



# 2026 GTYSC SUMMER HOUSE LEAGUE

## GRASSROOTS

- BOYS U8 (2018), BOYS U9 (2017) -  
- PROGRAM PACKAGE -

Summer House League • Boys • Development First Program!

### AT A GLANCE

★ **GAMES:** 5v5 FORMAL GAMES  
(Rules, Scores, and Schedules to be provided)

★ **LOCATION:**  
SOUTHWARD PARK, GRIMSBY  
FOR ALL GAMES

★ **SEASON DATES:**  
MAY 26 - AUGUST 11th

🗳️ **EARLY BIRD PRICING:**

**NEW FOR 2026!** ★

+ ALL STAR PROGRAM & 4 BRAND NEW FIELDS  
AT SOUTHWARD PARK!

🗳️ **EARLY BIRD PRICING:**  
Tiered pricing available until  
April 14 on PowerUp

**REGISTER NOW!**



# 2026 GTYSC Summer House League - Grassroots (BU8/U9) - Program Package

*Summer House League • Boys • Development First Program!*

## 1. Program Overview

The Grassroots BU8/U9 program is designed as the next step in a player’s journey through the game.

At this stage, players move into a more structured house league environment where they begin to experience formal team play, weekly games, and the early habits that help them grow in confidence on and off the ball. The program is built to balance development, enjoyment, and competition in the right way for this age.

Players will take part in a 5v5 league-format season against other GTYSC teams, with opportunities to continue building technical ability, game understanding, teamwork, and confidence throughout the summer. The focus remains development first, but in a format that feels more like real soccer.

This division is a great fit for players who are ready to move beyond introductory soccer and into a more game-based team environment.

## 2. At-a-Glance Details

<b>Program:</b>	Grassroots Summer House League
<b>Age Group:</b>	BU8 (2018), BU9 (2017)
<b>Format:</b>	5v5 Formal Games (Rules, Scores, and Schedules to be provided)
<b>Game Day:</b>	Tuesdays (6:00pm or 7:00pm kick offs)
<b>Training Day:</b>	(TBD by Volunteer Coach and Revolution Soccer)
<b>Season Length:</b>	12 weeks
<b>Dates:</b>	May 26 - August 11
<b>End of Season Tournament:</b>	August 15
<b>Blackout Dates:</b>	July 1, August 3
<b>Make-Up Sessions:</b>	Added throughout the season (final day stays the same)
<b>Location:</b>	Southward Park
<b>Playing Surface:</b>	Grass
<b>Uniform (included):</b>	Jersey, Shorts, Socks, and a Ball
<b>Equipment (not included):</b>	Soccer Cleats and Shin Pads

<b>Registration:</b>	Early Bird Tiered Pricing available until April 14 on <a href="#">PowerUp</a>
<b>Schedules:</b>	Internal via <a href="#">PowerUp</a>
<b>Coaches:</b>	Volunteers Needed with the support of Revolution Soccer
<b>NEW for 2026!!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 brand new fields at Southward park, these fields are tailored to the age group.</li> <li>- The division will also see it align with Grimsby Travel teams who also play on this size format.</li> </ul>
<b>ALL-STAR PROGRAM!!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Start of the ALL-STAR Program in 2026 (Bridging the gap between Recreational and Travel Soccer!) Players will be identified throughout the season.</li> </ul>

### 3. Who Is This Program For?

This program is designed for boys who are ready for the next step in their soccer journey.

It is ideal for players who:

- want to play in a more structured team environment
- are ready to experience formal 5v5 games
- enjoy learning through playing
- want to continue developing confidence with the ball and in game situations
- may eventually progress toward more advanced grassroots or travel opportunities

This division still welcomes both returning and newer players, but the overall experience is more team-based and game-focused than the younger age groups. Players are beginning to learn how to play with teammates, how to make decisions in real game moments, and how to compete in a positive environment.

Every child develops at a different pace. Some players will be ready to lead the way, while others may need a little more time and encouragement. Our aim is to create a setting where players can enjoy the game, feel part of a team, and continue building confidence each week.

Parents or guardians are encouraged to share any support needs in advance so the club can help create the best possible experience for each player.

### 4. What the Season Looks Like

This division is designed to give players a real house league experience in a format that matches their age and stage.

Across the summer, players will:

- be placed onto a team within the division

- play weekly 5v5 formal games against other GTYSC teams
- follow schedules, scores, and standings through PowerUp
- begin to understand team play in a more structured environment
- take part in an end-of-season playoff and tournament-style finish to the season

Depending on team volunteer support and scheduling, teams may also have additional training opportunities arranged with Revolution Soccer support.

This age group is about helping players start to understand the game more fully. That includes:

- playing with teammates consistently
- attacking and defending in game situations
- using space better
- making decisions under pressure
- learning how to compete with the right attitude

The goal is to give players an enjoyable, organized, and development-focused season that feels like a real next step in soccer.

## 5. What Parents Should Expect

At BU8/U9, players are beginning their soccer experience.

Parents still play an important role, but this age group is less about direct on-field involvement and more about helping players arrive prepared, stay positive, and grow in independence over the course of the season.

Parent volunteer coaches are still needed for this age group and we now have a new coaching day for any of the coaches who are in the house league divisions.

### Parent & Guardian Expectations

- A parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver must remain on-site for the full session/game.
- Players should arrive ready to participate with the correct equipment and water.
- Parents are encouraged to support positively from the sideline.
- Respect for coaches, teammates, referees, and other families is expected at all times.
- Parents may be asked to help with practical matters such as washroom needs, emotional resets, or other support where required.
- Siblings may attend as spectators, but should remain off the field unless registered in their own program.
- If a child is settling into the environment or needs added support, club staff may work with the family to help make that transition smoother.

At this stage, one of the biggest wins is helping players grow in confidence, responsibility, and enjoyment within a team environment.

## 6. Coaching & Safety

Volunteer coaches play an important role in making this division run well.

Each team will be required to have 1-2 coaching volunteers for the season in order to make teams run effectively. While the bi-weekly training program is supported by professional coaching staff through Revolution Soccer, team volunteers help provide consistency, communication, and a stronger team experience across the season. At this age, that consistency matters. Players benefit from familiar faces, clear expectations, and coaches who help build connection within the team.

### **Why Volunteer Coaches Matter**

Volunteer coaches help:

- support team organization and communication
- create a more consistent weekly team environment
- Instruct and manage during games.
- help players settle in and stay engaged
- reinforce positive behaviour and sportsmanship
- work alongside Revolution Soccer and club staff
- support a safe, organized, and enjoyable experience for all players

Volunteer coaches are not expected to deliver everything alone. Their role is to work in partnership with the club and Revolution Soccer support structure.

### **How Many Volunteer Coaches Are Needed?**

Each team should aim to have 1–2 consistent volunteer coaches across the season.

### **Who Can Volunteer?**

Parents, guardians, or committed family members are encouraged to get involved. Soccer experience is helpful, but not required. Reliability, positivity, and a willingness to support young players go a long way.

### **Volunteer Coaches Support Day – May 9**

Grimsby Soccer Club will host a Volunteer Coaches Support Day led by the Technical Director to help prepare coaches ahead of the season. More information will be sent out closer to the date.

### **How to Volunteer**

Interested families can register their interest through the **Get Involved** tab on their PowerUp profile.

### **Safety & Supervision**

All volunteer coaches are expected to follow club guidance relating to player welfare, behaviour, and session safety while working alongside club and Revolution Soccer staff.

### **A great way to get involved:**

Volunteering is a great way to support your child's experience, contribute to the club, and play a part in creating a positive first introduction to soccer for all players.

For many families, it is also a great way to build connections within the team and become more involved in the club community.

**Interested in helping as a volunteer coach? Please register your interest through the Get Involved tab on your PowerUp profile.**

## **7. Equipment & Uniform**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
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<b>Footwear</b>	Soccer Cleats are Recommended. Trainers are also acceptable. No open toe shoes.
<b>Shin guards</b>	Mandatory and worn under socks for all sessions and game play.
<b>Socks</b>	Club socks are included in the kit. Players may wear them once distributed; if the kit is not yet handed out, any soccer socks are fine.
<b>Uniform handout</b>	Distributed at the first session by the team coach.
<b>Sizing and numbers</b>	First come first serve, please work directly with your coach.
<b>Ball</b>	One size 3 ball is included. Label the ball and all apparel with the player's name & number – please bring to all sessions/games.
<b>Opting out of included kit</b>	No - the package is bundled and the fee is not reduced if a family already owns a ball or similar item.

## 8. Fees, Payment, & Registration

The Grassroots program uses a tiered registration pricing model, with the cost increasing as the season gets closer. This is designed to reward families who register early, while also helping the club plan appropriately for field space, staffing, equipment, and uniforms ahead of the summer season.

### Registration Fees:

- \$285 – Early Bird #1 available until March 29<sup>th</sup>
- \$310 – Early Bird #2 available until April 14<sup>th</sup>
- \$335 – Regular registration
- The only reason the fee changes is the registration window. Families who register earlier receive the best price, while later registration reflects the added challenges of finalizing numbers, staffing, and program planning closer to the season start date.

### What is included in the Registration Fee:

- participation in the 12-week summer program
- player insurance and enrollment into Ontario Soccer
- support from professional Revolution Soccer coaches
- a team uniform package
- a structured, age-appropriate introduction to soccer in a fun and supportive environment
- dedicated full-time administrative support

### Payment Methods:

- Families may register through **PowerUp** using the available payment options. Log-in/create a profile here: <https://grimsbysoccer.powerupsports.com>

- Credit card payments are subject to a 3% processing surcharge
- E-transfer payments do not carry this surcharge
- All Receipts are available through PowerUp once registration has been completed

**E-transfer Notes:**

- Please e-transfer: [payments@grimsbysoccer.com](mailto:payments@grimsbysoccer.com)

If paying by e-transfer, families should ensure the player’s name and program name are included clearly in the payment memo or notes field. This helps the club match payments accurately and avoid delays.

If an e-transfer is not matched immediately, the club will manually review payments using the participant name and program listed. Families who are unsure whether payment has been received are encouraged to contact the club admin team for confirmation.

**When is registration considered complete?**

A registration spot should only be considered fully confirmed once:

- the player’s registration details have been submitted, and
- payment has been received and matched to that registration
- Submitting registration details without payment does not guarantee a place in the program unless the club has specifically confirmed otherwise.

**Registration Timelines:**

Families are encouraged to register as early as possible to:

- secure the lowest available price
- help the club plan coaches and group sizes
- support timely ordering of uniforms and equipment
- reduce the risk of missing out if the program reaches capacity

**Important Registration Notes:**

- All registration are processed online through PowerUp: <https://grimsbysoccer.powerupsports.com/>
- Program spaces may be limited based on field capacity, staffing, and player-to-coach ratios
- Once the program reaches capacity, additional players may be placed on a waitlist
- A preseason email with final program details should be sent closer to the start of the season

**Financial Support:**

Families seeking support with registration costs are encouraged to explore external funding programs, including:

- Internal Payment plans may be considered where available and approved by the club.
- [Canadian Tire Jumpstart](#) – offers individual child grants to help eligible families cover sport and recreation costs.

- [KidSport Ontario](#) – provides grants to help eligible children and youth in Ontario participate in organized sport
- Families are encouraged to review eligibility requirements, funding availability, and application deadlines directly through each program’s website and apply as early as possible.

### Need Help?

Families with questions about registration, payment, or account setup should contact the club’s administration team for support: [admin@grimsbysoccer.com](mailto:admin@grimsbysoccer.com)

## 9. Refund & Cancellation Policy

The club’s refund and cancellation policy is intended to provide clarity for families while supporting the planning and delivery of the program.

1. **Prior to the registration closing date**, families may withdraw from the program and receive a **full refund less a \$25 administrative fee**.
2. **After the registration closing date of May 15, but before the first scheduled session**, families may withdraw and receive a **50% refund less the \$25 administrative fee**.
3. **After the second scheduled session, no refunds will be issued**, except where supported by **medical documentation** or **where an exceptional circumstance** has been reviewed and approved by the club.
4. **No refund, credit, or replacement session will be provided for individual absences or missed sessions.**
5. **Where sessions are cancelled due to weather or circumstances outside the club’s control, the club may attempt to arrange a make-up session. Any make-up session remains at the discretion of the club and is subject to field access, staffing, and scheduling availability.**

## 10. Recommended Weather & Communication Policy

Player safety always comes first.

Outdoor sessions and games may go ahead in light rain where the field remains safe and playable. However, the club may delay, suspend, modify, or cancel programming due to lightning, thunder, unsafe field conditions, severe weather, extreme heat, poor air quality, or any condition that may affect player safety.

This policy is informed by Ontario Soccer’s player safety guidance and applies to all outdoor sessions.

- Outdoor sessions may proceed in **light rain** where the field remains safe and playable.
- Sessions may be **delayed, suspended, or cancelled** at the sole discretion of the club due to **lightning, thunder, unsafe field conditions, severe weather, extreme heat, poor air quality, or other conditions that may affect participant safety**. Ontario Soccer guidance states that if thunder is heard, participants should move to safe shelter immediately and should not return until **30 minutes after the last sound of thunder or flash of lightning**.

- The **Town of Grimsby** may also **notify the club of field closures or cancellations**, and where this occurs, the club will communicate those cancellations to all affected players and program families as soon as possible.
- Where possible, the club will aim to communicate cancellations or major updates by **4:30pm on program day**. However, weather can change quickly, and in some cases a decision may need to be made **on-site** in the interest of safety.
- The club will communicate weather-related updates through its **primary communication channels**, including **email and/or PowerUp announcements**. Families should ensure their contact details are up to date and monitor these channels on questionable weather days.
- In periods of **extreme heat**, the club may modify activities, add extra water breaks, shorten session time, or cancel programming where necessary. Ontario Soccer notes that young children are among the groups at greater risk during heat events
- If a session is cancelled due to weather or field closure, the club may attempt to arrange a **make-up session** where possible; however, make-up sessions are **not guaranteed** and remain subject to field access, staffing availability, and program scheduling.
- If a session is stopped after a significant portion has already been completed, the club may consider the session delivered.

## 11. Teams, Groups, & Friend Requests

This division is designed to create an enjoyable and organized team-season experience.

Players will be placed onto teams based on overall registration numbers, with a view to creating balanced rosters and fair game opportunities throughout the summer. Teams in this age group will be identified by colour.

### Team Formation Notes

- Players will be placed into teams depending on overall registration
- Team sizes will be built to support fair and balanced league play
- The club will aim to balance teams as well as possible
- Final team placement is always subject to registration numbers and division structure

### Friend Requests

Families may submit friend requests through the roster notes section in PowerUp during registration.

Requests will be reviewed by the convenor and administration team when teams are built. The club will do its best to accommodate requests where practical, but they cannot be guaranteed.

## 12. Inclusion & Additional Support

We welcome players of all backgrounds, experiences, and abilities into the program.

Our goal is to create a positive and supportive environment where every player has the opportunity to take part, enjoy the season, and feel included.

If your child has any additional support needs, families are encouraged to share this with the club before the season begins so coaches and staff can prepare appropriately.

This may include, but is not limited to:

- asthma or allergies
- EpiPen requirements
- hearing aids or glasses
- emotional or behavioural support needs
- mobility or participation considerations

Where appropriate, a parent, guardian, or approved support aide may attend to help the child participate successfully, in line with club safeguarding expectations.

Parents or guardians remain responsible for administering medication or providing direct personal care unless otherwise outlined by club policy.

The more information families share in advance, the better prepared the club can be to support each player well.

## 13. Communication & Contacts

Question type	Best contact
Registration, payment, receipts, matching e-transfers	Senior Administrator - admin@grimsbysoccer.com
Coaching, program delivery, player support questions	Technical Director - technicaldirector@grimsbysoccer.com

**Clear and consistent communication helps ensure families are well prepared and kept informed throughout the season.**

- The club will use communication to keep families informed throughout the season and to share important program information in a timely manner.
- **General club communication** may include items such as monthly newsletters, registration reminders, upcoming program announcements, and other important club updates.
- **Program-specific communication** will include key information relating to Mini Kickers, such as final program confirmation, important dates, coach information, team details, and season schedules.
- Communication will be sent **primarily through PowerUp**, so families should ensure their account details are accurate and kept up to date.
- To stay fully informed and receive all relevant club and program updates, families should make sure that their PowerUp profile has the **appropriate marketing opt-in selected**.
- It is the responsibility of parents or guardians to ensure their contact information, including email address and phone number where required, is current within the system.

- Families should **monitor PowerUp regularly**, particularly in the lead-up to the season and during the program period, to avoid missing **important updates or announcements**.

## 14. Development Pathway & All-Star Opportunities

BU8/U9 is an important stage in the Grimsby player pathway.

This division helps bridge the gap between introductory soccer and more advanced development opportunities by giving players a more realistic game format, more team understanding, and more exposure to structured play.

### **New for 2026: All-Star Program**

As part of the club's development pathway, players may be identified throughout the season for involvement in the new All-Star Program, designed to help bridge the gap between recreational and travel soccer.

This does not change the core purpose of the division, which remains development first. However, it gives families a clearer sense of the pathway available for players who continue to grow, show commitment, and are ready for further challenge.

## 15. What Players Will Develop This Season

This program is designed to give players more than just weekly game time. It is built to help them grow in the areas that matter most at this age and stage of development.

Parents should expect their child to develop:

- greater confidence in formal 5v5 games
- improved dribbling, passing, receiving, shooting, and ball control in realistic game situations
- better understanding of simple team concepts such as spacing, support, attacking, and defending
- increased comfort making decisions under pressure
- stronger teamwork, sportsmanship, and resilience
- greater independence, responsibility, and confidence within a team setting

What makes this program different is the club's investment in delivering this stage properly:

- professional coaching support through Revolution Soccer
- volunteer coaches supported through clear club guidance
- quality facilities and organized league structure
- a development-first approach that values learning and enjoyment while still introducing real game structure
- alignment with the broader player pathway within the club

This age group is no longer just about being active and having a first experience. It is about helping players start to understand the game, enjoy being part of a team, and build toward what comes next.

## 16. Parent FAQ

**What age must my child be?**

Minimum 8 years old by the program start date and must fall within the listed birth years.

**Does my child need experience?**

No. The division is open to both new and returning players, although it is a more structured environment than the younger age groups.

**Do I stay for the session?**

Yes. A parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver must remain on-site.

**Are games formal?**

Yes. This division uses a formal 5v5 game format, with schedules, scores, and standings provided through PowerUp.

**Will there be training as well as games?**

Bi-weekly training with Revolution Soccer. Coaches might want to add an additional training night depending on their availability.

**Are friend requests guaranteed?**

No, but the club will do its best where practical, but requests cannot be guaranteed.

**What footwear is required?**

Soccer Cleats are Recommended. Trainers are also acceptable. No open toe shoes.

**How do I know if the session/game is cancelled?**

Through the club's official communication channel - best practice is email plus PowerUp.

**What if my child misses a week?**

They simply return the following week. Missed individual sessions are not refunded.

