



PARENT GUIDE SERIES

Showcase Camp Parent Evaluation Checklist

A Practical Worksheet for Evaluating Soccer Showcase Camps

Updated June 2026

Before You Begin

This checklist is designed to help parents evaluate soccer showcase camp programs before registering.

It does not recommend one specific showcase.

Showcase camps can be valuable, but parents should look carefully at what the event actually offers. The words "showcase" and "exposure" can mean different things depending on the organizer.

Before registering, use this checklist to understand who will be watching, how players will be seen, what format the event uses, and whether the showcase fits your child's current recruiting stage.

Parent promise: use this as a calm checklist before the registration clock starts ticking.

What Is a Showcase Camp?

Showcase Camps are usually designed to give players an opportunity to compete in front of college coaches, evaluators, recruiting staff, or program representatives.

They may include:

- ☐ Small-sided games
- ☐ Full-field games
- ☐ Technical sessions
- ☐ Tactical sessions
- ☐ Position-specific play
- ☐ Goalkeeper-specific evaluation
- ☐ Player profiles or roster packets
- ☐ Recruiting information
- ☐ Coach observation
- ☐ Feedback or evaluation opportunities

A showcase can help the right player gain visibility, but it should not be treated as a guaranteed recruiting shortcut.

Is My Child Ready for a Showcase Camp?

Use this section honestly. Fit matters more than the label.

- ☐ My child is interested in playing college soccer
- ☐ My child is in or approaching recruiting-age years
- ☐ My child is comfortable competing in front of coaches or evaluators
- ☐ My child can perform with confidence in a competitive setting
- ☐ My child understands that attendance does not guarantee recruitment
- ☐ My child has researched the event, coaches, or programs involved
- ☐ My child has a player profile, video, or basic recruiting information prepared
- ☐ My child is ready to communicate professionally with coaches
- ☐ My child can handle pressure, mistakes, and comparison with other players
- ☐ My child wants to learn from the experience, not just attend for exposure

If several boxes are unchecked, a Training Camp, Clinic, Elite Camp, or College Prep Camp may be a better next step before choosing a Showcase Camp.

Parent Evaluation Scorecard

Camp Name: _____

Organization: _____

Website: _____

Location: _____

Dates: _____

Cost: _____

Graduation Years: _____

Age / Grade Range: _____

Positions Accepted: _____

Coaches / Programs Listed: _____

Showcase Format: _____

Primary Event Focus: _____

Questions to Ask Before Registering

Use these questions while reviewing the showcase website, registration page, or speaking with event staff.

Coach and Evaluator Involvement

☐ Which college coaches, evaluators, or programs are expected to attend?

Notes:

☐ Are the listed coaches confirmed, invited, or subject to change?

Notes:

☐ Is this showcase connected to one program, multiple programs, or an independent organizer?

Notes:

☐ Will coaches be actively coaching, observing, evaluating, or all three?

Notes:

☐ Will every player be seen by the listed coaches or evaluators?

Notes:

☐ Will players receive written or verbal feedback after the showcase?

Notes:

Player Fit

☐ What graduation years are accepted?

Notes:

☐ What age groups or grade levels attend?

Notes:

☐ What skill level is expected?

Notes:

☐ Is the showcase open to all players, invite-only, or limited by position?

Notes:

☐ Are certain positions already full or limited?

Notes:

☐ Are players grouped by age, graduation year, skill level, or position?

Notes:

Recruiting Value

☐ What is the main purpose of this showcase?

Notes:

☐ Which types of college programs usually attend?

Notes:

☐ Is the showcase useful for players who are not already on a coach's radar?

Notes:

☐ Should players contact coaches before attending?

Notes:

☐ Does the showcase provide player information to coaches before or after the event?

Notes:

☐ Are recruiting expectations explained clearly?

Notes:

☐ Does the showcase make any promises about exposure, offers, scholarships, or roster spots?

Notes:

Showcase Format

☐ What does the showcase schedule look like?

Notes:

☐ How much time is spent on training, small-sided games, and full-field play?

Notes:

☐ How many games or evaluation periods are included?

Notes:

☐ Is there goalkeeper-specific training or evaluation?

Notes:

☐ Is there position-specific evaluation?

Notes:

☐ What is the coach-to-player or evaluator-to-player ratio?

Notes:

☐ Will players receive jersey numbers, profiles, or identification materials?

Notes:

☐ What should players bring?

Notes:

Safety and Communication

☐ Who is the parent contact before and during the showcase?

Notes:

☐ Are athletic trainers or medical staff available?

Notes:

☐ What happens if a player is injured?

Notes:

☐ What happens if weather affects the showcase?

Notes:

☐ What is the refund, credit, or cancellation policy?

Notes:

Registration and Cost

☐ What is included in the registration fee?

Notes:

☐ Are meals included?

Notes:

☐ Are shirts, evaluations, video, player profiles, recruiting materials, or film included?

Notes:

☐ Are there extra fees for parking, film, housing, meals, or add-ons?

Notes:

☐ Does the cost make sense for the value being offered?

Notes:

What Good Showcase Camps Usually Include

Check the items you find.

- ☐ Clear coach or evaluator information
- ☐ Confirmed or clearly explained staff attendance
- ☐ Clear graduation year guidance
- ☐ Age and grade range listed
- ☐ Position availability information
- ☐ Skill-level expectations explained
- ☐ Organized showcase schedule
- ☐ Clear game or evaluation format
- ☐ Player grouping information
- ☐ Realistic recruiting expectations
- ☐ Coach contact or communication guidance
- ☐ Safe playing environment
- ☐ Required equipment list
- ☐ Parent contact information
- ☐ Transparent pricing
- ☐ Refund or weather policy

Possible Red Flags

Slow down and ask more questions if you notice:

- ☐ Very little information is available online
- ☐ Coach or evaluator attendance is unclear
- ☐ Coaches are listed without explanation
- ☐ "Exposure" is promised without details
- ☐ Guaranteed recruiting claims
- ☐ Guaranteed scholarship claims
- ☐ Guaranteed roster spot claims
- ☐ No graduation year guidance
- ☐ No age or skill guidance
- ☐ No position information
- ☐ No schedule listed
- ☐ No refund or cancellation policy
- ☐ Poor communication before registration
- ☐ No weather policy
- ☐ No safety procedures explained
- ☐ Vague showcase description

Parent Comparison Notes

Use this section if you are comparing more than one showcase camp.

Showcase Option 1:

Organizer:

Best Strength:

Main Concern:

Cost / Value Notes:

Showcase Option 2:

Organizer:

Best Strength:

Main Concern:

Cost / Value Notes:

Showcase Option 3:

Organizer:

Best Strength:

Main Concern:

Cost / Value Notes:

Pre-Showcase Recruiting Prep

Before attending, my child should consider:

☐ Researching the coaches, colleges, or programs involved

- ☐ Emailing coaches before the showcase, when appropriate
- ☐ Preparing a short player introduction
- ☐ Updating player profile information
- ☐ Preparing highlight video, if available
- ☐ Knowing their graduation year, position, club, and school details
- ☐ Bringing the right equipment
- ☐ Arriving early and prepared
- ☐ Competing with effort and confidence
- ☐ Staying engaged even when not directly involved in play
- ☐ Following up after the showcase, when appropriate

My Overall Impression

Would I feel comfortable registering my child?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ Maybe
- ☐ No

Why:

Biggest Strength

Biggest Concern

Questions I Still Need Answered

- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____

Overall Rating

Circle one:

1 Poor 2 Fair 3 Good 4 Very Good 5 Excellent

Parent Reminder

The best soccer showcase is not always the biggest, most expensive, or most heavily promoted.

Choose the showcase that best matches your child's:

- ☐ Age
- ☐ Graduation year
- ☐ Current skill level
- ☐ Position
- ☐ Recruiting stage
- ☐ College goals
- ☐ Competitive readiness
- ☐ Confidence level

Exposure matters.

Fit matters more.

A showcase should help your child compete with purpose, understand the recruiting environment, and make a more informed decision about future soccer opportunities.

Attendance alone does not create recruiting interest.

Preparation, communication, performance, and fit all matter.

A good showcase gives your child a real opportunity to be seen, learn, compete, and evaluate whether the event matches their goals.

Continue Your Research

Explore additional parent guides at SoccerIDCamp.com:

- What Is a Showcase Camp?
- What Types of Soccer Camps Are There?
- How to Choose the Right Soccer Camp
- Soccer Camp Planning Checklist
- What Age Should My Child Start Attending Soccer Camps?

Helping parents understand soccer camps before they compare them.