



Alliance Academy Parents and Players-

Below you will find important, updated, and somewhat complete information about the Alliance Academy trip to the Super Y Nationals in Tampa. Note that since the USL continues to refer to the age groups from last summer, we will do the same. Also, the fields at Land O' Lakes are labeled LOL so this does not refer to something being particularly funny! Thank you very much for reading this document completely. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to call me at 616.881.3871. I hope you are all looking forward to this event as much as I am!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Abrahm Shearer'.

Abrahm Shearer

Letter for Schools

Many of you have asked for some documentation from the club to let your teachers know about the nationals. [Follow this link](#) for an official letter that you can bring to your school if needed.

Tournament Blog

We will be offering an Alliance Academy National Tournament Blog again. This will allow family and friends at home to get updates throughout the matches. Please pass the address for this blog on to your friends and family!

7am Club Warm-Ups

Zsolt, Ryan, Dan and I will be working very hard to prepare our teams for every match. From experience, we know that preparing as a team prior to kick-off is essential. So, we will have a club warm-up every morning at the Tampa Mainsail at 7am. If you are not staying at the Tampa, Mainsail please make arrangements to have your son/daughter there, ready to go at 7am. No exceptions.

- These warm-ups will typically last 25-35 minutes for teams kicking off at 11am or later.
- For players preparing to kick off at 9am, this will still be our way of making sure that everyone is up and ready to go but, we will work with the kids for about 15 minutes before moving them towards a light breakfast and the fields. This will give the us approximately 45 minutes to get to the fields. Since, the fields are 22 miles from the Mainsail, this should get everyone where they need to be in plenty of time.
- Remember that being on time to everything is very important for this and all other Alliance functions.
- Players need to wear black shorts (any will do), white socks, white alliance shirt (any will do), and running shoes or trainers.

Addresses

Land O' Lakes Recreation Center- 3032 Collier Parkway- Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
JC Handley Complex- 3104 S. Kings Ave -Brandon, FL 33511
Mainsail 5108 Eisenhower blvd, Tampa, FL

Important Notes on Matches

- Arrive no later than 1 hour before the kick off of each match unless instructed to arrive earlier by your coach. 1 hour prior to the game, players will need to have their socks and shinguards on.
- Bring your black, yellow, and grey tops to every match.
- Once at a specific facility, it is expected that players wear their Yellow, numbered t-shirt, Nike Tiempo shorts, white socks w/ runners or sport sandals.
- Our Light Color will be the Grey Jersey and our Dark Color will be our Black. Yellow will be used for warming up prior to each match. White will be used for training and morning warm-ups.
- Players must wear **Nike Tiempo Shorts**. We understand that most of your shorts will not be numbered.
 - If you have a number on your shorts that **matches** the number on your jersey, you **can** wear those shorts.
 - If you have a number on your shorts that **does not match** the number on your jersey, you **can not** wear those shorts.
 - *Nike Brasilia Shorts (game shorts from Alliance this fall)* are not acceptable game shorts for this tournament.
- Players must only wear white, Nike Classic Socks.
 - No tape will be worn on the outside of socks.
 - All Shinguard holders, straps, and velcro wraps need to be attached *under the Nike Classic Sock*.
 - Any additional socks need to be worn *under the Nike Classic Sock*.
 - Nothing should be visible when preparing to play but, white, Nike Classic Socks.
- Socks, Shorts, and Shirts need to be clean for every match and/or Alliance event. (Extra shorts and socks can still be ordered at Eurosport or other online stores including Eastbay).
- Shirts must be tucked in at all times when we are on the field. This is not only our rule but, it will be enforced by the officials.

Fan and Parent Behavior

You should become aware quickly at this event that the quality of the officials is very high. In three years, we have not seen a game from an official that we felt was below the level of the players on the field. This isn't to say that mistakes weren't made (there were plenty and will be at every level). But, it is our role as parents, coaches, and administrators to teach our players that they need to move past their own mistakes and the mistakes that an official might make. As coaches, we do this by showing the players control in our communication towards and with officials. As parents, we do this by supporting our players in a positive manner....period.

Substitution Patterns

- The USL Rules state that, "once a player is off in a period, they can not come back into the game until the next period."
 - With this in mind:
 - You will see coaches holding players in case of injury.

- If a player is playing particularly well or are needed for a specific match-up, they probably will not come off the field.
- A player may be taken out of a game to save for the next day.

- We are taking all five (5) teams down with the goal of winning a National Championship.
 - With this in mind:
 - Playing time is not a topic that is open for discussion at any period during the tournament with coaches.
 - Whenever we have the opportunity to 'even' playing time out during the weekend, our coaches will do so.

Injuries

It is our hope that with proper warm-ups and cool downs, we will avoid injuries through the tournament. That being said, it is imperative that players communicate any injuries to the coach immediately. This information will allow the coach to make an informed decision about playing time that may be critical to winning the tournament.

Post Game

Plan for your child to be occupied with his/her team for an extra 30-45 minutes after each game. The post game activities will include but, not limited to:

- Game review.
- Tactics.
- Cool Down.

What to Bring for Alliance (Personal items not listed)

- Grey Nike Tiempo Alliance/Sprint Logo Jersey (with number).
- Black and Yellow Alliance/Sprint Logo Jerseys (with numbers).
- White Alliance/Sprint Logo t-shirt (with or without number).
- Black Nike Tiempo Shorts
- White Nike Classic Socks
- Running Shoes or trainers
- Cleats (Turf, Molded, and Replaceables).
- Kakhi Shorts for Awards Banquet.
- Extra Alliance training shirts.

Off Field Behavior and Rules

Properly preparing for matches as a member of an Alliance team and a member of Alliance Academy as a club will be critical to our success this year.

- Be on time to all events.
- Dress appropriately at all times.
 - An Alliance shirt must be worn when in the hotel lobby and when traveling to and from matches.
 - Shoes must be worn at all times.
- We will not tolerate any behavior that compromises our club's image. If you or your son/daughter have any question about what this may or may not cover, chances are the behavior you are asking about is not acceptable.
- Please keep in mind the energy of the player when planning

College Coaches

USL provides a list of registered college coaches attending the finals. This is by no means a final list. It seems as if there are a lot of variable when it comes to attendance. I saw a game last year with 20+ coaches on the sidelines while, our u17 Boys made the semi-finals and along the way we had 10 coaches total at our four games. Here are some key points when it comes to getting the most out of the experience as it pertains to connecting with college coaches. Keep in mind that this is primarily for the high school sophomores and juniors.

[Link to Registered College Coaches](#)

- Review the list of registered coaches. Contact the schools your son has an interest in and give them our schedule. Ask them to come to one of our games and evaluate him. See if it is possible to get feedback immediately after the match.
- Contact other schools that your son is interested in and let the coach know that your son is attending this event. Ask if the coach is attending and hasn't registered and if so, if he is able to come to a game. Even if the coach isn't attending, it makes the coach aware of the event and that your son is participating (both can be important for the future).

Alliance Academy Awards Ceremony

In 2010, Zsolt and I began the tradition of an Awards Ceremony. We brought every team together for a wrap up of the regular season and finals. This event was extremely well received by parents and players so, we are bringing it back with some improvements for 2011. While this year's ceremony will be held on Monday at 7pm and the night before our teams will play in the finals, there is no time to hold any event on Tuesday.

- The agenda for the night:
 - Alliance Academy Super Y League and Tournament Wrap-Up
 - Team Wrap up and Awards
 - Most Improved Player
 - Offensive MVP
 - Defensive MVP
 - MVP
 - Swizz 'Effort' Award
- The time-line for the night:
 - 7pm Club Wrap-up
 - 7:10pm-7:30pm u12 Girls
 - 7:30pm-7:50pm u13 Boys
 - 7:50pm-8:10pm u14 Boys
 - 8:10pm-8:30pm u15 Boys
 - 8:30pm-8:50pm u16 Boys
 - 8:50pm-8:55pm Thanks and Closing Words

Super Y ODP Nominations

Nominations have been done by this date in past years but, they have changed the format. Here is the letter we received from the USL last week:

"As you know, our SYL North American Finals is to take place next weekend, December 2nd through the 6th here in Florida. We feel that this serves as a perfect opportunity to observe and scout the players in a competitive atmosphere, and thus we have delayed the release of our ODP Nominations until after the completion of this event. Our National Technical Director, Peter Mellor, will be scouting our event along with US National Team Scouts. This will allow for players attending our Finals to be provided with another scouting opportunity, and it will help to reinforce our final nominations.

In addition, we feel that our SYL North American Finals is an important event for our youth, and we would not want to distract any of the players prior to their championship matches."

Thursday Arrival and Training

Please arrive in time to attend training at Land O' Lakes Field F. Times are as follows (note these times have been slightly modified).

u13 Boys 6pm-7:30pm

u14 Boys 6:30pm-8pm

u15 Boys 7pm-8:30pm

u16 Boys 7:30pm-9:00pm

Players will need to arrive to training wearing white t-shirt, black shorts, and white socks.

Land O' Lakes Recreation Center- 3032 Collier Parkway- Land O' Lakes, FL 34639
JC Handley Complex- 3104 S. Kings Ave -Brandon, FL 33511

Day by Day Schedule of Events

We encourage and expect that players take the time each day to support other Alliance team. We have noted Alliance Game of the Days below. Please make every effort to be at these games and show full support for the players and the club!

Friday Boys Group Matches and u12 Girls Arrival and Training

7am Warm Up u13B, u14B, u15B, and u16B
9am u13 Boys vs. Kendal LOL Field F
1pm u14 Boys vs. West Pines LOL Field D
1pm u15 Boys vs. Ottawa Fury JCH2
5pm u16 Boys vs. MPS Bulldogs JCH7 **Game of the Day*
6:45pm u12 Girls Training JCH7

Saturday Group Matches

7am Warm-up All Teams
9am u12 Girls vs. Long Island LOL C
9am u13 Boys vs. Long Island LOL A
1pm u15 Boys vs. Brooklyn JCH 2 **Game of the Day*
3pm u14 Boys vs. Parsnippany LOL B
5pm u16 Boys vs. Central Jersey JCH 7

Sunday Group Matches

7am Warm-up All Teams
9am u12 Girls vs. Triangle LOL D
1pm u16 Boys vs. Northern Virginia Royals JCH 2
3pm u13 Boys vs. MPS Bulldogs LOL D **Game of the Day*
3pm u14 Boys vs. Black Watch LOL F **Game of the Day*
5pm u15 Boys vs. Princeton JCH 8

Monday Semis, u12 Group Match, and Awards Ceremony

8am Club Warm-up at LOL
9am u12 Girls vs. Richmond LOL E **Game of the Day*
1pm u14 Boys Semis (Opponent TBA) LOL A or B
3pm u13 Boys Semis (Opponent TBA) LOL A or B
3pm u15 Boys Semis (Opponent TBA) JCH 2 or 5
3pm u16 Boy Semis (Opponent TBA) JCH 6 or 7
7pm Alliance Academy Awards Ceremony Mainsail Conference Center (Salon B)

Tuesday Finals

9am u13 Boys JCH 6 and u15 Boys JCH 5
9:30am u16 Boys JCH 9

11am u12 Girls JCH 9
11:30am u14 Boys JCH 2