

**NEXT  
STEP**

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**DOVER  
SHERBORN  
ACADEMY**

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# WELCOME TO DOVER SHERBORN ACADEMY



Dover Sherborn Academy (DSA) is a town-exclusive soccer development program built on a shared mission: to provide high-quality, age-appropriate training that supports long-term player development, strengthens community culture, and elevates the standard of Dover Sherborn soccer from the earliest ages through high school.

DSA is a collaboration between Next Step Training and the Dover Sherborn Soccer Club, with full support from the DSSC Board and Dover Sherborn High School coaching staff. Our program is uniquely designed to align with the town's values, offering consistent technical instruction, small-sided game experience, and mentorship in a structured and supportive environment.

What sets DSA apart is its commitment to community-rooted player development. The goal is not just to build better soccer players — it's to create a development funnel that leads directly into the Dover Sherborn High School program while also building strong team identities and player camaraderie from an early age.



## THE ORIGIN STORY

Dover Sherborn Academy began as an idea from Evren Gunduz, the Dover Sherborn Girls Varsity Soccer Head Coach. In late 2024, Evren reached out to Next Step Training with a vision: to create a player development pathway that would raise the overall quality of high school soccer while keeping the town's youth engaged in their community.

Evren expressed concern over how many players were being pulled in different directions by club soccer commitments — often at the expense of their town teams and teammates. He believed in creating something better, local, and long-term focused — a program that not only competed at a high level but was also built around the DSSC calendar and values.

Through his leadership and the support of the DSSC Board, that vision became a reality. Dover Sherborn Academy is now positioned to reshape the future of soccer in the town — uniting families, players, and coaches under one clear, elevated direction.

# WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT



Dover Sherborn Academy is not just another club team — it's a community-first development model that aligns technical training, team culture, and town spirit under one umbrella. DSA is built from the ground up with three core goals in mind:

1

Elevate the standard of soccer in Dover Sherborn

2

Provide clear pathways for long-term player development

3

Keep more players connected to their town, teammates, and school system

Where many club programs can pull players away from their community, DSA is designed to do the opposite — develop players without pulling them out of Dover Sherborn.

## KEY DIFFERENTIATORS

### TOWN-ALIGNED CALENDAR

All training sessions, games, and tournaments are scheduled around the DSSC and school calendars. This ensures players can participate fully without choosing between town and club.

### COACHING QUALITY & MENTORSHIP

Every team is led by a trained Next Step head coach, supported by Dover Sherborn high school varsity players and local volunteers. This unique structure ensures consistency, mentorship, and leadership development.

### PLAYER-CENTERED DEVELOPMENT MODEL

Our approach is not about winning now. It's about building confident, creative, technically sound players who love the game — and are prepared for higher levels down the road, including high school and beyond.

### LONG-TERM VISION WITH VARSITY COACHES INVOLVED

DSA is supported by the same coaching minds leading the high school varsity teams, which means our entire program is built with the long-term goal of strengthening the DS high school program — without sacrificing joy or development along the way.

### COMMUNITY & CULTURE FIRST

At its core, DSA is about more than just soccer. It's about building strong friendships, pride in the uniform, and a shared identity across all age groups — something national club programs often overlook.



# LEADERSHIP TEAM



The strength of Dover Sherborn Academy comes from the people who guide it. Our leadership team brings together professional coaching experience, operational expertise, and deep community connection. Each member plays a key role in building a unified, long-term development model for Dover Sherborn athletes. Together, we are committed to creating a program that is organized, consistent, and driven by both technical excellence and strong community values.



## NICK WOODRUFF

Program Director

Nick leads the overarching direction of Dover Sherborn Academy, ensuring that every component of the program—from coaching standards to player development—meets the highest expectations. With years of experience running large-scale training programs across New England, Nick specializes in building systems that support long-term growth. His leadership focuses on creating sustainable, well-structured programming that aligns fully with the needs and goals of the Dover Sherborn community.



## EVREN GUNDUZ

Dover Sherborn Girls Varsity Coach & DSA Co-Founder

Evren's vision and initiative were the catalyst for Dover Sherborn Academy. As the Girls Varsity Head Coach at Dover Sherborn High School, he brings an intimate understanding of what young players need to succeed at the highest levels of town and school soccer. Evren is deeply invested in building a development funnel that prepares athletes not only for high school competition but also for leadership, teamwork, and personal growth. His experience and community-rooted perspective help anchor the academy's philosophy.



## LUIS SILVA

Director of Player Development

Luis oversees the technical direction of the academy, designing the training curriculum, session methodology, and developmental benchmarks for every age group. With a proven track record of elevating players through intense technical detail and clear coaching structure, Luis ensures that every DSA player receives consistent, age-appropriate instruction. His player-first mindset and passion for teaching make him one of the central pillars of the Academy's identity.

# LEADERSHIP TEAM



## RODOLFO SOTELO

Operations Coordinator

Rodolfo manages the operational side of the Academy, ensuring that training schedules, field logistics, equipment needs, and communication workflows run smoothly. His organizational strengths are essential in keeping the program efficient and parent-friendly. Rodolfo's attention to detail and strong administrative acumen help create a stress-free environment for both coaches and families.



## ROBERT MCGEHEE

Registrar & Administrator

Robert oversees player registration, inquiries, onboarding, and administrative support systems for DSA. With experience managing both logistical operations and community communication, he ensures families have a seamless, clear, and responsive experience from their first point of contact through every step of the season. Robert also plays a key role in coordinating between staff, players, and families to maintain transparency and consistency.

## OUR LEADERSHIP PHILOSOPHY

Dover Sherborn Academy is built on collaboration. Each member of the leadership team contributes a unique perspective—coaching expertise, operational efficiency, community understanding, and long-term developmental strategy. Together, we are committed to serving the families of Dover Sherborn with professionalism, reliability, and a shared dedication to building a stronger soccer community for years to come.



# COACHING STAFF



At Dover Sherborn Academy, our coaching staff blends elite playing experience with a shared passion for youth development. Every coach is hand-selected based on their ability to teach, connect, and inspire. Each team is led by a certified coach and supported by a high school mentor and parent volunteer, ensuring a positive, safe, and development-focused environment on and off the field.



## NICK WOODRUFF

Head Coach

Originally from Attleboro, MA, Nick played for Black Watch Premier, NEFC, and Scorpions SC before joining the New England Revolution Academy (2012–2017), where he played 120+ matches. A Top 150 national recruit, Nick went on to compete for Michigan State University, reaching the NCAA Final Four in 2018. After signing with the New England Revolution, he fulfilled his dream of playing professionally before transitioning to full-time youth development. Today, Nick leads Next Step and DSA with a vision of long-term growth and community-focused training.



## LUIS SILVA

Head Coach

Luis Silva was born in Oaxaca, Mexico, and moved to Los Angeles as a child. After a standout college career at UCSB, he was selected 4th overall by Toronto FC in the 2012 MLS SuperDraft. Luis played professionally for D.C. United, Real Salt Lake, Seattle Sounders, and Tigres UANL in Mexico. He brings the perspective of a seasoned pro and a deep love of the game to every player he coaches. Luis joined Next Step in 2022 and leads the technical curriculum at DSA.



## JOSELITO RODRIGUES

Head Coach

Joselito played collegiate soccer at Franklin Pierce University before transferring to Bryant University and has since developed a strong coaching presence in the region. Known for his detailed, player-first approach and ability to build strong team culture, Joselito brings structure, energy, and high expectations to every training session. His experience working with a wide range of age groups makes him a valuable asset to our younger teams.



# COACHING STAFF



## HAYLEY KATKOWSKI

Head Coach

Hayley Katkowski serves as a prominent youth soccer coach with an impressive playing and coaching background. A graduate of Rutgers University where she played Division I soccer, Hayley also competed professionally for the Boston Breakers Reserves and overseas with FC Slovaccko and Sandviken IF. She now applies her experience as Head Coach at the youth club level, focusing on technical development and leadership for players.



## CALEB WILLIAMS

Head Coach

Caleb Williams currently plays NCAA Division I men's soccer for Hofstra Pride (Hofstra University). A native of Attleboro, MA and a product of Bishop Feehan High School, Caleb has developed through the New England Revolution Academy system and distinguished himself both regionally and collegiate-level. His experience brings a high-performance mindset and strong defensive acumen to the younger athletes he mentors.

## OUR COACHING PHILOSOPHY

At DSA, we believe great coaching goes beyond the whistle. Our staff is committed to developing skilled, confident, and thoughtful players through purposeful, high-quality training. Every session emphasizes individual growth, team understanding, and a love for the game—building not just better athletes, but better people.





# PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Dover Sherborn Academy is designed to complement the existing town soccer infrastructure by offering a structured, high-quality club experience that prioritizes player development, community cohesion, and school pride. Teams will be organized based on grade to maintain consistency with town soccer. Our model blends professional coaching, town soccer participation, and competitive league play to create an enriching and balanced experience.

## TEAM STRUCTURE & AGE BREAKDOWN

- We are targeting 4–8 teams in Year 1, from Grade 3 through Grade 8.
- Each team will be made up of grade-based cohorts, rather than birth years, to align with Dover Sherborn's school system and long-term varsity goals.
- Teams will compete in the New England Club Soccer League (NECSL), offering consistent competition and flexible scheduling.

## PRACTICE & GAME MODEL

Each player will benefit from multiple training touchpoints and competitive games:

- 1 Town Practice (DSSC team)
- 1 Town DOC Practice (skills-focused, mixed group)
- 1 DSA Team Practice (club-specific)
- 1 DSSC Game (BAYS league)
- 1 DSA Game (NECSL match)

Out-of-season, players will continue with 1x/week DSA training and optional clinics or futsal.

## TOURNAMENTS (TENTATIVE)

To further enrich the player experience, DSA will explore participation in the following events:

- **Memorial Day Invitational (Wellesley/Needham)**
- **New England Revolution 9v9 @ Gillette Stadium (Winter, U10–U14)**

## SEASONAL TIMELINE

### FALL (SEP–NOV):

Full club schedule including NECSL and DSSC commitments

### WINTER (DEC–FEB):

1x/week training + optional futsal or indoor training

### SPRING (MAR–JUNE):

Same structure as fall

### SUMMER (JULY–AUG):







Similar structure as winter

## GRADES 1–2 SKILLS CLINICS

Designed for our youngest players, this clinic builds a strong technical foundation and a love for the game.

- Focus on dribbling, passing, and shooting fundamentals
- High-rep, fun, and engaging skill-based games
- Led by Academy coaching staff with support from high school mentors
- Conveniently held after school

# A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A DSA PLAYER (IN-SEASON)

DAY	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
MONDAY	 DSA Team Practice	1.5 hours. Team-based tactical and technical training with DSA Coach.
TUESDAY	 Town Team Practice (DSSC)	Practice with their existing town team
WEDNESDAY	 DOC Practice (Mixed)	Skills-focused, age-group based sessions run by DOC staff
THURSDAY	—	Off or Optional Training / Homework Night
FRIDAY	 Technical Clinic (Optional)	If offered, skill-based specialty clinic
SATURDAY	 DSSC Game (Town)	Compete with their BAYS team
SUNDAY	 DSA Game (NECSL)	Competitive club game with DSA

## TIME RANGES SUGGESTION

- Practices usually held **4:30–6:00 PM or 6:00–7:30 PM**
- Games typically scheduled:
  - DSSC: **Saturday mornings or afternoons**
  - DSA (NECSL): **Sunday mid-morning to afternoon**

## OUT-OF-SEASON SAMPLE (WINTER/SUMMER)

DAY	ACTIVITY
1X / WEEK	DSA Practice (Indoor/Outdoor)
TBD	Optional Futsal / Specialty Clinics

# OUR PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY



## A LONG-TERM, STRUCTURED MODEL FOR SUCCESS AT EVERY LEVEL.

At Dover Sherborn Academy, we believe in nurturing every player's full potential through a clearly defined and age-appropriate development pathway. Whether a player joins as a beginner or already has club experience, our program supports individual growth at each stage—technically, tactically, physically, and mentally. Most importantly, this journey is aligned with our long-term goal of building a strong high school soccer program and a unified community culture.

We are proud to work directly with the Dover Sherborn High School coaching staff to provide continuity from youth soccer to varsity play.

## PLAYER DEVELOPMENT STAGES



# OUR PLAYER DEVELOPMENT PATHWAY

**NEXT  
STEP**

A LONG-TERM, STRUCTURED MODEL FOR SUCCESS AT EVERY LEVEL.



## TECHNICAL MASTERY

Build a solid skill foundation



## TACTICAL AWARENESS

Develop real game IQ



## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

Grow stronger, faster, more agile



## LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Prepare players to lead on and off the field



## CONSISTENT COACHING

Same voices throughout the journey



## TEAM & COMMUNITY CULTURE

Build lifelong friendships



*"We don't just develop players. We build confident, well-rounded athletes prepared for the next step—wherever it may take them."*



# GETTING INVOLVED



At Dover Sherborn Academy, we believe a strong community builds strong players. We encourage all families and older players to get involved in a variety of meaningful ways.

## 1. VOLUNTEER ROLES FOR PARENTS

Parents play an essential role in the overall experience of our student-athletes. Each team will include one designated parent volunteer who works closely with the coaching staff. In addition to that key role, here are other ways parents can contribute:

### **TEAM PARENT VOLUNTEER (1-2 PER TEAM)**

Assists with sideline coordination, snack schedules, communication, and supports the head coach with basic logistics.

### **EVENT CREW**

Help set up or support tournaments, team gatherings, photo days, and other special events.

### **FUNDRAISING ASSISTANTS**

Participate in organizing fundraising opportunities such as raffles, gear drives, or local restaurant nights.

### **UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT HELPERS**

Support with inventory, distribution, or returns for team uniforms and gear.

### **COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS**

Spread the word about DSA within your circles—especially helpful during registration periods.

## 2. HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

We love seeing older players give back and inspire the next generation. While we are prioritizing parent volunteers this year, high school students may still contribute in the following ways:

### **CAMP HELPERS**

Assist during summer/winter clinics or DSA-hosted camps with logistics, registration, or equipment.

### **EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS**

DSA can provide official documentation for community service hours for school or college requirements.

### **MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Pending availability, selected students may be invited to observe DOC-led sessions or assist in a limited support capacity (non-coaching roles).

# UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT



Every player enrolled in Dover Sherborn Academy will receive a complete uniform package as part of their tuition—no additional purchase necessary. We believe in outfitting our players with high-quality gear that represents both pride and professionalism on and off the field.

## INCLUDED IN EVERY PLAYER KIT

Parents play an essential role in the overall experience of our student-athletes. Each team will include one designated parent volunteer who works closely with the coaching staff. In addition to that key role, here are other ways parents can contribute:

### HOME KIT (JERSEY, SHORTS, SOCKS)

Designed in our official home colors, worn for all home DSA matches.

### AWAY KIT (JERSEY, SHORTS, SOCKS)

A coordinated away set to avoid uniform clashes during league and tournament play.

### PRACTICE KIT (TRAINING TOP, SHORTS, SOCKS)

To be worn at all DSA training sessions for a consistent and professional training environment.

## OPTIONAL ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

- Additional training apparel
- Custom DSA backpacks
- Cold weather gear (hats, gloves, thermal tops)
- Extra socks or shorts
- Warm-up jackets

These optional items will be made available via a dedicated online store prior to the season kickoff.

## WHAT PLAYERS SHOULD BRING

- Cleats (outdoor and/or indoor as needed)
- Shin guards
- Personal water bottle

Uniform distribution will occur prior to the Fall season launch. Players are expected to wear the correct gear for every session and match, contributing to a unified, high-level training culture.

# TUITION & REGISTRATION



Dover Sherborn Academy's tuition for the 2026–2027 season is **\$1,850 per player**. This comprehensive fee reflects our commitment to delivering a high-quality, development-focused soccer experience that is both affordable and enriching for families in the Dover Sherborn community.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED IN TUITION

The \$1,850 tuition covers all essential aspects of a full-year competitive program:

### FULL PROGRAM ACCESS

- **All DSA practices** (in-season and off-season)
- **All DSSC games and practices**
- **Weekly DSA team training**
- **DOC-led practices**
- **DSA league games** (NECSL)

### TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

- **Two seasonal tournaments** (subject to age group and schedule):
  - Memorial Day Wellesley/Needham Tournament
  - Winter Gillette 9v9 NE Revs Cup (U10–U14)

### PAYMENT STRUCTURE

We offer flexible payment options:

- **One-time payment** (full tuition)
- **Installment plan** (details provided at registration)

Tuition is non-refundable once the season begins, but installment payments allow flexibility for families.

### COMPLETE UNIFORM PACKAGE

- **Home kit** (jersey, shorts, socks)
- **Away kit** (jersey, shorts, socks)
- **Practice kit**
- **Jacket or track top**

### ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- **Coaching**
- **Field space**
- **League registration**
- **Scheduling and communications**



# HOW TO JOIN


NEXT  
STEP

We're excited to launch Dover Sherborn Academy for Fall 2026 and invite families to be part of this player-centered, town-aligned soccer experience.

## STEP 1 SUBMIT THE INTEREST FORM

To begin the process, families will complete a short online Interest Form indicating their child's name, birth year, and general availability. This is not a formal registration—just a way for us to gauge interest, organize rosters, and communicate next steps. Once enough interest is confirmed in a specific age group, we'll reach out directly to those families.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpjEnQzMVYdbEm4CPQEpMocMzRi84sKgzATMi4IXCoAzR\\_JQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpjEnQzMVYdbEm4CPQEpMocMzRi84sKgzATMi4IXCoAzR_JQ/viewform?usp=publish-editor)

 We recommend submitting your interest as soon as possible to help with planning and to ensure your spot is considered in roster building.

## STEP 2 ATTEND INFO SESSIONS (OPTIONAL)

In early 2026, we will host an **in-person family info session** where you can meet our team, ask questions, and learn more about our schedule, training model, and player development approach.

## STEP 3 OFFICIAL REGISTRATION OPENS

After finalizing rosters and confirming sufficient interest in each age group, we'll open formal registration. At that time, we will collect full tuition and uniform sizing information.

## WHAT IF THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PLAYERS?

We understand some families are evaluating other club options and are concerned about committing early. Rest assured—we're starting with an **interest form only**, not payment or full registration.

If we find there aren't enough players in a certain group to field a team, we will **communicate early** so your family can make other plans without missing out on club opportunities. We will never leave you without a clear path forward.

That said, we're already seeing strong momentum across multiple grades and expect full rosters at most age groups.