

Tournaments, Additional Tournaments, and Extraordinary Tournaments

The Club recognizes the value of tournaments in developing players and teams. Because of the cost to players and their families for participation in any tournament, the Club has developed guidelines for tournament participation by its teams. The first guideline is the number of officially-approved tournaments in which each team may participate. The costs for officially-approved tournaments are included in each team's budget and are funded through the program fees paid by each player. The costs covered by the Club for officially-approved tournaments are tournament entry fees and travel expenses incurred by the team's coach to attend the tournament (as defined in the Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy for Coaches).

Post-Season Tournaments: The Club plans for each team to enter one of the post-season tournaments organized by the WSYSA, either the Snickers Championship Cup or the Fred Meyer Commissioners' Cup. These are considered part of the program and do not count as a tournament in the "Number of Tournaments" guidelines below.

Definitions:

- **Officially-approved tournament:** A tournament that is planned as part of the Club tournament package for each age group and the cost of which is covered in each team's budget.
- **Additional tournament:** A tournament in addition to the ones officially-approved by the Club that a team elects to attend..
- **Extraordinary tournament:** A tournament where something other than a private car is used by the team members to reach the tournament (e.g., an airplane, chartered bus, or van) or a tournament held outside the U.S. Typically these are tournaments held outside the Pacific Northwest. Please note: An extraordinary tournament can be either an officially-approved or an additional tournament.

Number of Tournaments:

The number of officially-approved tournaments for each age group is:

- U12 and U13: Three to four tournaments, one of which is the Tumwater "Kick-in-the-Grass" tournament.
- U14: Three tournaments, one of which is the U14 League Placement Tournament (LPT). If the LPT is not attended, an additional tournament will be added.
- U15 and U16: Four tournaments. If a team attends the LPT for its age group that counts as one of the tournaments.
- U17 & U18/19: Four to five tournaments. If a team attends the LPT for its age group that counts as one of the tournaments. In addition, the Club encourages

these groups to attend an “extraordinary” tournament as an option for one of the officially-approved tournaments.

Tournament selection:

The Executive Board and the coaching staff determine the tournaments that each team enters. The Club selects at least one tournament each year into which all BHFC teams are entered. The Club encourages BHFC teams to consider entering some of the same tournaments. We have found that having many Club teams at a tournament site increases sideline support for all our teams and enhances the tournament experience for players and their families. Other than tournaments selected to be “Club-wide” events (all BHFC teams entered), final tournament choices for a team are up to the coach and the team. All BHFC teams are encouraged to enter the Tumwater Kick in the Grass Tournament as appropriate for their level of competition.

Additional Tournaments

Purpose:

A BHFC team may want to enter a tournament in addition to those officially approved by the Club. Because of the costs associated with participation in any tournament, the Club wants to insure that any team’s participation in any additional tournament is supported by most members of the team.

Policy:

An “Additional or Extraordinary Tournament Approval Form” must be submitted to the Executive Board by any team entering an additional tournament prior to the team sending in an application for the tournament. The Executive Board will meet and either approve or disapprove the request within seven days of receiving it. (See your Team Manager or contact the Club Business Manager for the form.)

[Extraordinary Tournament Approval Form](#)

Procedure:

A parent of each rostered player on the team must sign the “Additional or Extraordinary Tournament Approval Form” and indicate whether they approve or disapprove of the team’s participation in the tournament and are willing to incur the additional costs. The approval (a “yes” vote) of parents from at least 14 players on an 18-player team, 13 parents on a 17-player team, or 12 parents on teams with 15-16 players must be obtained

for the Executive Board to consider allowing the team to participate in the additional tournament.

Tournament Fees:

A team entering an additional tournament is responsible for the tournament entry fee; the Club does not cover that expense with one exception. If the team has elected not to participate in one of the officially-approved tournaments, the entry fee for one additional tournament will be paid for by the Club.

Coach's Reimbursement:

A team entering an additional tournament must work out an agreement with their coach about reimbursement for the coach's travel expenses. The team is responsible for the coach's travel reimbursement; the Club does not cover that expense with one exception. If the team has elected not to participate in one of the officially-approved tournaments, the coach may be reimbursed for travel expenses for attending the additional tournament under Club policy as defined in the Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy for Coaches. However, no additional travel money is added to that coach's travel budget and when the budgeted amount is gone, the coach assumes the responsibility of covering his or her travel expenses.

Extraordinary Tournaments

Purpose:

An extraordinary tournament is one held outside the U.S., or a tournament that something other than a private car is used by the team members to reach the tournament (e.g., an airplane, chartered bus, or van). Typically, this is a tournament held in Canada, California, or somewhere outside the immediate U.S. Pacific Northwest. Because of the travel involved, the expenses to the player for these tournaments are usually much greater than those incurred to attend a typical tournament. Because of the cost associated with participation in an extraordinary tournament, the Club wants to insure that any team's participation in any extraordinary tournament is supported by most members of the team.

Policy:

An "Additional or Extraordinary Tournament Approval Form" must be submitted to the Executive Board by any team considering entering an extraordinary tournament prior to the team sending in an application for the tournament. The Executive Board will meet

and either approve or disapprove the request within seven days of receiving it. This includes the U17 and U18/19 age groups for which the extraordinary tournament is a planned part of their program package. (See your Team Manager or contact the Club Business Manager for the form.)

Procedure:

A parent of each player on the team must sign the “Additional or Extraordinary Tournament Approval Form” and indicate whether they approve or disapprove of the team’s participation in the tournament and are willing to incur the additional costs. The approval (a “yes” vote) of parents from at least 14 players on an 18-player team, 13 parents on a 17-player team, or 12 parents on teams with 15-16 players must be obtained for the Executive Board to consider allowing the team to participate in the extraordinary tournament.

[Extraordinary Tournament Approval Form](#)

Tournament Fees:

A team entering an extraordinary tournament is responsible for the tournament entry fee; the Club does not cover that expense with two exceptions. An extraordinary tournament is budgeted for as part of the U17 and U18/19 age group tournament packages. For other age groups, if the team has elected not to participate in one of the officially-approved tournaments, the entry fee for the extraordinary tournament may be paid for by the Club.

Coach’s Reimbursement:

For a coach of a U17 or U18/19 team attending an extraordinary tournament, travel expenses for attending the extraordinary tournament are covered under Club policy as defined in the Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy for Coaches. Otherwise, a team entering an extraordinary tournament must work out an agreement with their coach about reimbursement for the coach’s travel expenses. The team is responsible for the coach’s travel reimbursement; the Club does not cover that expense with one exception. If the team has elected not to participate in one of the officially-approved tournaments, the coach may be reimbursed for travel expenses for attending the extraordinary tournament under Club policy as defined in the Travel Expense Reimbursement Policy for Coaches. However, no additional travel money is added to that coach’s travel budget and when that budgeted amount is gone the coach assumes the responsibility of covering his or her travel expenses.