

Charlotte Soccer Club

2025 Winter / Spring 2026 Newsletter

Greetings Members and Families,

I'm excited to see the growth in our organization since our modern-incarnation and expansion in 2024. To date, we have ten teams, with the prospect of adding a few more during our 2026-2027 season ahead. Our facilities are **unmatched** in the CASL area, as we enjoy a very thankful partnership with our wonderful school district.

Thanks to you, **Charlotte Public Schools !** Go Orioles!

Success: We had many successful teams in the Fall of 2025, with several teams stabilizing and moving up in divisions for this 2026 Spring session of CASL. The word is out, we are a tough organization to play against. Our current membership size is **131 players**, which allows us to enjoy a pipeline of development moving forward, thanks in large part to our all volunteer coaching crew.

Player Mindsets Moving Forward: The continued dedication of our coaches and families gives the opportunity to our players and teams to grow. At practice sessions, players have the opportunity to grow by learning new technical skills. I ask that a new mindset be adopted by all, a mindset of ownership of growth by the players themselves. I ask parents and families to encourage players to foothandle and pass against a wall. Each touch of the ball is another step in the right direction. I ask parents and families to nurture the love of the game by practicing passing and ball control, with your child *(to the best of your ability and capability, of course)* 😊. Practice away from the field is critical to individual growth.

??? Would a developing musician only practice at class, and not at home ???

Player Opportunity: To build skills and confidence with the ball, and vision on the field, players must practice at home. To support this initiative, I will be distributing a seasonal **practice chart (think reading chart)** for players to build-on, fill-out and turn into their coaches. Those players' charts will make their efforts trackable and tangible. For many players, this will be a reinforcement, while for others, this will be an opportunity to build new habits and competencies. As an opportunity to build passion and excitement for the game, away from the field. The responsibility for player growth is always on the player. The coach is only the guide.

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Transitions: Lastly, USA Soccer, our parent organization, has switched all youth soccer in the nation to a grade-level model, versus the year of birth model that has been in place for some time. This national change is an opportunity to reevaluate and place our players into leveled teams at the U11 level and up, starting at the 2026-2027 playing year. There is more information further into the newsletter explaining this process, including: age/grade groups parameters, competition and commitment levels for each level of team, our (PRO) dual sport policy, and player expectations as we move forward as a true select-club.

I look forward to sharing this journey with all of our dedicated youth and families, as I vow to always make the best decisions to protect and preserve our organizational goals and future.

Have a great Spring Season everyone,

Christian Xanthopoulos

Charlotte Soccer Club

President

charlottesoccerclubmi@gmail.com

Please reach out with any questions, any time.

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Each section below is a brief read into a different topics for the spring and summer. As always, feel free to reach out via email if you have any questions.

1. **Futsal Fridays are a Wrap** (Until the winter of 2026-27):

We enjoyed steady crowds through fifteen Friday sessions, all free to our membership, and hosted at the Middle School Auxiliary gym. Regular participants enjoyed focused footwork, playing under pressure situations and making good decisions under stressed scenarios. Over our fifteen sessions, our dedicated regulars played and had skilled instruction totalling over 1,350 minutes of skill advancement. Now that's **dedication!** Congratulations to our dedicated core as they bring their experience to their various teams this Spring!



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2. Official Club Gear for Charlotte Soccer Club

- ❖ **Sports-Stop (Grand Ledge)** hosts our online store for all Oriole Gear and is officially sanctioned to produce our gear.
- ❖ Every sale, of every item, is a fundraiser that goes directly back to our club.
- ❖ You can ship to your home, or pick-up in their shop in downtown Grand Ledge.
- ❖ Many items have varying team color options, and can be customized with names as well. They have a selection of items for players, parents and family. Pricing has been targeted to make many options very affordable.
- ❖ Please help support our organization, while **looking good on the sidelines!**
- ❖ **CLICK HERE:**
https://stores.inksoft.com/charlotte_soccer_club/shop/home
- ❖ Any uniform replacements can be made through Sports-Stop, directly. Call them directly to facilitate a timely production of replacement uniforms. 517-622-3088

Fun Fact: We will be sourcing our **uniforms**, replacement uniforms and other apparel needs from Sports-Stop for the foreseeable future. They're great to work with(Quick turnarounds on custom pieces).

Charlotte Soccer Club					
Fall 2025/Spring 2026 Soccer Kit					
6/30/2025					
Item	Item #	2 color Front	Number On back	No Print	Total
Orange Jersey	BST99	\$ 7.00	\$ 4.00		\$ 11.00
Black Jersey	BST99	\$ 6.50	\$ 4.00		\$ 10.50
Shorts	SS10			\$ 8.50	\$ 8.50
Player Sock	AS6			\$ 7.50	\$ 7.50
					\$ 37.50

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3. Bumper and Water Bottle Stickers (New Shipment)

We have a new shipment of Bumper(\$5) and Waterbottle(\$3) sized stickers ordered for the Spring 2026 season. These will be available from coaches for purchase, (Cash only please. *All proceeds go to our club scholarship fund*). It's so great to see our families showing their pride in our organization, driving around town, waiting at parent pick-ups and out running errands. **Very Cool!**



4. NAME THAT MACHINE Competition!

We're proud to announce the acquisition of a new line painting machine , *Model 310 CO2 with 5 Gallon Paint Tank* . This is a major economic development, as the use of a liquified Co2 pressurized machine will allow us to unlock an estimated \$1000, per season, over using spray cans, perpetually.

In the spirit of celebrating this acquisition, we will hold a contest to "Name That Machine!" . Each player has an opportunity to fill out a Google Form (Below) and provide a name and a brief backstory to their machine's name. The board will pick one lucky winner from a blind sampling! The winner will have their winning selection's name on the machine, and their name...**forever!** Good luck to all who apply!

Click here: <https://forms.gle/SRmHBndueefry6kF9>

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Good Luck!

5. Junior Referees begin Spring 2026

The following is informational only, as I know we have a great club culture, respect for officials and the game.

CASL and their officiating affiliate have adopted a special designation for younger referees, called the Junior Referee program.

This classification of referees are designated as minors, and will be marked with a distinguishable **GREEN armband or pin**. Any infringement or referee abuse towards a Junior Referee will incur double the penalty of a normal infringement for a coach, or fan. *The vibe is to treat these learning referees (Usually assistant referees or primary referees for U9/U10 games) as you would your own children, as they are trying their best to improve too, just as all of our players do too. Growing the game! Thanks!*

6. A Call to Serve: Charlotte Soccer Club Bi-annual elections:

First, congratulations on reading this far into the newsletter. I appreciate your attention to detail!

Our club has bi-annual elections, in line with our By-Laws, with the following positions open for election this year. I will include the synopsis of each position, as well as a link to the By-Laws (also available on our website). The term of office is a two year position, with monthly meetings, and designated roles. July 1st begins the next cycle for 2026. **Elections are set for Friday June 26th, via Google Form.**

Those interested in a position and being placed on the voting slate, please email here for next steps: charlottesoccerclubmi@gmail.com

By-Laws link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JjztGk7nJZGlej8SRWtdLki_hXyYfjB6QEkwvlUT2l/edit?usp=sharing

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2026 Election Cycle:

- a) Elections for Officers of the Board shall be held during even or odd years as follows:
- President: ODD
 - Vice President of Travel Soccer: EVEN
 - Secretary: ODD
 - Registrar: EVEN
 - Treasurer: ODD
 - Trustee: EVEN
 - Trustee : ODD

Positions up for election this year:

(1) Vice President of Select-Travel Soccer

(1) Registrar

(1) Trustee

*Each household is allowed to vote once, per child , using their child's registered primary email with the club for the previous playing year. In this case 2025-2026 playing year.



MICHIGAN SOCCER CLUB
AGE CHART
STARTING FALL 2026 SEASON

AGE GROUP	BIRTHDATE
U19	8/1/07 - 7/31/08
U18	8/1/08 - 7/31/09
U17	8/1/09 - 7/31/10
U16	8/1/10 - 7/31/11
U15	8/1/11 - 7/31/12
U14	8/1/12 - 7/31/13
U13	8/1/13 - 7/31/14
U12	8/1/14 - 7/31/15
U11	8/1/15 - 7/31/16
U10	8/1/16 - 7/31/17
U9	8/1/17 - 7/31/18
U8	8/1/18 - 7/31/19

7. **Evaluations** : Formerly "tryouts",

Evaluations are set to be held on the following dates and times:

- **U9 - U11 Girls Monday 6/22** 5:40pm arrival; 6pm -7:30 Evaluation window.
- **U9 - U11 Boys Tuesday 6/23** 5:40pm arrival; 6pm -7:30 Evaluation window.
- **U12 - U15 Girls Wednesday 6/24** 5:40pm arrival; 6pm -7:30 Evaluation window.

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- **U12 - U15 Boys Thursday 6/25** 5:40pm arrival; 6pm -7:30 Evaluation window.
Continued on the next page...

U11-U15 Team Structures Moving forward:

[2026-2027 Charlotte SC Player Pathways and Evaluation Methodology](#)

[U11-U15](#)

- Please see the attached form for a deeper explanation of Select play moving forward into playing years 2026-2027 for our U11 and up teams.
- Again , if you have any questions, please do hesitate to email:
charlottesoccerclubmi@gmail.com

U9-U10 Team Structures Moving forward:

[U9-U10 Team Formation Graph](#)

- Please see the attached document for a breakdown into team formations and development at the Select-level for our youngest teams.
- Again , if you have any questions, please do hesitate to email:
charlottesoccerclubmi@gmail.com

Thank you families for your support as our organization evolves into a dominant force in CASL and beyond. Our mission is clear, building positive mindsets for life!

Christian Xanthopoulos

Charlotte Soccer Club

President

charlottesoccerclubmi@gmail.com