

# OBX STORM ACADEMY PARENT'S GUIDE

The OBX Storm Academy offers higher level coaching to soccer players born between 2010 and 2006 in an environment focused on individual skill and ball mastery.

## **Philosophy**

The Storm Academy strives to develop players individually to their full potential by reducing the focus on team accolades. We want to grow technically strong and creative players that possess a high motivation to improve. We understand that this is the beginning of a journey.

Winning is important but development is more important. We want our players to recognize that one must make mistakes and fail in order to get better. The Storm Academy will give players the space to fail. We strive for excellence and focus on task mastery. The question that we will continue to ask ourselves for all those involved with the academy is "are we getting better"?

## **Organization/Structure**

All players regardless of age or level are members of the academy. In effect this is like a large team. Players will be assessed and placed with an appropriate game team which trains twice a week for 1.5 hours. Academy coaches work with different teams throughout each season in an effort to diffuse rivalry amongst game teams and allow players to learn from different coaches. Rosters for game teams may change throughout the year. All academy members stay connected by training in the same location each week. FUN Friday offers an additional opportunity for all members to come together to play small sided games at the conclusion of the week.

## **Director**

Eliot Jones serves as the academy director and currently holds an USSF E License, Youth Modules I & II and the Coerver Youth Diploma. He is currently working on his National Youth License. The director is involved on a daily basis preparing and running training sessions, teaching ball mastery, and scheduling games and events. He will also coach of games on the weekend. The director is responsible for the curriculum of the academy.

## **Coaches**

Academy coaches are required to have a coaching license because it certifies a coach's ability to teach. Coaches are responsible for session planning, child development, motivation issues, age appropriate training, breaking down complex topics into simpler topics, and ensuring that training session is fun. This requires that a coach obtain specialized training. All academy coaches will hold an USSF F license, Youth Modules I & II and will obtain an E license or higher within a year. It takes good coaching to develop good players. Our coaches are constantly asking our players to "get better" therefore it makes sense to hold the same standard for the academy coaching staff. It is these standards that ensure a high-quality learning environment. Coaches will work with the director to develop the seasonal plan, set goals, and ensure that players are working toward completion of their current level of competency.

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## Parents

Parents are required to read, sign and follow the OBX Storm Parents Code of Conduct. Parent meetings with the director and/or coach will be held at the beginning and mid point of each season. This will allow parents an opportunity to discuss their player's development. We also want to hear from you on how to make this program better. You are our shareholders!

## Sideline Coaching

We want you to cheer for your player! This is important for their psychological development. We appreciate your enthusiasm but also remind you that this **should not include coaching your child from the "touchlines or anywhere else on the pitch during a game or training session."** Coaching by parents directly interferes with instructions or directions the coach has given the player and team and will lead to confusion and split allegiances for the player. Please do not shout for your child to "kick, pass, boot or clear" the ball or to "charge" the opponent, and do not support those type of actions with clapping and cheering when they do occur. Please refrain from this and trust our judgment. We want our players to solve problems by themselves. If parents begin coaching from the touchlines or anywhere else around the field of play during a game or training session, the Coach will ask for the match to be suspended and ask to stop the parent coaching before recommencing the match.

Support through positive encouragement is welcomed after a good day of play. The players love it when they hear positive comments from the sideline. Be their biggest fan!

## Game Day Encouragement

The following is a list of things for parents to look for and cheer during their player's soccer matches:

- Look for the team switching the field, moving the ball from one side of the field to the other using two or more passes.
- Look for players making runs into spaces to provide passing options to the ball carrier.
- Look for players making diagonal runs for each other on the field.
- Look for players having a good first touch that moves the ball into space, away from the opponent when receiving the ball.
- Look for the players controlling the ball rather than "blasting" it away down field with the first touch.
- Look for players getting goal side of the opponents when on defense.
- Look for players being composed and calm, especially when on defense.



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## Game Day Encouragement (continued)

- Look for players taking the ball away from pressure to find a different direction in which to control and move the ball.
- Look for players "keeping it simple" and playing the ball in the direction they are facing.
- Look for players not turning with the ball into an onrushing opponent.
- Look for players talking and communicating on the field.
- Look for defenders stepping up to support the forwards.
- Look for shots that are on target.
- Look for players anticipating situations and being proactive instead of reactive.
- Look for players making quick decisions with the ball and without.

## Training

The majority of time spent with players is in a training session. Training is where players learn and improve....this is where they develop. Players will train with their class on average twice per week and have the opportunity to attend one *academy session* with all members each week. Each training session is structured in a progressive manner with the purpose of meeting a learning objective. Ball mastery will be a component of each session. The *academy session* consists of a short skills practice where higher-level players are given the opportunity to mentor. Players will also break out into small-sided games (3 v 3 or 4 v 4) where everyone is mixed up and playing for the majority of the time. Coaches might get involved 1 on 1 with players in the beginning of this session similar to a private coaching session. Attendance is taken at each training session. Training sessions must be FUN.

## Evaluation

Each player will receive an evaluation at the conclusion of the fall and spring seasons. These will be used to identify areas where improvement can be made as players graduate thru the academy. Evaluations will be used to set goals for players to improve their game.

## Assessment

There are no tryouts in the academy. Player's interested in joining the academy will be evaluated in a training session. The ability to **concentrate** and **focus** along with a **strong work ethic** and high **passion for the game** is what we are looking for in players that we accept into the academy



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## Games

We believe that a game on the weekend is the best way for players to showcase individual skills learned in training. For academy members playing in the NCYSA Academy league each player will get two games per one-day festival. There will not be a need to pay for a hotel on these "festival" days. This is the best format for the team as a whole to execute the learning objectives from training that week. The leagues that we will participate in do not keep track of standings (NCYSA Academy League, VSL Developmental League & VSLI). Overall, players will get more games playing league in comparison to the "three tournament per season" schedule of most travel teams. Finally, with league play most players will get at least 4 home games here at the Nags Head Soccer Complex, which everyone loves.

Tournaments are often a blur for players, coaches, and parents. The pressure to win three games in a row within 24 hours is high to ensure that the team gets to play in a fourth championship game. Weekly learning objectives are often thrown out the window in the heat of competition in this environment. Having said that, we do want Storm Academy players to experience tournaments because they can be a great deal of fun! Players gradually increase the number of tournaments that they play as they progress thru the levels of competency. All players that regularly attend training sessions will receive at least one half of playing time in each match.

## Fees & Payment

Please visit our [age matrix](#) to determine your child's age division.

Age Groups	U8	U9	U10	U11	U12
Annual Fees	\$500	\$600	\$700	\$750	\$750

Payment of fees can be done via our [website](#).

## Scholarships

The academy follows the club's lead in offering some scholarships. An application in [English](#) or [Spanish](#) can be found on OBX Storm's website and must be filled out and each situation will be reviewed for approval.



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## Development Schedule

<b>Preparation</b>	<b>Fall</b>	<b>OFF</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>	<b>OFF</b>
August	Sep -Nov	Dec	Jan - Feb	Mar – May	Jun e - Aug
~2 Weeks	12 Weeks	OFF	In- house Futsal League (Play Another Sport)	12 Weeks	OFF

## Potential Event Schedule

<b>Tournament / League / Event</b>	<b>U8</b>	<b>U9</b>	<b>U10</b>	<b>U11</b>	<b>U12</b>
NCYSA Academy Fall Festivals	Yes	Yes	Yes		
VSL - Fall				Yes	Yes
VSLI Developmental - Fall	Yes	Yes			
Fall Tournament #1		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Fall Tournament #2				Yes	Yes
NC Academy Showcase - Fall	Yes	Yes	Yes		
NCYSA Academy Spring Festivals	Yes	Yes	Yes		
In House Futsal League	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
VSL - Spring			Yes	Yes	Yes
VSLI Developmental - Spring	Yes	Yes			
NC Academy Showcase - Spring	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Spring Tournament #1	TBD		Yes	Yes	Yes
Spring Tournament #2		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
OBX Storm Scrimmagefest	Yes	Yes	Yes		



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### FAQs

Q. What is "pooled training" environment?

A. A pooled training environment gives players of different ages the opportunity to train at the same time as all other academy members.

Q. What is ball mastery?

A. Ball mastery is based on the Coerver Method created by Wiel Coerver a UEFA cup champion and coach from the Netherlands. Our Coerver Top 10 is a series of "move sets" that begin with no pressure (i.e. inside/outside cuts, drag-push, scissors & stepover with outside touches, etc.). Eventually we will perform these under full defensive pressure to goal. First touch is a major theme in ball mastery.

Q. Why does the Storm Academy cost more than being on a travel team?

A. It is actually cheaper to join the academy for the younger players. The higher fees from U10 – U12 cover increased costs to card academy players with NCYSA. The academy compensates coaches at a higher level than travel coaches. The academy compensates the academy director, bookkeeper, manager, and pays for all education and licensing of all coaches.

Q. How is the academy different than the current travel team model?

A. This academy offers more quality opportunities for the young player to learn, develop, and have FUN throughout the week while working with higher-level coaches. It diffuses the rivalry between teams that might form within a club at the earliest ages. It places the emphasis on development and not on team accolades. It encourages players to be more creative and the playing environment becomes more enjoyable. It provides a cohesive plan for coaches to execute and backs this up with a director who has the ability to spend each day and most weekends on the fields during the season working towards the success of the program.

Q. Can my child join the Storm Academy and continue to play on a travel team?

A. No, your child cannot participate in both programs per NCYSA requirements. There will be opportunities for travel players to attend academy sessions throughout the year.

Q. Will the Storm Academy participate in the NCYSA Academy program?

A. Yes. All players will be carded "Academy" and U8-U10 age groups will play in the Eastern NCYSA Academy league. This will allow players to experience the "academy festival environment" at the youngest ages and play other academies across the state. To find out more about this program please visit their website - <http://www.ncsoccer.org/youthacademy>. We have modeled our program after the NCYSA Academy program.



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## FAQs Continued

Q. Can my child join the Storm Academy and guest play for other travel teams?

A. Players who are enrolled in a NCYSA Youth Academy Program cannot participate on any Recreational, Challenge, or Classic team as guest players.

Q. Is the academy model a brand new idea?

A. No, NCYSA (North Carolina Youth Soccer Association) started the academy program over ten years ago and out of the 92 clubs associated with NCYSA 66 have academies. This is a model that is used throughout the USA and around the world.

Q. I have a travel team kit (2 jerseys, shorts, and socks) and I'm wondering if I need to purchase a new kit for my son or daughter if they join the academy?

A. The travel and academy kits are different therefore parents will need to purchase an academy kit.

Q. What happens when my child graduates from the academy? Will their coach go on to coach them on a travel team?

A. We believe that coaches should continue to learn, obtain higher licenses, and evolve as a coach. We recognize that coaches may leave the program and some may want to go up with a specific team. The program will work to recruit new coaches to fill the void when coaches move on or leave. The players we graduate will be confident on the ball and ready for tactical work at the next level should that be challenge, classic, and/or middle school soccer.

Q. How does the birth year realignment in OBX Storm by 2017 effect the academy?

A. All players in the academy are carded as U12 players which allows them some flexibility to play up and down in age depending on the event.

Q. How many coaches will the academy have and are they paid?

A. This depends on the numbers that join the academy. We would like to see one coach available for every 12 players. Coaches are compensated with stipends based on their licensing and amount of travel.

Q. What happens when your (Eliot Jones) kids leave the academy? Will you coach them or remained involved with the academy?

A. That is over two years away but at this point in time I would like to do both.



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## **Additional Information**

The following is additional information that is required to be shared with the Parents. This information can be found in the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA) Website. It is highly encourage reviewing this document in its entirety.

PARENTS: *What can parents do to make the game of soccer more enjoyable for their children and other people's kids, too?*

1. Be knowledgeable of the game.
2. Encourage fair play at home.
3. Be supportive; i.e. be sure the player attends practices; pick him/her up on time.
4. Attend games.
5. Be positive or quiet at games.
6. Be respectful; expect your own children to be respectful.
7. Focus on good nutrition.
8. Volunteer to help the coach.
9. Become a referee.
10. Play the game of soccer.
11. Be calm and have good manners.
12. Support the coach and referee's decisions.
13. Encourage communication between coach and parent.
14. Ask your own children to describe his/her role, what new skills have been learned.
15. Watch practices; focus on new strategies
16. Find soccer videos, watch them with children.
17. Concentrate on praising other people's children during games.
18. Read newspaper articles about older soccer player's successes; provide models for your own children.

## **Required Reading**

1. NCYSA Academy Rules - [http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0104/3189/NCYSA\\_Youth\\_Academy\\_Rules\\_-\\_2016.pdf](http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0104/3189/NCYSA_Youth_Academy_Rules_-_2016.pdf)

## **Resources For Parents**

1. NCYSA (North Carolina Youth Soccer Assoc.) Parent's Guide to Academy Soccer - [http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0080/5365/academy\\_parent\\_guide.pdf](http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0080/5365/academy_parent_guide.pdf)
2. NCYSA Academy Rules - [http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0082/8195/NCYSA\\_Youth\\_Academy\\_Rules.pdf](http://assets.ngin.com/attachments/document/0082/8195/NCYSA_Youth_Academy_Rules.pdf)
3. Coerver Coaching - <http://www.coerver.com/home.php/history>





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## Resources For Parents (continued)

4. Developing Players - <http://www.obxstorm.net/assets/files/VYSA-Coaches-Corner.pdf>
5. Winning in Perspective - <http://www.socceramerica.com/article/39843/champion-coach-albertin-montoya-puts-winning-in-pe.html>
6. How Do We Measure Success - <http://www.obxstorm.net/assets/files/HowDoWeMeasureSuccess.pdf>

## Point of Contact

Eliot Jones – [academy@obxstorm.net](mailto:academy@obxstorm.net)



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## Statement of Understanding

I have read the Storm Academy Parent's Guide in its entirety and the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA) regulations, I ACKNOWLEDGE the complete understanding of this document, my responsibilities, financial commitment and the rules and regulations that governs this Academy Program. I also understand that Academy players may not guest play or be multi-rostered for any Classic, Select/Challenge, or Recreation Team as long as they are registered as a NCYSA Academy player. I also understand that I must return this SOU to the Storm Academy Director before the first official day of training.

Parent's Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

"Return completed SOU to the Storm Academy Director"





**PARENT EXPECTATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

Make soccer participation for your child, coaches and others a positive experience.

- Be respectful to your child’s coaches and to the officials. The coaches are volunteers and give personal time and money to provide recreational activity for your child. The coaches are contributing a valuable community service without reward other than their personal satisfaction.
- Before, during and after soccer matches, parent shall refrain from being argumentative, verbally abusive or aggressive toward anyone.
- Parents shall be cheerleaders and allow the coach to coach, the referee to officiate and most of all allow your child and teammates to play the game. Parents shall not coach from the sidelines during matches or practices.
- Do not criticize your child’s coaches, players or parents to your child, teammates, other parents or the general public. If you are not happy with the coaches you shall raise the issue with the coaches in a tactful and polite manner.
- Parents must NEVER use or tolerate inappropriate language at matches or training. Violation of this rule shall be grounds for dismissal for a parent, athlete or both from the club.
- Encourage your child to speak with the coaches. If your child is having difficulties in training or games or cannot attend training, etc. encourage them to speak directly to the coaches. This “responsibility taking” is a big part of becoming a mature person. By handling off-the-field tasks your child is claiming ownership of all aspects of the sport.
- Most youth soccer officials have had limited experience and formal training but they try to do their best. DO NOT boo, yell or openly question their judgment and their honesty. Any parent who has an issue with an official may bring it to the attention of the coaches who can discuss it with the official at an appropriate time.
- Accept the result of each game and encourage your child to be gracious in victory and turn defeat into victory by working towards improvement. Good sportsmanship and positive comments are contagious and will lift the spirit of the entire team including the coaches.
- Parents shall not criticize their child or other players on any part of the game since it may cause confusion and erode a player’s confidence. Your coaches have the expertise to handle any aspect of the sport that needs to be addressed.
- Group and/or individual communications regarding the team via email, texting, Facebook or other social or mass media related to the team shall be positive and constructive in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Any communication with the OBX Storm Soccer Club’s Board shall be sent or discussed with the coaches or a person as designated by the coaches for review prior to sending to the club’s board members and officers. Mean spirited communication by a coach, parent, player or other club member will result in an immediate response from the Director of Coaching and possibly the Club’s Disciplinary Officer.

OBX Storm Soccer Club will have the right to use, reference and display content (e.g., photography, video, film, oral and written evaluations or feedback) and other identifying information contained within (e.g., names, images, and comments of self, spouse and child), in whole or in part, in marketing activities relating to the promotion of the Club. Both parties agree to stop using the content within sixty days upon written request from the other. I agree to release the club and its contractors, agents, and employees, from any claims, so long as such use is in accordance with the rights granted under this release.

Your signatures below means that you have read and agree with the Parent’s Expectation and Acknowledgement Form and understand that violation of its terms shall be cause for disciplinary actions including but not limited to dismissal of a parent, athlete or both from the OBX Storm Soccer Club.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS**

OBX Storm/coaches will not tolerate behavior which discredits the Team, Club, League or our Community.

- Be respectful towards teammates, opponents, coaches and referees. Conduct yourself with honor, dignity, self-respect and self-control.
- Accept decisions of coaches and referees with class and dignity. Always shake hands after matches with both the opposing players, coaches and referees regardless of the outcome.
- Do not criticize your teammates but rather be supportive at all times unless they are acting inappropriately or in a way harmful to the team.
- Do not criticize the opponents of your team or their coaches.
- The coaches shall hold us accountable for our actions and behavior.
- Players shall arrive at least 5 minutes before practices and arrive at the field of play at least 45 minutes before games already dressed in complete uniforms. Tardiness or absence without notification or good cause may result in disciplinary action, including reduced playing time.
- It is the PLAYER'S responsibility to have all necessary equipment and uniforms for matches and practice, not the parent's. This means having both blue and white jerseys, socks, team shorts, cleats, shin guards, etc.
- Players who do not abide by these expectations will be disciplined by game officials, their coaches and in extreme situations, Club and/or league/tournament officials.
- Players shall not speak negatively about other players, coaches, referees, etc. on social media.
- Inappropriate behavior, the use of profanity or the denigration of others on social media shall be grounds for disciplinary action.

I have read the Player's Code of Conduct and agree with the expectations and rules set forth and understand that if I fail to abide by these expectations I may be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to dismissal from the Club.

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Player Signature

Date

6-19-15

# NORTH CAROLINA Medical Consent / Waiver of Liability and Release

(To be given to your local association)

20 \_\_\_\_ - 20 \_\_\_\_

## NCYSA

PO Box 18229  
Greensboro, NC 27419  
336.856.7529

NCYSA Policy # \_\_\_\_\_  
Excess policy to any valid and collectible insurance. If there is no primary insurance on insurance on a player, this policy is primary after the deductible.

Player First Name (AS APPEARS ON BIRTH CERTIFICATE)	M Initial	Last Name	Full Association Name	Jersey #
		[ ] Academy [ ] Challenge [ ] Classic [ ] Recreation		[ ] Male [ ] Female
Birth Date	Level		Sex	
Address of Player	City	State	Zip	
Parent/Legal Guardian Full Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone	
Additional Person to Contact in an Emergency	Address	Home Phone	Cell Phone	
Date of Last Tetanus Shot	Medications now being taken			
Player is Allergic to these Medications and Substances				
List any Unusual Health Information			Parent Email For Soccer Information	

I (we), the undersigned, residing in the county of \_\_\_\_\_, state of \_\_\_\_\_, the parents/legal guardian of the above Registrant, a minor, who resides with us, do hereby declare our intent to allow that child to practice, train, play and participate in all soccer-related activities with the above mentioned soccer team affiliated with the North Carolina Youth Soccer Association and the United States Youth Soccer Association.

I (we) agree that we and the Registrant will abide by the rules of the USYS, its affiliated organizations and sponsors. Recognizing the possibility of physical injury associated with soccer and in consideration for the USYS and NCYSA accepting the Registrant for their soccer programs and activities (the "Programs"), we hereby jointly and severally release, discharge and/or otherwise indemnify the USYS, NCYSA, their affiliated organizations and sponsors, their employees and associated personnel, including the owners of fields and facilities utilized by the Programs, against any claim by or on behalf of the Registrant as a result of the Registrant's participation in the Programs and/or being transported to or from the same, which transportation we hereby authorize.

I (we) further, jointly and severally, as parents and legal guardians of the Registrant, release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless and indemnify the above-named individuals or any of the designated coaches of the above Team from any and all liability, claims or demands arising from the Registrant participating in the Programs with the above Team specifically to include any and all claims for personal injuries sustained while present or participating in the Programs or traveling to or from events in the Programs or while on trips sponsored by or in conjunction with the Programs.

In addition, I (we) do hereby authorize any one of the designated adults of the Team, if after a reasonable attempt has been made to reach a parent or guardian to obtain consent or if sound medical practice decrees that there is not time to make such an attempt, to consent to any x-ray examination, anesthetic, medical or surgical procedure, treatment, and/or hospital care, to be rendered to the Registrant under the general or special supervision of and/or on the advise of any physician, surgeon or dentist duly licensed to practice.

The undersigned have read and fully understand and agree to the foregoing.

### Insurance Information:

Name of Insurance Company: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*No Electronic Signature Permitted

Confirmation Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Original (Team)

Copy (Association)