



# SF Seals Academy Super Y League Program 2007 Season



We are proud to announce another year of the SF Seals Academy Super Y League Program. We are expanding our program to include a number of new teams; including girl's teams this season. We want to introduce who we are and the program we provide.

The SF Seals have a storied soccer history here in the Bay Area including a number of youth State and Regional championships. In 1997, the team gained national prominence by reaching the semi-finals of the US National Open Cup against MLS team, DC United. On their way to that game, the Seals upset three great teams: the Seattle Sounders, the KC Wizards and the SJ Clash. After the Clash victory, which the Seals won in a dramatic 2-1 come from behind win in the last 17 minutes of the game, the Seals were crowned America's "*Team of the Year*" by USA today. US Soccer's website listed those two matches among the top 10 in the 100 year history of the US Open Cup. Many of those players have gone on to play professionally around the world. To learn more about our rich history visit our website, [www.oursseals.com](http://www.oursseals.com). The SF Seals play in the Premier Development League currently.

Since 1985, SF Seals has always been dedicated to the development of youth soccer in the Bay Area and now promotes this concept through the SF Seals Academy and its Super Y League (SYL) Programs.

## **USL SUPER Y-LEAGUE**

The future of youth soccer lives in the USL Super Y-League, a professionalized system that is the first step for developing elite youth soccer players in North America. Affiliated with US Soccer and partnered with US Club Soccer, the league is designed for talented youth players destined for professional or international careers. The league contains the youth academies of USL First Division, USL Second Division, Premier Development League, W-League, and Major League Soccer clubs, as well as many of the established premier youth clubs. The 2006 campaign featured over 800 teams within the U13 to U17 boys and girls age groups competing within 10 geographic divisions of the U.S. and Canada. For more information about the Super Y league and the United Soccer Leagues, visit their website at [www.superyleague.com](http://www.superyleague.com)

## **PLAYER IDENTIFICATION**

This program was established to assemble the best talent in the outlying region drawing from San Francisco, San Mateo, Marin, and Alameda counties and place them in an environment to develop and showcase their skills. The SYL has an official Olympic Development Program (ODP) sanctioned by the United States Olympic Committee and the United Soccer Federation to identify players to U.S. National Team Programs. Through Olympic Development Program status events such as the North American Finals and National ODP Camps, the nation's top youth players are identified for selection to US National Team Programs. The National Finals attracts college coaches as well as National and Regional coaches to scout players. The National finals will be held November 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, and will be held in Orlando, Florida. Teams qualify for the National finals by placing 1st or 2nd in their SYL.



In addition to the SYL National event, the SF Seals Academy will provide exposure to college coaches with whom they have relationships, and will promote players to other colleges of interest by a specific player. Each player may choose to participate with a profile online that will allow college coaches to review their information.



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## **SF SEALS ACADEMY SYL PROGRAM**

Academy teams will play SYL and will not be in direct competition with clubs and club teams that may provide players to this program in their league play. Furthermore, players who join the Seals for SYL are EXPECTED to return to their club teams when their club teams play in tournaments or league.

Our intention is to create a borderless program where elite players can have the opportunity to play with players of their own caliber and to give them the ability to be viewed by college, ODP and National Team scouts as they play their league games. SF Seals Academy teams will be playing in the Pacific Northern California Division and is proud to be affiliated with the PDL team, the SF Seals and the newly formed USL Division 1 Team, the California Victory owned by Spanish Professional Club, *Deportivo Alaves*.

**It is the intent of the Super Y League program to put the best 18 players available on the field for each game. Some players may pay their money, train through the entire season and play limited or no minutes in a game.**

It is the expectation in SYL, that parents and players understand that they are paying for the training environment, and everyone competes for the opportunity to play in games. Game time is earned and is the sole decision of the Head Coach. The level of players at practice will elevate the training of all players in this environment, as teams will be comprised of the best regional players. We desire to create the best possible teams with the intention of getting to the National level to assure exposure for our players.

Players for age groups U13-U17 will be eligible for this program based on the following criteria.

- U13 (players born on/after 8/1/93)
- U14 (players born on/after 8/1/92)
- U15 (players born on/after 8/1/91)
- U16 (players born on/after 8/1/90)
- U17 (players born on/after 8/1/89)

**SEASON:** The season runs from April to October and includes teams from the Bay Area and from Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, Sacramento, Ripon and Clovis. The schedule of games will be released in February. Games will likely begin the first weekend of May and completed by August. This extended season is only intended to provide some scheduling flexibility and will not interfere with the club fall season matches. It is also likely that the schedule will be adjusted after its release and may include weeknight games.

**PRACTICES:** SYL teams are expected to practice once a week. If players from other clubs are on the team, it is the hope and expectation that those players continue to get training in their own club environment. A couple of our SYL teams also play club in other leagues. These teams will practice more frequently in the club environment. Practice locations and schedules may vary by individual teams. Practices and Home games will be held at various locations. Each team will handle their practice schedules. Home games for older teams will also be played at various venues, including at Negoesco Stadium at USF. Coaches from the Seals PDL, California Victory, USF and other colleges may occasionally attend games to watch for prospects.

**GAMES:** The season will consist of approximately 10-15 games, depending on the number of participating teams in the age group. There will be an equivalent number of home and away games and travel is anticipated and games may potentially occur on weekdays as well.



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**COACHING:** Players will be exposed to many of the SF Seals Academy coaches for training purposes. Each team will have a head coach and team manager who are directly responsible for the teams.

**ROSTER:** Official Rosters in Super Y League can hold up to 26 players with only 18 allowed to dress for each game. This is in part because of player availability during the summer months, but is also part of the SYL program philosophy. Expanded rosters are important because there may be overlaps in league schedules with the participating clubs, which may create some conflicts. We will try and minimize the conflicts but some may be unavoidable and the expanded roster allows flexibility to meet our game commitments.

**COST:** We currently estimate the cost at \$550 per player, which covers a home and away uniform, coaching/training costs, referee expenses, field expenses, player registration, team registration, and Academy fees. Any travel or tournament fees outside of the National finals are additional. The SF Seals Academy realizes that the total cost may be a hardship for some families, and are willing to work with those families to fit their budget.

Fundraising activities are expected, and participation in one Seals Ticket Fundraising event is mandatory. Other fundraising events can be conducted by individual teams. Funds from these events can help to pay for additional expenses for tournaments for example, or to be used to offset travel fees.

If you are interested in this opportunity, want to tryout, or require more information about this program, visit the SF Seals Academy website at [www.sfsealsacademy.com](http://www.sfsealsacademy.com). Tryouts are or will be posted on the website for specific age groups. Please attend one of the specific tryout dates for the desired age groups and sign and bring attached Player Registration Form. In the future, registration will be handled on the website, but until then it will be done at tryouts and with the individual Program Managers. If you need any additional information, feel free to contact one of the program coordinators below.

## **Boys SYL Program Manager**

Thomas Gaa  
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## **Girls SYL Program Manager**

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650.996.1963



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**Player Tryout Registration Form**

<b>Player Name</b>							
<b>Team Name</b>							
<b>Gender</b>	<b>B / G</b>	<b>Age Group</b>	<b>U13</b>	<b>U14</b>	<b>U15</b>	<b>U16</b>	<b>U17</b>
<b>Date of Birth:</b>							
<b>Address</b>							
<b>City. State. Zip</b>							
<b>Telephone:</b>							
<b>Mobile phone:</b>							
<b>E-mail :</b>							
<b>Health Insurance</b>	<b>Yes / No</b>		<b>If Yes, Provider:</b>				
<b>Emergency contact (Name &amp; Phone)</b>							

**Waiver Statement:**

I do not hold the San Francisco Seals Academy, its organization (San Francisco United Soccer Club), the participating clubs, or any individual associated with the San Francisco Seals or SFUSC, liable for any type of injury or other consequence that impacts on me or my well being. Injuries or consequences may result from, but are not limited to, events that occur while leading up to, during or after a Seals soccer event, practice, tryout, travel, or game. I acknowledge that soccer has potential risks associated with participation, that could affect my life and physical well-being. I am personally responsible for any consequence that effects my life or well being and that results from participation in Seals activities.

**Parent or Legal Guardian**

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Player: \_\_\_\_\_

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