

**Rio Rancho Soccer Club**  
**Updated June, 2008**  
**Scholarship Policy**

**Objective:** In the spirit of US Youth Soccer's mantra "[\*The Game For ALL Kids!\*](#)<sup>®</sup>", Rio Rancho Soccer Club (RRSC) strives to keep soccer affordable and wishes to reduce the economic barriers of playing soccer. As such, when funds are available, RRSC will make a limited number of scholarships available to deserving players.

**Program Name:** The official name of this scholarship program shall be the Rio Rancho Soccer Club Scholarship Fund.

**Rio Rancho SC Scholarship Fund Overview:**

- This association, at its Board of Directors meeting, will determine the dollar amount available on an annual basis.
- Scholarship amounts awarded will be based on the needs of the individual.
- Scholarships will be reviewed on a yearly basis.
- Any unused amount of the scholarship fund will remain in the fund to be used in future awards.
- The scholarship chairman will make recommendations to the president for review and approval.
- New applicants will be considered past the deadline if they are added to the team during the year if funding exists.
- RRSC will explore fundraising opportunities to increase the budget and expand the reach of the club's scholarship program.
- The RRSC Board shall review the program and policy yearly in an effort to improve it.

**Administration:** This scholarship program will be under the direct supervision of the Rio Rancho SC President. An appointed chairman will be directly responsible for administration of this.

**Criteria and Eligibility:** Any player is eligible to apply for a scholarship if an economic barrier could prevent the player from enjoying and playing soccer. **Financial need** will be the primary determinant in receiving a scholarship. In addition to **financial need**, the following factors will be taken into consideration in awarding the scholarship:

- Level of involvement of applicant in youth soccer, as a player, referee or coach.
- Level of involvement of applicant's family (parents, siblings) in youth soccer.
- Level of involvement in extra curricular activities (school, community).

### **Application Instructions and Important Information:**

- Applicant must complete the required RRSC Scholarship Application and return the completed application by the application deadline. The application can be found on our web site at [www.rioranchosoccer.com](http://www.rioranchosoccer.com).
- Scholarship applications are accepted throughout the year. Priority is given to those applications that are received by July 1st. Applications that are received after this deadline will be considered based on scholarship availability.
- **Financial need** will be the main factor in awarding a soccer scholarship. However, out of respect for privacy, RRSC will not request copies of W-2s, paychecks, tax returns etc. In lieu, as part of the scholarship application, the family will be asked to make an income statement declaring how much the family makes annually.
- For returning players, the **coach's endorsement** for a scholarship will be a key component of the scholarship application.
- Scholarship recipients will be asked to **volunteer** at least five-(5) hours (per child receiving a scholarship) during the 16-game season. The volunteerism could include such duties as assisting at registration, supporting the field manager with set-up, tear-down of fields on game day etc. This will be in addition to volunteering at the team level.
- All scholarship recipients will be required to pay for some portion of the league fees. That is, RRSC will **not grant 100% scholarships**. The board of RRSC wishes to increase the probability that the player/parent stick to soccer for entire season by having some financial involvement. This is particularly important for first year players where a coach's endorsement is not available.
- Both parent(s) and player(s) will be asked – as part of the application – to make a concerted effort to **attend practice and games regularly**, and be active participants in youth soccer.

**Non-Discrimination Clause:** No one will be disqualified from consideration because of sex, race, color, creed or religious beliefs.