



Santa Barbara Soccer Club Scholarship Plan

2024-25 Season

Background:

SBSC provides significant financial support for player scholarships. Scholarships are designed to be distributed equitably across the organization, knowing that quite often, the contribution will not completely fill the scholarship need. Our goal is to not turn away players for financial reasons. In addition to scholarships provided by the club, individual players and teams can also fundraise.

Individual players can fundraise and have the funds applied directly to their account. Players can sell additional raffle tickets (beyond the 20 tickets required for the club) and have the overage applied to their account.

Teams can also fundraise; the funds can be distributed to the entire team or individual players. Many different fundraising options are available. The team can provide additional donated auction items (beyond the baseline that's required for the club), create team SnapRaise campaigns, host car washes, sticker sales, events, etc. The only stipulation is that the campaign is not in conflict with club-level fundraising activities and is approved by the fundraising/finance committees of the BoD.

Process:

Scholarship applications are received during the team acceptance/registration process. For younger players this is in March and for older players this is in June. While the scholarship application is being evaluated players make an initial payment to hold their spot on the team. Families who qualify for scholarship assistance are identified within 30 days of applying. A list of players and the amount they are eligible for is provided to the coaching staff.

Final decisions on scholarship distribution are at the discretion of the coaching management and Board of Directors (BoD). Coaches will work with administration to ensure that scholarships are approved and applied in a timely and equitable manner.



Players are eligible for scholarships based on income level using the following matrix:

FY 2023 HUD Income Limits Summary – Santa Barbara County

FY 2023 Income Limit Area	Median Family Income	FY 2023 Income Limit Category	Persons in Family							
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Santa Maria-Santa Barbara, CA MSA	\$107,300	Extremely Low Income Limits (\$)*	31,050	35,500	39,950	44,350	47,900	51,450	55,000	58,550
		Very Low (50%) Income Limits (\$)	51,800	59,200	66,600	73,950	79,900	85,800	91,700	97,650
		Low (80%) Income Limits (\$)	82,950	94,800	106,650	118,500	128,000	137,500	146,950	156,450

Need-based Scholarship Award Level

Identified Level	Maximum scholarship
Extremely Low	Up to 50%
Very Low	Up to 35%
Low	Up to 20%
Outside of range	Not approved

New Additional scholarship guidelines for 2024-2025:

Need-based scholarships:

- 1) No player can receive more than a 50% scholarship **utilizing club provided funds** without specific approval from BoD scholarship committee.
- 2) Member fees can be further reduced using individual and team level fundraising methods.
- 3) No player can receive 100% reduction in fees utilizing scholarships. Players must pay a minimum of \$50/mo towards their membership fees. In rare and unique circumstances, players can petition to have the BoD override this.
- 4) Player fee discounts, utilizing fundraising dollars, must be provided to administration **prior to the discount being applied**. No discounts can be applied in advance of receiving funds.
- 5) Any 100% scholarship or other special circumstance scholarships must be approved by BOD scholarship committee.



Staff scholarships:

- 1) Staff scholarships that are currently in effect are grandfathered in as of 3/1/24. No new scholarships will be granted under the old policy after that date.
- 2) Starting 3/1/24, staff scholarships are available at the following rate:
 - a. Full-time staff (35+ hours per week admin or coaching equivalent) – discounted to \$50/month per child
 - b. Part-time staff (20-35 hours per week) – 50% discount on child, 10% on additional children.
 - c. Staff with less than 20 hours per week – 10% discount on all children
 - d. Staff scholarships do not stack with need-based scholarships.
 - e. The BoD does not receive scholarships for their children.

Trade scholarships:

- 1) Trade scholarships must fill a staff or support position that the club would otherwise pay for. The trade needs to be documented (and signed off on) by both the trade employee and the BoD.
- 2) Players receiving trade scholarships **can** go below the \$50/month amount with BoD scholarship committee approval.
- 3) Trade scholarships trade at \$25/hr unless another agreed upon value is approved. E.g; if a trade scholarship is for \$1000, the job description would be for 40 hours during the next 12 months. Certain expertise/skill sets may trade at a higher value, these are negotiated on a case-by-case basis.
- 4) The BoD scholarship committee evaluates and approves all trades. As it relates to their area of responsibility, department Managers/Directors will manage and report on trade hours quarterly.
- 5) Trade scholarship request forms are available on request. Forms should be turned into the BoD for processing and approval.