



# 2004 U13 Girls: Strikers

## 2016-17 Team Plan

The Strikers will enter their 2016-17 U13 season as the second team in the 2004 girls age group. Given the US Soccer-mandated change to birth year registration for this season, the team is anticipated to be composed of girls from last year's [2004-05 Strikers](#) team, as well as players from the [2004-05 Liberty](#), [2003-04 Magic](#), and [2003-04 Inferno](#) teams. The Strikers will continue to be managed by Head Coach Brian McDonald.

Players in our 2004 age group are products of the [Director's Development Program](#), which eschews the win-at-all-costs mentality of many youth travel programs in favor of a curriculum focused strictly on player development for the U7-U9 years. The benefits of the program paid strong dividends for the Strikers team in their 2015-16 U11 season, as they finished the PAGS season in 4th place, had a positive goal differential, and lost only one match by more than one goal.

### Notable 2015 Achievements

- Ukrainian Nationals Columbus Cup, U11 Bronze Division. 1-1-1 vs ICSL Division 2 teams
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Hempfield Fall Classic. Undefeated in U11 B2 Division (1-2-0, missed final on tiebreakers)

### Goals and Expectations for the 2016-17 Season

Over the coming year, the Strikers will look to continue improved play on a full sized pitch with 10 field players and a keeper for the first time. Strikers expect to play in PAGS Division 4 in the fall and will participate in the newly-renamed Cape Express Pink Ribbon Classic on Columbus Day weekend in Cape May.

We look to continue player development with a lot of emphasis on player movement, on and off the ball. We will be introducing a new system of play for these girls, all of whom are moving from 8v8 to 11v11. We will instruct not only on great soccer fundamentals but also emphasize systems of play and tactical thinking. Defensive shape and communication will continue to be strong focus points.

Methacton United recognizes the importance of developing well-rounded children and strongly encourages our players to participate in activities and sports away from the pitch. However, accepting a place on a highly competitive travel team requires a higher level of commitment from both the player and their parents. All Magic players are required to prioritize soccer over other activities in order to participate in the following events:

Event	Dates
Fall Travel League Matches	Most weekends Sep-Nov
Columbus Day Weekend Tournament	Oct 8-9, 2016
EPYSA State Cup Matches	Select Spring weekends

## Anticipated Playing Calendar

### Summer: June - August

Training	2x per week with professional training staff ( <i>full calendar at <a href="http://methactonunited.org/travel">methactonunited.org/travel</a></i> ) 1x per week with team coaching staff		
Friendlies	Approximately 10 friendlies		May – August
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>In 2015, the Strikers played 10 friendlies. We will continue to search for opportunities to let the girls “play”. We played most of these in late July and August and we will continue to do so!</i></li> </ul> <p><i>We recognize that some players are involved in spring/summer sports, and as such, try our best to schedule friendlies around player availability. If a player cannot participate in some friendlies due to conflicts, it is understandable and will not be held against them.</i></p>		
Tournaments	Early summer tournament TBD		Aug 4-5, 2016
	Battle at Hilltop	Limerick, PA	Aug 19-21, 2016
	Al Perlini Memorial Tournament	Warminster, PA	Sep 2-4, 2016

### Fall: September - November

Training	1-2x per week (Mon-Fri) with professional training staff 1x per week (Saturday mornings) with team training staff		
League Games	PAGS Division 4		Sep 10 – Nov 13
Tournaments	Cape Express Pink Ribbon Classic	Cape May, NJ	Oct 8-9, 2016
	Hempfield Adidas Fall Classic	Lancaster, PA	Nov 18-20, 2016

### Winter: December - February

<a href="#">Winter Academy</a>	1x per week indoor training with professional training staff		Dec 5 – Feb 20
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>All Sports Center, Upper Providence</i></li> </ul>		
Training	YSC PDP Team Sessions		Jan - Mar
League Games	YSC Winter League 2	Wayne, PA	Mid-Jan to Early Mar
	– and/or –		
	Philly Futsal League	King of Prussia, PA	Jan – Feb (TBD)

### Spring: March – June

<a href="#">Spring Academy</a>	1x per week with professional training staff		Late Mar to Late May
League Games	Rock League		Sundays, Mar-May
Tournaments	EPYSA State Cups ( <i>select weekends only</i> )		Mar – Jun
	Spring Tournament TBD		TBD

*NOTE: Because we are planning for events more than a year in advance, dates and tournaments may be changed based on tournament schedules, player availability, or a change in the level of play of the team.*



## Expected Financial Commitment

All of our teams at Methacton United value the commitment that our players, parents, and coaches make to our program. As discussed at [methactonunited.org/travel](http://methactonunited.org/travel), the fee structure for the 2016-17 season has been changed in order to provide consistent and uniform financial expectations across all teams.

The increased travel registration fee will include our fall league registration fees, referee fees, professional training throughout the summer and fall, and will also allow us to participate in 2-3 summer/fall tournaments without having to solicit additional funds from the player families to do so.

### A Note on Seasonal Assessments

Rather than continuously approaching families with requests for additional money required each time we decide to participate in an event, the club has encouraged teams to provide a schedule of assessments by which each player will pay the specified amount by the appropriate date and this amount will be deposited in our team account in order to fund our activities for the 2016-17 year. We have attempted to spread these assessment amounts out throughout the year to make it more manageable for families and to give us some flexibility as the year progresses. Each team will have a different assessment schedule based upon their planned activities. The estimate of expenses below is based upon the costs for the activities listed on the team's Anticipated Playing Calendar.

Because many of the plans in the winter and spring seasons may still be tentative based upon availability, the assessment amounts can and likely will change once we solidify our schedule for those time periods. It is also important to note that teams can, and often do, offset their expenses by conducting fundraisers at various events throughout the year or by soliciting donations from local businesses.

Team Expenses	Date	Est. Pmt
Travel Registration Fee	May 15	\$ 695
Summer/Fall Assessment	Jul 1	\$ 15
Winter Assessment	Dec 1	\$ 115
Spring Assessment	Feb 1	\$ 30
		<b>\$ 855</b>

  

Additional Training		
Winter Academy	\$	195
Spring Academy	\$	120
	<b>\$</b>	<b>315</b>

