



The Enfield Soccer Association's PDA is designed for youth soccer players in Enfield looking to transition to a more competitive environment. The PDA's primary focus is to develop players to their greatest potential by providing top-quality instruction and exposure to high levels of competition. Our training curriculum has been carefully designed by our very dedicated and experienced staff. The training and experiences offered to youth players in the PDA allow them to gain confidence and grow as players while developing at their own pace. The PDA instruction model closely aligns with the teachings of U.S. Soccer.

This is a very critical age in a young player's development. We have assembled a great team of coaches and trainers to lead our PDA teams. We have grown that team even more with the additions of Coach Kate Battista, Coach Maggie Sayers, and Coach Mike Desroches. Coach Kate and Coach Maggie will be joining our boys and girls PDA teams as ESA Developmental Staff coaches. Coach Kate is the Enfield High School Girls Varsity Coach, and Coach Maggie serves as the Enfield High School Girls JV Coach. Coach Mike Desroches is the Enfield High School Boys Varsity Assistant Coach. Coach Mike is also the head coach our U-8 Boys Academy team. ESA's Director of Coaching Jay Rousseau and our Director of Player Development Carmen Nuccio have done a great job building the coaching curriculum to maximize player development in the PDA. Our team is committed to designing instructional training that helps each player reach his/her maximum potential. The implementation of training and games also aligns with the small-sided development plan designed by U.S. Youth Soccer.

Families can certainly travel out of town to find similar high-level training programs that usually cost several hundred dollars, but why do that when we offer our program here in Enfield designed by our ever-growing team of extremely skilled and decorated soccer minds. The ESA is committed to growing the game of soccer in Enfield. We are invested in our youth soccer players. We strive to provide a high level of training and provide the children with enjoyable experiences through soccer.



ESA Coach Kate Battista



ESA Coach Maggie Sayers



**U-8 Girls
Coach Jeff Gentes**



**U-8 Boys
Coach Mike Desroches**



**U-9 Boys
Coach Jay Rousseau**



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the ESA Player Development Academy (PDA)?

A: The PDA is a competitive program of instructional training that helps 7, 8, and 9-year-old players reach their maximum potential. It is bridge that helps players transition from recreational to competitive soccer. A primary focus of the PDA is to develop players to their greatest potential through providing top-quality instruction and exposure to high levels of competition. The curriculum for this program is based on having the players get lots of touches on the ball, while learning basic foot skills. The players will also learn the fundamentals of soccer, such as, positioning, rules, and playing as a team.

Q: How often are practices?

A: The PDA teams practice twice a week in Enfield for (1) hour each training session.

Q: Where are the games located?

A: The PDA U-8 Boys and Girls teams play ALL their games at the ROOTS Soccer Facility in Westfield, MA on 181 ROOT Road. This is roughly 25 minutes from Enfield.

The PDA U-9 Boys teams travel to local Massachusetts towns such as Ludlow, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Agawam, Westfield, Southwick etc. Half of the games will be considered “home” games right here in Enfield. The other Half will be “away” games. All league games for U-8 & U-9 are played on Saturdays. There is a total of 8 league games every season.

Q: What are the age ranges for the PDA?

A: For the Spring of 2022, we are welcoming Boys players born between August 1, 2012, and July 31, 2015. We are welcoming Girls players born between August 1, 2013 and July 31, 2015.

Q: Is the PDA co-ed teams like Rec Soccer?

A: No, we offer separate boys and girls teams.

Q: What is the difference between the Competitive PDA and Recreational Soccer that we are used to?

A: The PDA plays under the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association in the Roots Soccer League. This is a competitive league with multiple teams from Western Mass. Games are structured in quick 15min thirds to allow coaches a chance to give their players extra guidance, and the referee is a "mentor" helping teach the laws of the game.

Q: Does my child have to try out for the PDA?

A: No, there are no tryouts for the Player Development Academy, we welcome all players.

Q: My child has other activities other than soccer. Are they allowed to play in both the PDA and their other sports?

A: Yes. We encourage players to participate in multiple sports and activities to find out what they enjoy best. We understand soccer may interfere with other sports and activities. Coaches will do their best to schedule practices ahead of time. However, they can't always meet every family's schedule. With that said, there is an expectation that each player make as many team activities as possible.

Q: How much does the PDA cost?

A: The cost is just \$100.00 per season. Uniform costs are additional.

Q: When should I register?

A: As soon as possible. For the Spring of 2022, the Roots Soccer League requires that we send in our team entries and rosters in early March. We also expect a high demand for our Spring 2022 PDA program. In order to guarantee a spot please don't delay in registering your child on our website: enfieldsoccer.net

Q: I have additional questions. Where can I get more information about the ESA PDA?

A: Feel free to contact our ESA Director of Coaching Jay Rousseau via email at jay@enfieldsoccer.com