

# United FC Michigan/Sporting United FC/Sporting Michigan Financial Assistance Policy – “*Soccer Aid*”

United FC Michigan (UFCM), Sporting United FC (SUFC) and Sporting Michigan (SMI) strive to provide a high-quality soccer experience for all our participants. We understand the financial commitments related to soccer and are committed to working with our families to be sure every child can enjoy playing soccer within our club.

By going through the regular club registration process and to help families budget for their specific travel soccer program, we offer the flexibility of using an installment payment plan for club players. This can minimize the financial impact of having to pay for the full program up-front.

If the timing and amount of the offered installment plan is not sufficient to meet your family’s needs and you have the ability to pay the full amount of your annual membership dues, then we are happy to work with your family on an alternative payment plan.

While installment plans help the majority of our families make the soccer year affordable, some families may still need financial assistance in order for their child(ren) to participate. UFCM, SUFC and SMI offer aid to players who demonstrate need. If your family needs financial assistance for the upcoming soccer year/season, please complete the financial assistance request form.

Club players may apply for financial assistance prior to registering each season. Please complete the financial assistance request form and specify your desired amount of assistance.

***Financial Assistance Application: To request the financial assistance application, please send an email to [soccceraid.scholarshipfund@gmail.com](mailto:soccceraid.scholarshipfund@gmail.com) and the application will be emailed to you.***

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS**

UFCM, SUFC and SMI will attempt to award financial assistance to suit individual family need. Awards will be granted based on several factors including but not limited to your family’s income, participation in the National Free and Reduced Price Meals for Schools program, number of children with the Club, player(s) age(s), player’s/family’s relevant history within UFCM/SUFC/SMI, the number of applicants and the budgeted amount available for financial assistance awards. We will also consider documented extenuating financial circumstances. We do not guarantee you will receive assistance or receive the amount you have requested.

UFCM/SUFC/SMI may require proof of income, tax returns, proof of participation in the National Free and Reduced Price Meals for Schools program, or other documentation to verify.

Financial assistance awards are only given for club registration fees. They are not designated for extracurricular training, summer camps, spring break camps, uniforms, training kits or travel expenses. The total amount awarded to a player by the club will not exceed 75% of the total annual registration fees except for extraordinary circumstances.

## **SOCCER AID FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**

The Soccer Aid Financial Review Committee is made up of **NON**-UFCM/SUFC/SMI employees/ owners/founders and makes decisions regarding financial assistance, including whether a family qualifies for assistance and the amount awarded. Financial assistance applications will only be reviewed by the Soccer Aid Financial Review Committee. All information will remain confidential.

## **VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT**

Each family that receives financial assistance will be required to complete some volunteer service. Volunteers are needed throughout the year for tournaments, field set up and tear down and many other club events. At times, the Club Owners, Executive Directors, Club Administrators, or the Soccer Aid Committee may reach out to our financial assistance recipients with volunteer opportunities. It also remains the responsibility of the family to seek out volunteer hours.

Volunteer hours will be considered when considering future requests for financial assistance awards. If a family does not volunteer, further awards may not be considered. Though we keep track, please provide an email to [socceraid.scholarshipfund@gmail.com](mailto:socceraid.scholarshipfund@gmail.com) with the volunteer dates and hours your family provided for UFCM/SUFC/SMI.

