



# 2006 U11 Boys: Ajax

## 2016-17 Team Plan

The U11 Ajax enter their 2016-17 season as the second team in the 2006 boys age group. Given the change to birth year registration for this season come new opportunities for players from last season's [2005-06 Ajax](#) and [Predators](#) teams, 2006-born players from the Director's Development Program, and new players to the club to experience travel soccer in a competitive and challenging environment.

Many of the players in our 2005 and 2006 age groups 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 this program were evident in the 2005-06 Ajax team with the players exhibiting strong fundamental soccer skills during their travel season.

### Notable 2015 Achievements

- Finalist, 2015 FC Brandywine Futsal Tournament, Gold Division (combined Ajax/Predators)

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

For the coming season, Ajax will look to build on the success they experienced late in their Fall season and during Winter play. We will continue to challenge the players on Ajax through play in a challenging Fall travel league division in either the Delco Soccer League or the Central League.

To meet these challenges, team training will focus on team defending and defensive support. Maintaining possession and playing from the defensive third will also be emphasized. Composure on the ball will be a component of all training.

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 travel team requires a higher level of commitment from both the player and their parents. All players are required to prioritize soccer over other activities for 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 (Saturday mornings) with team coaching staff		
Friendlies	Approximately 10-12 friendlies		May – August
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Summer friendlies will be crucial part of team development and growth, as the new group learns to . A more aggressive schedule will be followed in 2016 to create more opportunities for the players to improve their game. We will take a 2 to 3-week break from friendlies around the July 4th holiday to account for family vacations.</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 him.</i></p>		
Tournaments	GCVSA Summer Invitational	Malvern, PA	Jun 4, 2016
	West Chester Summer Classic	West Chester, PA	Aug 5-7, 2016
	Lou Ramos Classic	Allentown, PA	Sep 2-4, 2016
	Deep Run Labor Day Tournament ( <i>alternate</i> )	Perkasie, 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	Central League or Delco Soccer League		Sep 10 – Nov 13
Tournaments	Cape Express Pink Ribbon Classic	Cape May, NJ	Oct 8-9, 2016
	YMS Columbus Cup ( <i>alternate</i> )	Cape May, NJ	Oct 8-9, 2016
	Hempfield Adidas Fall Classic	Lancaster, PA	Nov 18-20, 2016
	Welsh Cup ( <i>alternate</i> )	Haverford, 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	1x per week indoor/futsal training with team training staff		8 weeks beginning in Jan
League Games	YSC Winter League 1 or 2	Wayne, PA	Mid-Nov to Early Mar
	– and/or –		
	Philly Futsal League	King of Prussia, PA	Jan – Feb (TBD)
Tournaments	FC Brandywine	Glen Mills, PA	Dec – Feb (TBD)
	BucksMont Futsal Tournament	Hatfield, PA	Feb 2016

### Spring: March – June

<a href="#">Spring Academy</a>	1x per week with professional training staff		Late Mar to Late May
League Games	Central League		Sundays, Apr-May
Tournaments	EPYSA State Cups ( <i>select weekends only</i> )		Mar – Jun
	Spring Tournaments TBD based on player availability		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	\$ 145
Winter Assessment	Dec 1	\$ 130
Spring Assessment	Feb 1	\$ 35
		<b>\$ 1,005</b>

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

