

FC United Criteria for Playing Friendlies

FC United regularly publish criteria for how our programme of pre-season friendlies is planned. Latest amendments have been agreed as per the date below.

The following factors will be considered when agreeing to games:

- Football considerations, i.e. will the match provide a good opportunity for the management team to assess our players?
- Honouring obligations to teams that have given us specific help or have similar fan-based ownership.
- Attractiveness of the match for our fans.
- The willingness of the opponents to pay our expenses and share gate receipts.
- Getting a mixture of local games alongside more distant travel, which may give an opportunity for teambuilding.
- Being invited, because we have to play friendlies at away grounds; therefore we're dependent on finding opponents who are prepared to host a game.
- Charity requests for fundraising.
- Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a friendly will not be agreed as part of any other negotiation. Income from friendlies is generated by fans, particularly our co-owners and therefore should not be included in any other financial transaction.
- Requests to participate in a multi-team football tournament are unlikely to be agreed, unless it can be shown it would provide a good footballing standard and be financially viable.

We often need to play two friendly games a week to ensure all squad members benefit from a complete programme of pre-season games. A few games might be designated as FCXI games, which would indicate that the squad for that fixture is likely to feature more trialists and fringe or youth players.

Although we may sometimes schedule extra practice games to be played behind closed doors, we know people like to watch the team, so wherever possible friendly games will be made open to supporters.

Criteria approved at FC United Board meeting 19/11/2012