

## **Corinthians Athletic Club**

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### I. Introduction

The CAC conducts an annual tryout process to form teams for the next competitive year. The priority during tryouts is to create teams which will encourage player development. To this end, the CAC starts with a clean slate each year, understanding that players develop at different rates and that dedication and commitment to the game may change over time. Parents and players should expect a high level of roster turnover at the younger ages as players develop.

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### II. Tryout Policy

The CAC tryout process is built upon the following policy foundations:

- The tryout process is administered by the Technical Director and players are evaluated by the Professional Coaching Staff.
  - Parents, including volunteer parent assistant coaches and team managers are not allowed on the field during the tryout session.
  - Players must register at the registration tables upon entering the tryout site before proceeding to the field.
  - All players must wear socks that cover their shin guards and appropriate footwear.
  - All players will be assigned a tryout number which will identify them in the tryout process.
  - All players are encouraged to attend all three dates of tryouts for their age group. All players must attend at least one day of tryouts to be considered for a team's initial roster.
  - All players trying "up" must attend their own age group tryout as well as the tryout for the older age group. No player will be allowed to play "down" an age group.
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### III. Tryout Procedure

#### A. Pre-tryout organization

Tryouts will be held on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> at an hour which will be most convenient to the different age groups. Older teams will be scheduled before younger teams. This will speed resolution of playing “up” conflicts. (High school boys’ tryouts will occur in early November since these teams do not play in the fall). In order to assure that all players have a fair chance to make a competitive team, CAC announces their tryout publicly.

CAC professional staff will meet prior to tryouts in order to discuss evaluation methods. This is important in order to:

- Ensure all staff coaches are familiar with CAC tryout policy.
- Maintain a uniform system in terms of rankings.
- Make staff aware of any alterations to procedure.
- Target key player identification criteria in keeping with CAC philosophy.

Finally, a team rankings sheet will be distributed to all coaches (professional and parent coaches). Coaches will be asked to rank their players in different categories; ranking sheets will differ for professional (see Appendix “A”) and parent coaches (Appendix “B”). These ranking sheets will be used to create a basis for team formation. Ranking sheets will be submitted before the first scheduled tryout in the age group is held.

#### B. Evaluation Process

CAC always takes great care to ensure that the evaluation process is impartial. The first step toward a well run age group tryout is to identify all players who participate by virtue of registration. All players must be registered to participate in the tryouts; this is accomplished by visiting the registration tables upon entering the tryout site.

CAC’s priority as a community-based organization is to encourage as many players as possible, regardless of financial need, to participate in the tryout process and ultimately be placed on a team.

The key to maintaining fairness in the tryout process system is the inclusion of professional coaching staff, which carries out the following duties:

- Executes all phases of tryout session planning and preparation (field set-up, bringing equipment, breakdown, etc.)
- Evaluates all players at tryouts on a 1-4 scale, with a “1” rating indicating the highest level among players in a given pool. +/- Suffixes can be used to create further distinctions between players.
- Enforces policy and procedure on the field, most importantly making sure that parents and volunteer parent coaches are not on the field during the tryout sessions.
- Assists in the collating of tryout data and ranking sheets to produce player recommendations for selection.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that, in addition to being fairly evaluated, every player receives a positive experience.

The parents’ role at the tryout session is limited. Following check-in, parents are expected to remain in the portion of the field designated for parents, which will be by design, a distance away from the tryout area. Experience suggests that this reduces the anxiety for players and allows them to better concentrate on demonstrating their ability. Should the behavior of a parent interfere with the conduct of the tryout session, he/she will be politely asked to leave the field.

#### C. Team Selection Process

The Professional Coaching Staff will consider all information in determining the optimum team composition. As a community-based organization, CAC will endeavor to place all interested and qualified players on its teams. The Premier team in each age group will be formed from the tryout pool based on tryout performance as well as input from coaches. For players on the borderline for the Premier Team selection, consideration will be given to the needs of the team, the player’s dedication and commitment to the game, and the player’s history with CAC. The situation for each team and age group will be different; the Selection Committee will have the discretion to form the best team without predetermined limits on roster numbers.

The number of teams formed will be determined by the numbers of players in the age group pool and criteria from the above paragraph. It often takes several days to determine the exact number of teams to be formed in a given age group,

to resolve rostering problems, and to secure the assent of new coaches and managers. Parents and players are strongly urged to be patient.

Players will be notified by telephone call beginning on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Players will be offered places on the Premier or most competitive team first and be required to respond within 48 hours to accept their spot. If a player does not respond by said time, the waiting lists will be activated and open spots will be allocated.

Once the teams are selected, the coach and team manager will hold a meeting at the CAC offices for parents to register their children and pay the appropriate fees for registration. If there are open slots on a roster, the Club may recruit players to fill those slots, provided that: the rosters of other teams, both inside and outside of CAC are respected; the player(s) are evaluated by CAC Coaching staff, Technical Director approves the change. It is a violation of CAC policy to recruit a player from an already ratified roster without the consent of that player's coach, but it is expected that players will from time to time be elevated to a higher competitive team if the need arises and the player is capable and would be better served by a promotion to the higher team. All players are expected to sign a commitment to CAC for a period of one year.