



North Puget Sound League Player Development Academy (PDA)

Parent & Player FAQ – 2026 Season

1. What is the NPSL Player Development Academy (PDA)?

PDA is a supplemental training and identification program for motivated players within NPSL member teams. It provides advanced coaching and development opportunities while players continue playing for their home clubs.

2. Is PDA replacing my child's club team?

No. PDA is designed to supplement, not replace, club soccer. Players remain fully rostered and committed to their NPSL club teams.

3. Who is eligible to try out?

All players registered with an NPSL member team in the eligible age groups may attend open tryouts.

4. How are players selected?

Players are evaluated on technical ability, tactical understanding, decision-making, work rate, coachability, attitude, and growth potential. Selections are made using a consistent evaluation model.

5. When are tryouts held?

Tryouts are held in the spring prior to the start of the PDA season. Exact dates, times, and locations are announced in advance and remain subject to field availability.

6. How often does PDA train?

Teams typically train on Sundays in the late afternoon to early evening, plus selected showcase or tournament events.

7. Where will the team train?

Training locations generally alternate between centrally located sites in the region, including North and South options, pending field availability, to support accessibility for families across the league.

8. How long is the PDA season?

The season runs approximately six months, typically from late spring through early fall.

9. What is the cost of the program?

The program cost is approximately \$300 and includes the player kit package. Players keep their training gear and return game kits at the end of the season.

10. Is financial assistance available?

The academy is designed to keep costs manageable for families. Additional support options may be considered if needed.

11. Will my child get exposure to higher-level opportunities?

PDA allows players to train with top peers, compete in advanced competition and showcase events, and be evaluated for future development opportunities. Advancement is not guaranteed, but PDA prepares players for the next step.

12. Can my player participate in both PDA and EPD?

Due to overlapping training schedules, participating in both supplemental programs at the same time is not feasible. PDA tryouts are scheduled to allow players not selected for PDA to still pursue other opportunities.

13. Will PDA conflict with club practices or games?

PDA is structured to minimize conflict. However, players and families should review schedules carefully before committing.

14. Are players required to attend every session?

Yes. Consistent attendance is expected. PDA is a commitment-based program designed for motivated players.

15. What is expected of players selected for PDA?

Players are expected to attend consistently, train independently between sessions, demonstrate professionalism and effort, and represent their club and league with integrity.

16. What tournaments or showcase events are included?

Teams may participate in select regional events or showcase tournaments. Players selected for travel teams will be chosen separately based on coach observation, performance, and training attendance. Players selected for travel events will be responsible for their own travel-related costs.

17. How are PDA coaches selected?

Coaches are licensed and experienced leaders selected through a structured process aligned with league standards and development philosophy.

18. How is fairness ensured in player selection?

The academy operates under league oversight. Coaches are expected to evaluate players objectively and maintain club neutrality. Selection is based on performance and potential—not club affiliation.

19. What makes PDA different from private training programs?

PDA is league-supported, collaborative across clubs, focused on long-term development, affordable and accessible, and designed as a pathway within the league structure.

20. Who do I contact with additional questions?

Families should contact the PDA Director or designated league administrator for scheduling, registration, and program-specific questions.
