

## FAQ about adidas Thunder United Metro FC and Select Soccer Teams

How are players selected?

Players are identified by coaches and trainers with many years of coaching and playing experience. Those with the ability and desire to play competitive soccer are provided every opportunity to be placed on a select team. Our club, adidas Thunder United Metro FC, requires that all head coaches have coaching licenses and some have played as high as the professional level. Players are evaluated based on the four pillars of soccer Technical, Tactical, Physical and Psychological aspects of their play.

How long is the season?

The Fall season begins in September and ends in November. The Spring season begins in April and ends in June. Many teams play indoor soccer or conduct indoor training between the Fall and Spring seasons. Most teams U14 and younger kick off their season with the adidas Thunder United FC tournament in August.

Which league do we play in?

Most teams play in CUSL @ [www.cuslsoccer.com](http://www.cuslsoccer.com) (Cincinnati United Soccer League). Many top teams play in the Buckeye Premier league.

Do we play in tournaments? If so, where?

Select teams generally participate in 1-3 weekend tournaments a season. Most tournaments are within 1-2 hours of Cincinnati, but some high school age teams and most elite teams play in out-of-state tournaments. Every fall (2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in Aug) we host the adidas Thunder Metro Classic. A local tournament at our fields. All teams participate in that.

How far do we travel to league matches?

The driving time from Lebanon to opponents in the CUSL league can range from 45 minutes to 1 hour 15 minutes away.

Where would my son/daughter practice?

Our fields for training and league play are at the McClure Fields in Lebanon, also known as the Lebanon Sports Complex. Most indoor play and training is at the Kingdom in Franklin, Wall-2-Wall Soccer in Mason, The Field in Monroe or the YMCA in Lebanon.

How often do teams practice?

Generally, adidas Thunder United Metro FC teams have two training sessions a week.

Who trains my child?

adidas Thunder United Metro FC is a parent involvement centered organization. Our coaches are required to obtain a high level coaches certification. They are also required to continue to attend workshops & other events to boost their knowledge of the game. We maintain a Director of Coaching & boys & girls coordinators for additional support. Teams are also then encouraged to seek private trainers. Those who do soccer training on a professional level. Finally the club maintains a relationship with outside contacts. Currently we work with Midwest Soccer Academies (they can be found on the web through a link from our site.)

We also work with Xavier University Girls coach Alvin Alexander.

Is it true that you just want to win?

Winning is only a measure of how a player, team or club is performing compared to their competition. If a team goes undefeated there is certainly a league and division where they can be beaten. If a team is winless there is likely a league and division where they can compete. Even the English Premier League, Brazilian Serie A, Bundesliga, etc. have a last place team, and these are made up of the finest players in the world.

Therefore, our main focus is on player development. Success will come if the players develop well. We teach our players all aspects of soccer that will enable them to be successful. Good sportsmanship is an important part of our philosophy. We actively discourage winning at all costs. No coach or trainer is rewarded or punished based on how many matches they win.

What about uniforms?

The cost of adidas Thunder United FC uniforms is in addition to your team fees. Players joining a new team or new players on an existing team must purchase a uniform.

How do we find out what is going on within adidas Thunder United Metro FC?

Adidas Thunder United Metro FC has a variety of methods to communicate information throughout the club. Your team's coach is your first line of communication. We use our newly designed website, [www.thunderunited.com](http://www.thunderunited.com), and coaches and team manager meetings to go over policies and activities. We also have Boys and Girls Coordinators for you to voice concerns or resolve problems. Finally, the Director of Coaching is always available to hear your voice or answer questions you may have.

How much does it cost?

The total cost for a season varies depending on the number of tournaments your team attends, and whether your team has a paid trainer for example. Most typically, the cost is \$125 per season. Winter indoor play and training are optional and priced separately. A complete uniform costs about \$70.