

FAQ's for 2008/2009 Tryouts

St. Louis Scott Gallagher

What's up with the new name?

Four youth soccer powerhouses have merged – Scott Gallagher, St. Louis SC, Metro United and Missouri Premier – to form one of the top clubs in the USA!

Why are the clubs merging?

Metro United, Scott Gallagher, Missouri Premier and St. Louis Soccer Club will unite their resources to provide kids throughout the St. Louis area a better environment to reach their potential. By combining operations and providing additional administrative support, St. Louis Scott Gallagher will refocus on the goal of player development, giving kids the best possible environment to succeed. St. Louis Scott Gallagher is committed to building a structure in which the best soccer minds come together to serve the youth in our community. Instead of competing against one another, we will bring together the talents of local staff, coaches and players under one united club.

How does this merger affect my player?

In the immediate, it does not affect the players. MOST players will not be moving from the team they were on last year, just the name and uniform change.

You mentioned Uniforms, what's up with them?

St. Louis Scott Gallagher (SLSG from here on out) will be a NIKE PREMIER CLUB. This is a huge honor and will allow our teams to participate in some great events including the Nike Friendlies. The new club colors will be Navy, Forest Green and White with Gray and light blue as secondary colors.

I keep hearing about professional soccer, but there isn't a team yet, is there? And even if there is, how does this benefit my player?

Major League Soccer will someday come to St. Louis. And by St. Louis, I really mean COLLINSVILLE, IL. The city has already approved the building of an \$18,500 seat stadium in Collinsville. Along with this, there will be 8-16 Turf soccer fields that our club will use. Yes, your player will get to train and play on some of the nicest fields in the entire Country! Your player will be a part of a Major League Soccer (MLS) Youth organization!!!

When do we expect to have an MLS team?

We hope that everything will be in place to kick off the 2010 or 2011 season. When the stadium is completed, the youth soccer complex will be completed as well.

That's for Boys, anything for Girls?

Jeff Cooper is already the owner of a women's Professional Soccer (WPS) franchise. The League starts play in April 2009. Go to www.womensprosoccer.com for details.

Who is Jeff Cooper again?

Jeff Cooper is the chairman of St. Louis Soccer United. Cooper is the energetic leader determined to elevate soccer to new levels of success in St. Louis. In addition to bringing Metro United, Scott Gallagher and St. Louis Soccer Club together under the umbrella of MLS and the women's professional team, Jeff has committed the funds to build lit, turf fields in Missouri and Illinois. As a father of four, he looks to give every child a place to play and reach their potential.

OK, so how about some tryout questions. Should my player attend all the sessions?

Yes, we would like to see players at as many tryouts as possible. The more your player makes, the better feel we can get for that player.

Even make tryouts in Alton?

No, the tryouts in Alton are more for our Alton, Godfrey, Bethalto, East Alton, Wood River, & Jerseyville players. The Collinsville tryouts should be the main priority if you do not live in our around the above mentioned cities.

Do you cut seven year olds?

No, we'll keep all of the U8-U10 players we can. As long as we have enough players for a team, we'll try to keep all of the youngest players.

That's not really "select" soccer, is it?

We think it still is. Players develop at different ages, so we'd like for every 7-10 year old to have a chance to grow as a player. Plus our soccer passion will rub off on them and they'll love the game for life!

What are you looking for from the players? Will they receive a "score" after tryouts?

Soccer is a player's game. It is a game where a player's value is determined by how he/she impacts the game. In order for a coach to determine the impact that a player makes on the game he needs a keen eye and trained mind to read into situations, thoughts, intentions, abilities and potentials. Metro United staff are trained to identify the best players, they are trained on what intricacies to look for and what characteristics are important in determining the potential of a player.

A coach cannot quantify a player's ability. Unlike certain American sports where you can rate characteristics by giving numerical scores, in soccer the trained eye makes judgments on thoughts, decisions and intentions. **To develop a grade scale in an effort to evaluate players is an effort to disguise your deficiencies as a coach and over simplify the evaluation process.**

At a Metro United tryout you will see 3 of the 4 components of the game tested. We will compare kids in the athletic component, the technical component and the tactical component. Our staff will ask players to perform agility and acceleration exercises to test athleticism. You will see small group exercises so we can

watch the player get multiple touches with the ball as we check for technical speed and speed of thought. Finally, you will see the kids play as we look for not only the impact they make on the game but how they make that impact.

What about the coaching staff? Who will my player learn from at SLSG?

This is our strongest area. Our entire staff is by far the best assembled staff in the Midwest. Dale Schilly is our Program director and has a USSF "A" license. This is the highest license attainable for coaches in the United States. He has also been a Region II coach for 10 years overseeing some of the top 14 year olds in the country. His resume is tops in the St. Louis Metropolitan region. He is assisted by two USSF "C" license instructors, Mitch Bohnak and Justin Bernaix. Both have been with the club for over 6 years and have dedicated their lives to developing players. Zach Evans has his USSF "D" license and was added to the staff a couple of years ago to make sure our youngest players are the best on the ball in the area. And last year, John van Buskirk was added to the staff. JVB is the **ONLY** area coach with an extensive playing career in Europe. He played 12 years in Germany including one year at the highest level in the Bundesliga. He holds his UEFA "C" license which he achieved in Germany in 2006.

How much does it cost?

Fee Schedule for 2008/2009

U8	\$390	
U9	\$400	
U10	\$450	
U11	\$450	
U12	\$550	
U13	\$600	
U14	\$600	
U15-U18	\$650	

What does that fee cover?

Player Assessment Fee Includes

- 2 Uniform Kits
- 2-3 training sessions per week
- 2 Training Shirts
- 2 Training Shorts
- 2 Training Socks
- 1 Soccer Ball
- Scrimmage Vests for Team
- Coaches Kit
- Discounts on Camps and Clinics
- College Recruiting Seminar U15 and up
- Goalkeeping training
- Speed Training
- Notary service for medical and registration documents
- Coaching Education

What about Tournaments and League Registration?

Those will be separate costs.

Will St. Louis Scott Gallagher offer a sibling discount?

Yes, it will be a club wide policy that siblings living in the same household will be given the following discounts.

First Child	Pay full assessment fee
Second Child	Pay 75% of assessment fee (please bold)
Third Child or more	Pay 50% of assessment fee (please bold)

Please note the above discounts will be given to all kids playing within the entire St. Louis Scott Gallagher model.

I have heard about the USSF Academy for Boys and it sounds awesome! How does this affect my 10 year old Boy?

The United States Soccer Federation (USSF) has made Metro United (and now SLSG) an Academy program. They recognize SLSG as the BEST club for teaching kids within 200 miles. We have implemented the same program for the top training environment for our younger players.

How does this affect my girl?

The USSF Academy way will be shared throughout the program and we will start a Girls Academy for High School aged girls this fall. We will attend TOP events in the country so our player's can be seen by the college coaches.

I understand the benefits of playing for SLSG for older players, why is it important for my player to start at 9.

Technique, technique and more technique. Our staff is dedicated to making sure your player is the most confident player in the area. All SLSG players have the skill and confidence instilled in them at the youngest ages to excel at the older ages.

What about the Administration & Organization.

We recognize this as a weak point for the club. BUT, we also recognize the need to strengthen this area. We will have a SLSG administrator in the office next year that will be able to answer or get answers to all your questions. This will leave the most important aspect of the club – your player's development – to the soccer staff. We will also add age group coordinators for each division. The age group coordinator is there to insure the age group they are responsible for is using best practices to move our players along toward academy standards.

Will there be mandatory fundraising?

No. All club wide fundraisers will be optional. Participating teams will be given a percentage of total monies raised. Individual team fundraisers will be allowed but must be organized by coaches and parents and approved by the club.

Does the club give Scholarships for families in need?

Absolutely.

**Please sign up online by clicking on the Player Registration
Form**

Email Mitch with any questions at metrounited7@aol.com