a link to order your uniform by mid June.

### INCLEMENT WEATHER PROTOCOL

- All sessions are on unless notified through social media and Gotsport. If we are more than 45 minutes into the session and the lightning detectors go off, the session is canceled. If we are less than 45 minutes into the session we will wait 20-30 minutes for an all-clear alarm (3 consecutive alarms = clear) or update again.
- During lightning delays, please retreat to your vehicles. At PCSC & Bonita, players may not be inside the fenced facility. At NCRP, please wait in your vehicle, if possible. Parents, please stay at the park during questionable weather. If canceled, rain makeup sessions are posted on our schedules.



## AZZURRI STORM SOCCER CLUB TRYOUTS FAQ'S

Q: Where will tryouts be held?

A: All tryouts will be held in Naples

- Paradise Coast Sports Complex, 3940 City Gate Blvd S, Naples FL 34117
- North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Rd, Naples, FL 34109
- Vineyards Community Park, 6231 Arbor Blvd, W, Naples, FL 34119

Q: What do I have to bring to tryouts?

A: Be sure to bring the following:

- Soccer ball - size 5 for U13s and up and size 4 for U12s and below
- Cleats and shin guards
- Wear White Shirt and bring a Dark Shirt
- Water - preferably 32oz. - 64oz.

Q: *What if I have a question during the tryouts?*

A: We are more than happy to assist you. A representative of the Azzurri Storm leadership team will be available at the registration tent each evening. Feel free to email [registrar@azzurristorm.com](mailto:registrar@azzurristorm.com) or the coach leading the tryout for your age group.

Q: *There are two or more tryout dates posted - do we have to attend all of them?*

A: It is beneficial for coaches to see players as many times as possible during the process. Therefore, we do encourage families to attend each session. We understand this may not be possible. Communication is key, so just let us know your intentions and we will seek to accommodate your situation.

Q: *What if my player can only attend one of the tryout dates (i.e. ill or injured)?*

A: Email registrar@azzurristorm.com, kherrmann@azzurristorm.com, and the head coach for that age group. We will then connect with the head coach to determine whether an additional tryout is required for that particular player.

*Q: What if my player is injured and can't try out?*

A: Register in advance and then send an email to [registrar@azzurristorm.com](mailto:registrar@azzurristorm.com) and [kherrmann@azzurristorm.com](mailto:kherrmann@azzurristorm.com) with age group, playing experience, and references if available. They will notify the head coaches. On tryout day, arrive early to check-in at the registration table and to introduce yourself to the head coaches. We will accommodate a formal tryout once you are recovered.

*Q: What if my child will be out of town during the tryouts?*

A: Email registrar@azzurristorm.com, kherrmann@azzurristorm.com, and the head coach for your age group. There are no guarantees that a spot will be available but we usually grant the player an opportunity to tryout upon his/her return.

*Q: How do I know whether my player made the team or not?*

A: Players, selected for a particular team, will be contacted by the head coach and given a link to register. An email may come after the first tryout or after a later tryout. Keep in mind, there will indeed be a few players that are exceptional in their abilities, and therefore obvious choices for coaches. The reality is that 75% of the players are often very close in ability and we want to do our due diligence and evaluate them thoroughly. Some players may display a sense of nervousness but will start excelling in tryout day three for example. Remember, for some teams a lot of thought is needed when formulating a roster, whether this is consideration of positions or availability. Coaches will make every effort to communicate to families accordingly throughout the tryout process.

*Q: How many players will you pick for my player's team?*

A: That will depend on your player's age group and whether we will have two teams or three teams. The roster limits for 7v7 teams (players born 2014-2016) is 12 players, for 9v9 teams (players born 2012-2013) 15 players, and 11v11 teams (players born 2011 or earlier) 18 – 22 players.

*Q: What if my player wants to play up an age group?*

A: Email John Dina at john@azzurristorm.com and the head coach of the age group preferred prior to the tryouts. Players will attend their age group's tryout for the first session and a decision will be made by Azzurri Club leadership and the head

coaches during tryouts. Azzurri Storm does not recommend that players play up an age group unless there are specific criteria that merit this consideration.

*Q: When will the season start?*

A: Training for U8 - U14 teams will begin mid August. Training for U15 - U19 teams will begin mid/late July. Tournaments and league seasons vary by age group and league.

*Q: When will my player's team practice?*

A: We won't know this until all teams are finalized. We have multiple coaches coaching more than one team and therefore will need to coordinate their schedules first. Typically, players born 2011 or later will train at 6pm – 7:30pm. 2012 and earlier will train 7:30 pm to 9 pm.

*Q: Which league will my player's team compete in?*

A: The Azzurri Storm leadership team and Director of Coaching works closely with each head coach to determine the appropriate league for each team. Refer to the Player Development Platforms document for more information on league play.

*Q: How many tournaments will my player's team participate in?*

A: Azzurri Storm teams play in four to five tournaments each season. Age groups U13 and above seek out high profile tournaments where players can be showcased. All teams participate in three tournaments as a club while one to two tournaments are team specific.

*Q: Are payment plans available?*

A: Yes, upon registering participants have the option to select a payment plan or pay in full. If you need assistance, contact John Dina at [john@azzurristorm.com](mailto:john@azzurristorm.com).

*Q: When is my initial payment due?*

A: The first payment is due within 3 days of receiving your player's acceptance email following tryouts in order to secure a roster spot for the season. Payments can be made when registering using the link provided in the acceptance email.

*Q: What is the difference between recreational and travel soccer?*

A: In a recreational program, all children who register on time will be assigned to a team, and will receive equal playing time. Coaches are almost always novice, and typically parent volunteers that offer to coach their children and their friends. Travel soccer is a competitive program. All players are welcome to attend try-outs, but not all will be asked to join a team. Once asked to join, playing time is not guaranteed. Coaches are licensed and can bring a wealth of personal playing and training experience to the teams they lead. Travel is a highly competitive world, and player development is of the utmost importance on Azzurri Storm travel teams. We look to play 30 – 35 games throughout the entire season between league and tournament games. The league in which your child plays will greatly impact the amount of travel. We have access to local leagues, Florida leagues and national leagues (U13 and above). Again, travel expenses are an additional fee.

Q: Who should play travel soccer?

A: Players should show a high level of ability, effort, and learning from setbacks. Families should recognize that a greater commitment, both in terms of attendance at practices and games as well as financially, is required.

Q: When are games held?

A: Travel games are held on Saturdays and Sundays. Tournament games are held on Saturdays and Sundays; tournaments were discussed above. Travel games are held on Saturdays and Sundays. Tournament games are held on Saturdays and Sundays; tournaments were discussed above. Occasionally games are played on Friday nights and Monday holidays. Travel expenses are an additional expense above and beyond the initial club fees.

Q: I've heard travel soccer is essentially a year-round sport?

A: Generally, travel teams train and play about 8-9 months out of the year. After tryouts, late May, June and July are quiet months for travel soccer players and most families opt to take their vacations then. The regular season for younger teams will generally begin in October and finish around mid-April after our tournament, the Naples Spring Shootout; however some teams may continue playing additional tournaments or regionals/nationals all the way to tryouts in late May/early June.

Q: Is there any financial assistance available?

A: Azzurri Storm does not want any child to be unable to play soccer because his or her family is unable to afford the cost. We will make every effort to provide

assistance or waive fees in instances where the player's family merits financial aid. Please contact the Director of Operations, John Dina at [john@azzurristorm.com](mailto:john@azzurristorm.com) for more information.

Q: I would like to sponsor a player or team. How do I do that?

A: When you register your player you are able to submit a donation at the end. You may also email [john@azzurristorm.com](mailto:john@azzurristorm.com) if you would like to directly contribute to a team or player.

Q: As a parent, what are my obligations to a travel team?

A: As a parent it is imperative that you are able to secure transportation for your athlete to all training sessions and games. This is to provide your athlete the time to learn their craft and enjoy the foundation of team sports. Over time you will find your ride partners and truly appreciate your collective soccer family.

All travel teams need a manager, who is a parent volunteer. This person handles the day-to-day administrative aspects of the team, such as sending emails to the team, collecting travel fees, contacting opponents before games, passing along information between Azzurri Storm and the team members, delegating tasks, and handling tournament applications and registration.