

RISE SOCCER CLUB FAQ

WHY DID RISE AND TEXANS SC DECIDE TO MERGE?

The soccer landscape in Houston is extremely complex and constantly changing, and it is the merger of these proud clubs in a historic endeavor to become the strongest youth soccer organization in Houston that sets the stage for improving player development. By pooling our vast resources, RISE will be able to provide players an unrivaled experience with minimal geographic challenges for the majority of our youth athletes, while maintaining the community element. Our combined facilities, coaching staff, and administrative resources will uniquely position RISE to provide opportunities for our players regardless of their level of play.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE MERGER? WHEN WILL WE BECOME RISE SC? WHAT WILL HAPPEN DURING THE SPRING SEASON?

The merger start date is officially April 2, 2019; however, RISE and Texans SC teams will continue to play under their current banners for the remainder of the Spring 2019 season. Meanwhile, the organizational transition will be ongoing so that we are able to operate as one club, RISE SC, starting in the Fall 2019 season. Effective in the Fall 2019/2020 season, the boys program will play under the "RISE - Texans" banner in the U.S. Soccer Development Academy (DA) and Elite Clubs National League (ECNL). The rest of our girls and boys teams will play under the "RISE" banner.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RUNNING THE CLUB?

RISE has one of the most diverse, highly decorated, and accomplished coaching staffs in the county overseeing the soccer programming. The club is run by the Executive Director, Colin Chesters. Colin has a strong coaching and leadership background, including running San Diego Surf, one of the top youth clubs in the county. More information on his experience can be found on the club website. In addition, the club will continue to encourage the help of volunteers.

WHAT IS THE BOARD STRUCTURE FOR THE NEW CLUB? WHAT ARE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES?

The Board of Directors will include an 8-member team, with representation from RISE and Texans SC. Responsibilities will include creating policies and strategic objectives, supporting the Executive Director, approving budgets, securing funding, and ensuring club performance.

WHAT IS THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR THE NEW CLUB? WHO ARE THE COACHES? WHAT OTHER EMPLOYEES WILL BE HIRED TO SUPPORT THE CLUB?

RISE is governed by an 8-member Board of Directors. Underneath the Board of Directors is the Executive Staff, which includes the administrative and coaching staff. As soon as information becomes available, it will be updated on our website. Our goal is to put in place the Executive Staff that will make RISE the best club it can be.

WHAT IS THE MEANING BEHIND THE RISE NAME?

The name RISE is the journey of like minded clubs, families and players coming together to elevate soccer in Houston. Our boards agreed the best long-term future for our clubs is as a single club, working together to combine resources and maximize our geographical advantages. The clubs that have come together to form RISE are proud, long-existing organizations within their communities. From these humble beginnings rooted in the 1970's came RISE SC. Our club badge and logo will incorporate a phoenix, the mythical bird that dies and rises again from its ashes. Oh, and yes we spell it with ALL CAPS. Together We RISE!

WILL RISE BE A NIKE OR ADIDAS CLUB?

Our athletes will be wearing Nike. All players will purchase a RISE SC kit. However, we are working collaboratively with Nike to provide a discount and to reduce the cost of uniforms.

WILL WE CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ALL OF OUR EXISTING FIELDS? WHAT ARE THE PLANS FOR FUTURE FIELD DEVELOPMENT?

RISE will maintain all existing facilities currently operated by RISE and Texans SC. We have collaborated with Challenge Soccer Club to make sure the player environment for kids in the North continues without interruption. Future plans for field development will be an early discussion topic of the RISE Board of Directors. Part of being a top club in the country is having the best facilities in the country. RISE has an unprecedented history in field development in Houston and possibly in the country. RISE and it's partners own the centrally located facilities at McGovern Park and South Campus.

HOW WILL THE MERGER IMPACT THE RECREATIONAL PROGRAM?

The recreational programs will remain geographically based and remain the same; however, RISE will look at options to expand the recreational program into North Houston. Every year we strive to improve and provide our players, regardless of their level of play, with the most innovative and comprehensive programming. Over the coming months, we will organize in-house scrimmages, cross-training, futsal and small sided games between our teams at all levels so everyone can get to know each other!

HOW WILL THE MERGER IMPACT THE YOUNGER AND NON-ELITE TEAMS?

Our larger player pool will allow the club to form elite teams from both RISE and Texans SC players, which can then compete at the highest levels nationally. All 11 v 11 and 9 v 9 age groups will have elite player programming. Our youngest and non-elite level teams will be formed from the players' local player pools and will train at their home campus.

WILL THE COACHING, TRAINING, OR PLAYING STYLE CHANGE?

Luckily, both RISE and Texans SC already have similar philosophies in regards to playing style and training. We do not anticipate a need for any major philosophical changes.

WHAT IS THE TRAINING CURRICULUM? WHO WILL CREATE IT?

RISE and Texans SC currently have excellent training curriculum's in place. We will combine forces to develop a new and improved curriculum to launch for the Fall 2019. Until then, the current curriculum will be used at all campuses.

WHAT WILL THE COACHING STAFF LOOK LIKE?

The coaching staff structure is still being created; however, we want the transition for players new to RISE to be exciting. We firmly believe that BETTER COACHES = BETTER PLAYERS and RISE will have the best staff in place to guide our kids. We hope to structure the coaching staff and assign coaches to teams in a way, which will keep players with familiar coaches. We understand this familiarity with the trainer(s) coaching your team is a matter of utmost importance, and we will announce more information as it becomes available.

WHICH LEAGUES WILL WE PARTICIPATE IN? WILL WE CONTINUE TO PLAY IN OUR CURRENT LEAGUES?

RISE will always seek to provide our players with the best possible developmental environments and platforms. We will be guided by the best interests of our players. RISE will partner with clubs, leagues, tournaments, and showcases, which best align with our objectives, values and the goals of our players.

HOW WILL THE TRYOUT PROCESS WORK? HOW WILL THE TEAMS BE SELECTED?

All players will be evaluated fairly by members of the RISE coaching staff. Evaluation sessions, related to the formation of teams, will be run by coaches from both clubs. Our goal is to get an overall picture of each player and not just make a determination based on watching one or two training sessions. By starting this process in April, the club can accomplish this goal prior to our formal tryouts in May to June time frame.

DUE TO TEAM CHEMISTRY IN THE OLDER AGE GROUPS, WILL TEAMS BE ALLOWED TO STAY TOGETHER?

If an existing team can bring state/national recognition to the program as they are currently structured or changes will primarily disrupt chemistry, then a team will stay together. However, if the club can create a stronger team, which can bring us state or national recognition, then the groups/players need to be combined.

WHAT TOURNAMENTS AND EVENTS WILL WE HOST? WHAT OTHER EVENTS WILL WE ENTER?

We anticipate continuing to host the existing Texans SC events along with the events RISE already organized. In regards to other tournaments, we will participate in local, state, and national events, such as the FC Dallas Showcase, Dallas Cup, Dallas Girls International Cup, CASL, Disney, Iber Cup, etc. The goal is to identify which events best suit the needs of each team. Travel will be involved for all elite teams.

WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS REGARDING TRAINING, GAMES, TOURNAMENT, AND TRAVEL?

We will be building an exciting schedule for all of teams, ability levels, and genders. This schedule will be presented to the players and families prior to the start of the Fall 2019 season. Travel requirements and commitment levels will be more extensive on the older top-level elite teams. These teams will be flying to events numerous times per year. For the younger teams, we will likely not leave Houston or the surrounding areas.

WHAT WILL IT COST TO PLAY FOR RISE? HOW MUCH WILL THE UNIFORMS COST?

These are all extremely important questions; however, at this time, we are unable to provide specific information. The fee structure for Fall 2019 is closely tied to Fall 2019 programming, which has not yet been finalized. More information on the Fall 2019 fee structure will be provided in the next few weeks.