



Player Trial Process (AAA/AA)

This document is a support resource to help players and parents better understand the player trial process at Halifax City Soccer Club. The information in this document is relevant to any players that are trialing at either the AAA or AA program level.

AAA Player Trial Process

Players who are recommended as AAA Trialists will attend the fall training. Which is 6 weeks of training starting in late October go until the end of November. AAA Trialists will be given a minimum of two to three weeks with a maximum being the entirety of the six-week trial period to find the most inappropriate environment for their individual needs. The outcome will be that players are either signed to the AAA team, registered at AA and either participate entirely with that program or possibly a fluid schedule if in the best interest of the player between the double and AAA programs.

AA Player Trial Process

players who are recommended as AA trialists will attend the start of the AA program for a minimum of two weeks. coaches and staff will then monitor this player's experience in the AA program and upon the conclusion of the two-week period the player's registration the AA program will be confirmed, or the player will be recommended to the most appropriate environment.

* Transfer players will automatically have to go through the trial process regardless of the level they played out with their previous club.



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Trial?

Halifax city soccer club has committed to the removal of the tryout process. The tryout process brings unnecessary anxiety for all involved including players, parents, coaches, and staff. Rather than trying to select teams based on two or three sessions, we use how much larger sample size of the entire previous season to make a recommendation of where a player should register at the following season.

This allows our coaches and staff a much greater sample size of what the player individual needs are over the course of an entire season to find the most appropriate spot for them in the following season. Through this recommendation process we are able to establish core teams for the following season. Players who may benefit between playing in multiple different levels at the club to better support their individual needs they go through the trial process to find the best fit between 2 programs. the trial period for the AAA program is a six-week period In the fall used to form the team for January's preseason. all other programs trials will be conducted within the first two to three weeks of those programs training as we look to find the most appropriate environment for your child.

Isn't the trial the same thing as a tryout?

Yes and no. While we look to alleviate as much anxiety as possible, we cannot completely remove it from all players situations especially those who may be trialing between different groups. The biggest influence that makes trials necessary is when players move between age groups in double-age banded years meaning that the pool changes every year rather than moving all up together. Therefore, we don't necessarily know all of the players who will make up specific programs team for the following season when the player pools mix. with core groups being established they should give the players trialing a more realistic environment and does not have all players starting from scratch, especially when we know 70 to 80% of the players who will make up the team at the beginning of the program.

Basically, instead of having 25 players trying out for a team, we break it down into a handful of players that are on the cusp between two programs and decide on what is best for their individual needs which is usually AAA, AA, or a fluid schedule in between both programs.

What about players who transfer from other clubs?

Transfer players will have to go through the trial process regardless of the level they previously played at their previous club. For simplicity and transparency our transfer acceptance process is as followed:

- 1. Halifax City Players who are registered and recommended for AAA/AA*
- 2. Returning Halifax City players (They didn't play winter for example) where the AAA/AA environment is most appropriate without displacing any players from priority chain above.*



3. Transfer players where the environment is most appropriate without displacing any players from the priority chain points 1 and 2.

My child has other commitments in the winter but is interested in playing AAA can they trial for the summer portion of the season?

The AAA program is a 10-month periodized annual season. This program is for players with an aspiration to play at a high level whether it be Provincial, Excel, University/Collegiate or Professional. If your child is not able to commit during the winter period, I would recommend they register for AA as that is a more appropriate program. players will be able to join AA program trial process during the summer.