

What is the difference between Travel and Recreational Soccer?

Both programs offer youth the opportunity to play and develop their soccer skills.

Recreational soccer is primarily devoted to the enjoyment and development of soccer players without the same emphasis on travel or high level competition. The purpose of recreational soccer is to provide an opportunity for the participants to have fun, learn the sport and develop life skills including a life long love of the game.

Travel Soccer is devoted to player and team development in a more competitive environment. As players become more skilled, desire a more competitive soccer environment, and become willing to commit greater time to training, the Travel program exists for them as a higher level athletic experience.

The word "Travel" really means "Advanced" or "Select". Almost all Travel games are within Lancaster County (just like Recreational games). There may be a few game that are played just outside of the Lancaster County borders. The longest drive might be about 60 minutes of travel time.

The chart below breaks down the differences:

Description	Recreational	Travel
Type of Soccer	Fun and Development	Advanced and Competitive
Away Games	All Within Lancaster County	Mostly in Lancaster County
Games Per Season	7 to 8 (1 per week)	Usually 8 (varies per week)
League Name	LAGS (girls) and LBYSA (boys)	Lanco or CPYSL
Tryout Requirement	None (everyone plays)	Required (some may not be selected)
Playing Time Per Game	At Least half of the Game	May be Less than half (playing time is earned)
Practice Time	Typically 2 times per week	2 times per week
Commitment	Seasonal (Fall and/or Spring)	Yearly (both Fall and Spring)
Winter Season	Typically none	Typically one session that is encouraged but optional
Uniform Cost	Included with Seasonal Cost	Extra (usually every other year)
Tournaments per Season	1 (at the end of each season)	1 to 2 (times vary)
Tournament Cost	Included with Seasonal Cost	1 included in registration (additional tournaments cost \$40 to \$50)
Games per Tournament	3 to 4 (over 1 to 2 days)	3 to 5 (over 1 to 3 days)
Approximate Total Cost	\$100 per season	On average \$400 to \$500 over the course of the year

A season is defined as either Fall or Spring. A year is defined as both Fall and Spring.