

THE TRYOUT PACK

Ten questions worth asking, an all-in cost worksheet, and what the going rate actually is in Michigan.

Bring this to every club you visit. A club that answers all ten questions without flinching is a club worth considering — and the cost worksheet is the only way to compare two offers honestly, because dues are rarely the real number.

PART 1

Ten questions to ask at tryouts

- ☐ **1** Who exactly will coach this team — and can we meet them before committing?
- ☐ **2** How many players will you roster, and what's your honest playing-time philosophy?
- ☐ **3** Which league and division will this specific team play in next season?
- ☐ **4** What's the ALL-IN cost — dues, uniforms, tournaments, travel, everything?
- ☐ **5** Do you offer need-based financial aid, and how do families ask?
- ☐ **6** How far is a typical away game? A typical tournament?
- ☐ **7** How do you handle high school season for this age group?
- ☐ **8** What does player development feedback look like during the year?
- ☐ **9** If my player struggles here, what happens — bench, move down, or develop?
- ☐ **10** Can we talk to two current families before we sign?

PART 2

All-in cost worksheet

Fill one column per club. Dues alone hide travel, hotels and tournament fees — this is the number that actually matters.

LINE ITEM	CLUB A	CLUB B	CLUB C
Club dues			
Uniform kit (incl. spares)			
Tournament / league fees			
Travel — fuel & mileage			
Hotels			
Meals on the road			
Training / GK sessions			
Winter futsal or indoor			
Other			
TOTAL FOR THE YEAR			

PART 3

What it really costs in Michigan

Typical all-in season ranges. Cost tracks travel distance and platform branding — not coaching quality.

LEVEL	SEASON RANGE	WHAT YOU'RE PAYING FOR
Rec (AYSO / city)	\$75 – \$300	Everyone plays. The best value in sports.
Local travel (MYSL, WSSL, CASL)	\$800 – \$2,500	Real competition, local drives.
MSPSP Classic / Premier	\$1,500 – \$5,000	Statewide play, promotion & relegation.
GLPL / N1 / ECNL-RL	\$2,500 – \$6,000	Top statewide + regional playoffs.
ECNL / GA / MLS NEXT	\$5,000 – \$15,000+	National platforms; flights & showcases.

Always ask about need-based financial aid. Many Michigan clubs offer it and almost none advertise it.

NOTES

Club, coach, date, and what your gut said walking back to the car.
