



St. Louis
Steamers
Soccer Club

SLYSA (ST. LOUIS YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION) HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the St. Louis Steamers select player Handbook. This handbook is designed to provide players, parents, and coaches with essential information about SLYSA, a select soccer program that offers a highly competitive environment for players who have advanced beyond the recreational level. SLYSA serves as a stepping stone for players who have demonstrated skill and commitment in their soccer development journey. This handbook will outline the core principles, expectations, and guidelines of SLYSA to ensure a positive and rewarding experience for everyone involved.

1. MISSION AND PHILOSOPHY:

1.1 Mission: The mission of SLYSA is to provide a challenging and competitive environment that promotes the development of youth soccer players in the St. Louis area. We aim to foster a love for the game, enhance players' skills and knowledge, and promote good sportsmanship, teamwork, and personal growth.





1.2 PHILOSOPHY:

- **Player Development:** SLYSA places a strong emphasis on player development, providing a platform for players to reach their full potential through advanced training, competitive matches, and exposure to higher levels of play.
- **Sportsmanship and Respect:** SLYSA promotes good sportsmanship, respect for opponents, coaches, referees, and fellow players. We believe in upholding the highest standards of fair play and ethical conduct both on and off the field.
- **Balanced Approach:** Players in SLYSA are encouraged to have a balanced approach to soccer, emphasizing the importance of academic success, personal growth, and a well-rounded lifestyle.



A young boy with light hair, wearing a blue soccer jersey with the word "thrivent" on the front, is smiling and looking to his right. He is standing on a grassy field. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people in blue jerseys. The image has a blue overlay and white decorative shapes in the corners.

2. TEAM FORMATION:

2.1 Tryouts: Our SLYSA teams conduct annual tryouts to evaluate players' skills, abilities, and commitment. The selection process aims to form competitive and balanced teams in each age group.

2.2 Player Placement: Players are placed on teams based on their performance during tryouts, their developmental needs, and their compatibility with team dynamics. Coaches and evaluators carefully consider each player's abilities, attitude, and potential for growth.