DISCOVERY JUNIORS
PROGRAM

INTENDED FOR LOCAL U9, U10, U11 & U12 PLAYERS

PTFC

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Portland Timbers intend to lead the way with MLS Next soccer training in the region, providing an MLS youth training environment aligned with a professional pathway for local competitive players who aspire to one day play professionally for the Portland Timbers.

The Portland Timbers has 2 training & player identification programs that serves youth players across Portland & Washington areas.

- **Discovery Juniors:** Intended for players at the U9, 10, U11 & U12 age-groups.
- **Discovery Seniors:** Intended for competitive players at the U13 & U14 age-groups.

The Discovery Program is a development focused supplemental training program that serves as an introduction for players to the Portland Timbers Player Pathway and strives to give every young player the best holistic training experience. Neither the Juniors or Seniors replaces club soccer within these age-groups.

Both the Junior & Senior Discovery Programs are used for the Timbers Academy staff (U15, U16 & U18) to discover future professional players, but more importantly, for players to discover and develop their talent through game exploration, high level training, proven educational methods & top-level coaching.

ABOUT

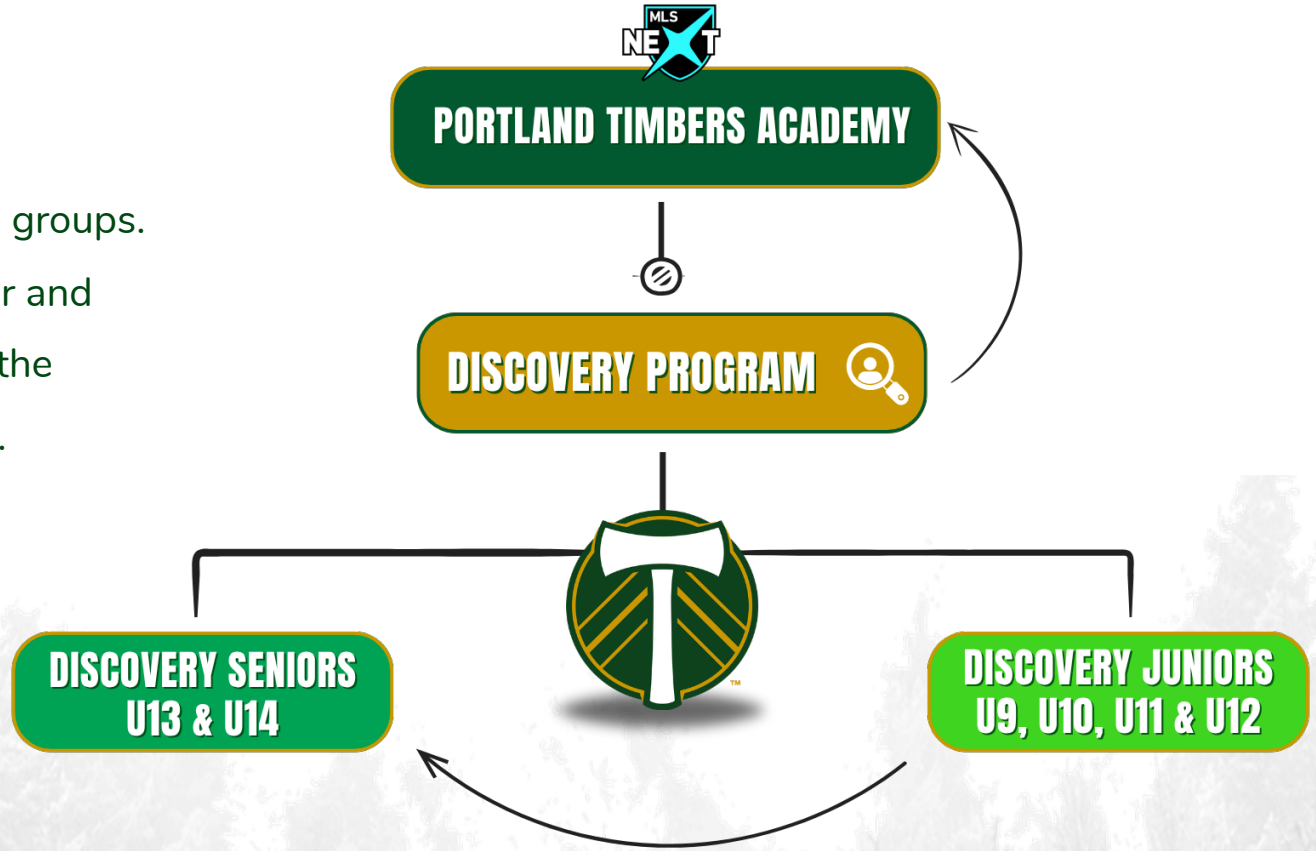
The Discovery Juniors Program is a development focused supplemental training program that serves as an introduction for players to the Portland Timbers Player Pathway and strives to give every young player the best holistic training experience.

WHO IS IT FOR

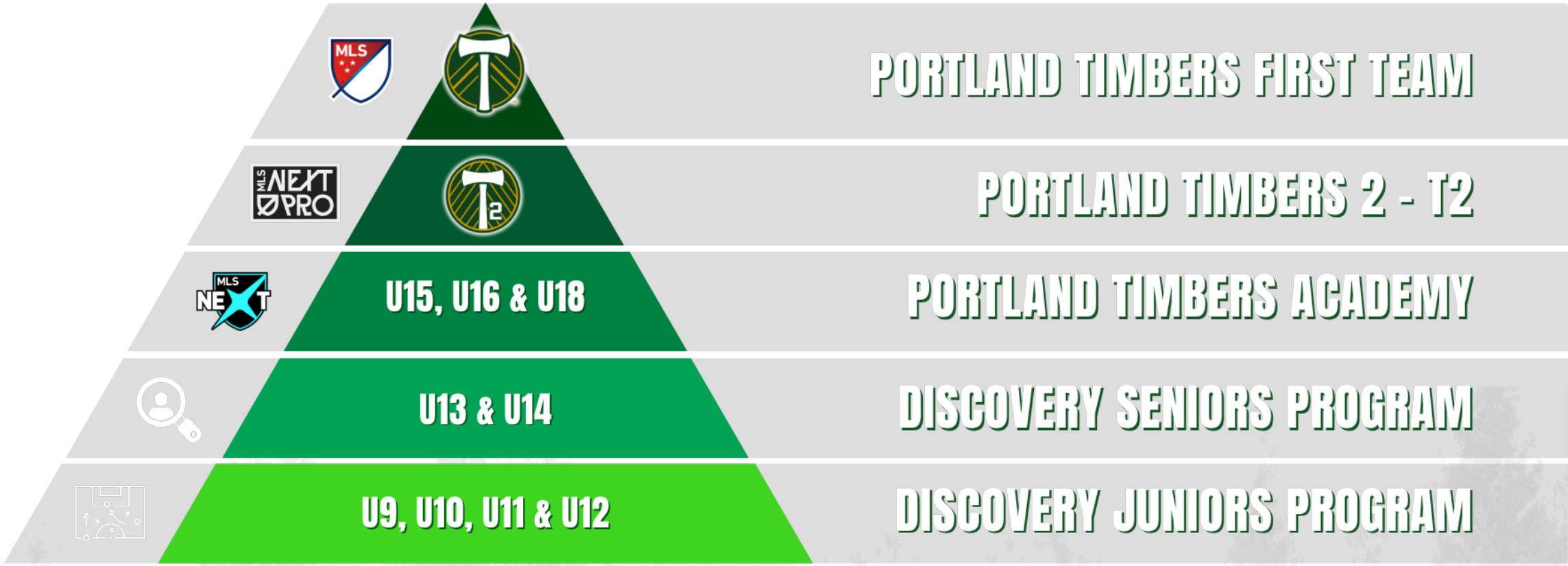
Local soccer players in the U9, U10, U11 & U12 age groups. Ideally players should already be playing Club soccer and who aspire to continue to grow and develop within the game. Discovery Juniors is not a rec-based program.

GOALS

- Player Development: Explore player potential
- Competitive learning environment
- Identify players for the Discovery Seniors program (U13 & U14)



TIMBERS PLAYER PATHWAY



DISCOVERY JUNIORS
PROGRAM

TIMBERS YOUTH PLAYER PATHWAY

TIMBERS ACADEMY
U15, U16 & U18

FORMAT
- Invite only
- 1 team per age
- Daily training
- MLS Next League play & Showcase events

GOALS
- Establish an effective learning environment focused on facilitating professional player development

TECHNICAL FOCUS
Academy teams align with Timbers first team methodology & game model.

DISCOVERY SENIORS
U13 & U14

FORMAT
- Invite only
- Fully funded
- Weekly training at the Timbers Performance Center

GOALS
- Explore player potential
- Introduction to Timbers game model individual, unit & team
- Identify & prepare players for Timbers Academy

TECHNICAL FOCUS
Development of the top pre-academy aged players through game exploration, & high-level training.

DISCOVERY JUNIORS
U9, U10, U11 & U12

FORMAT
- 3 training Centers across the Portland metro
- Tryouts
- Weekly training

GOALS
- Player Development
- Learning environment
- Player Identification

TECHNICAL FOCUS
Individual player technique and the players relationship with the ball. Across our 4-corner model: Tactical, Technical, Psychological & Physical

ENVIROMENT

The Discovery Juniors environment, is heavily focused on promoting the development of individual player technique. Players will gain insights into the Portland Timbers methodology with training sessions provided by and created by Portland Timbers Academy coaching staff.

Training session will focus on individual player technique and the players relationship with the ball. Players can also expect to gain insight into Game Model situations and learn some of our principles of play. The coaching staff aim to enhance the players' capabilities and knowledge across our 4 corner youth development pillars.

These 4 corner pillars are also used for player evaluation purposes that are given to players once per year.

TECHNICAL	TACTICAL
Passing	Speed of Play
Dribbling	Decision Making
Shooting	1v1 Defending
Ball Control	1v1 Attacking

PSYCHOLOGICAL	PHYSICAL
Coachability	Speed
Confidence	Fitness
Concentration	Strength
Teamwork	Reactions

PROGRAM DETAILS

Discovery Juniors has player placement opportunities across 3 training centers:

- **NORTHEAST:** North Portland Vancouver, Gresham & Clackamas
- **SOUTH:** Lake Oswego & Tigard
- **WEST:** Beaverton & Hillsboro

IMPORTANT.

All Portland Timbers Programs: Juniors, Seniors and full Academy teams will NOT transition to grade year programing.

Instead, we will continue to align with global pro Club & Fifa regulations / standards with the continued use of birth year programming.

- **TRYOUTS:** August
- **AGE GROUPS:** Players Born: 2015, 2016, 2017, & 2018
- **TRAINING BLOCK 1:** Fall - 6 training sessions and 1 ID event. Late August-November (Sunday nights)
- **TRAINING BLOCK 2:** Spring - 6 training sessions and 1 ID event. January-March (Sunday nights)

Each training center will also train at the Performance Center

Not every player who attend tryouts will be invited to join the program

- **TRYOUTS FEE:** $40 per player for 2 tryout sessions
- **TRAINING FEE:** $425 per player for 12 training sessions, and 2 ID Events
- **TRAINING KIT:** $130 purchased at Tursis soccer store.

Scholarships: Financial aid, and payment plans are available. Contact mjamieson@timbers.com for more information

STAFF & TRAINING LOCATIONS

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WEST DIRECTOR
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NORTHEAST TRAINING CENTER
-
Portland Christian Middle School
12425 NE San Rafael St, Portland, OR 97230

SOUTH TRAINING CENTER
-
Horizon Christian
23370 SW Boones Ferry Rd, Tualatin, OR 97062

WEST TRAINING CENTER
-
THPRD HMT Complex
15707 Walker Rd, Beaverton, OR 97006

U12 JUNIORS TEAM POOL

During the Discovery Junior training cycle (Fall Block), staff will identify and select a pool of 20-25 players at the U12 age-group. The players will be identified and selected from all 4 of Discovery Junior training centers. These selected players will be invited to come together for an additional 8 training sessions at the Timbers Training Facility to form our U12 Discovery Team Pool. The selected players can expect a highly competitive environment consisting of the best U12 players from the 4 Discovery training centers. Danny Mwanga (Discovery seniors coach) will be the head coach leading the U12 Juniors team pool throughout the training sessions.

All participating players will also receive an invite to the Discovery Seniors Program ID Fest which occurs at the Timbers Training Facility on a yearly basis as players enter the U13 age-group

TRAININGS: Friday evenings. 8 trainings total

LOCATION: Timbers Performance Center

COST: $50 (used for player registration)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

DOES DISCOVERY JUNIOR OR DISCOVERY SENIOR PROGRAMS REPLACE A PLAYER'S CLUB TEAM?

No! Both programs are in place to provide identification and training opportunities, different from the club team structure, for players who would like to compete in the Timbers Academy someday. Players are encouraged to make club a priority.

WHY REGIONALIZE THE DISCOVERY JUNIORS?

Creating the different training centers across the Portland area provides accessible competitive local trainings within the players. It creates excitement to play for and within your local training center. It limits traveling for parents and players. The Discovery Juniors program create an elite opportunity for the best of the best to play with and against each other within player local communities. It also creates development by playing with and against the best on a consistent basis.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE DISCOVERY JUNIORS?

The Discovery Junior program is used as an early player identification tool for future Timbers U13/U14 Discovery Senior Players. The training curriculum is designed by the Timbers Academy staff and players are evaluated and identified for future Discovery Program opportunities. The Discovery Junior program also allows the top players to compete for a spot in the U12 Discovery Junior Team Pool where players will have the opportunity to train and play with and against the top players in their age groups.

CAN PLAYERS OUTSIDE OF PORTLAND TRYOUT FOR THE DISCOVERY JUNIORS?

Yes! Our training centers will reside in Portland, but players from anywhere around the state can try-out for the Discovery Juniors program. While we will no longer have training centers outside of the Portland metro area, we still encourage players from these areas to attend tryouts, or training when possible.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE DISCOVERY JUNIORS & SENIORS PROGRAMS?

All information and tryout registration can be found at https://www.timbers.com/academy/discovery