



CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

# NCE Pro Player Pathway 2006 & 2007 Boys

16<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023



Selected 2006 and 2007 **NCE** Boys are invited to travel to England and experience what it takes to become a professional player. This amazing event provides selected players with an unparalleled international soccer experience. Playing against and training with top Professional Academies in England, watching live professional games, touring some of the best-known soccer stadiums in the world and staying in top class hotels.

The logo consists of the letters 'CO' in a black sans-serif font, followed by three horizontal yellow bars of varying lengths, resembling a stylized 'E' or a flag.A photograph of two young soccer players in action on a grassy field. The player on the left is wearing a white jersey with 'KYOTO' and the number '27' on it, and red shorts with the number '3'. The player on the right is wearing a black USA national team jersey and black shorts with the USA crest. Both players are running towards the right with intense focus. A soccer ball is visible in the bottom right corner of the image.

***“NCE is committed to providing the best possible development opportunities for our players and we hope that the experience of competing at the international level will provide selected players with the inspiration necessary to greatly accelerate their own development.”***

***John Curtis, Founder***



## National Center of Excellence

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**From:** John Curtis  
**Re:** Pro Player Pathway – England Tour 2023

Dear Parent:

I am delighted to announce that after the great success of our Pro Player pathway Tour in 2022 we will be opening up the event for selected boys from our NCE programming. Your player has been identified by our coaching staff as someone who would be a great representative of NCE based on their performance and attitude at our events. We would therefore like to extend an invite for them to join our upcoming tour in February 2023.

This event has been established to take the best of our 2006 and 2007 boys to play against and train with top professional club's academy programs including some of our international partners. Our players will get to experience what it is really like to play and train as an elite player within the UK club system and measure themselves against some of the top players across the Northwest of England.

During our tour we will play and train against top academy programs, attend live professional games, visit some of the best-known stadiums in England and stay in top class hotels. This promises to be a great event for our players and the opportunity to truly live the pro player pathway.

### Trip Particulars

**Dates:** Our plan is to depart on Thursday February 16<sup>th</sup> and return on Thursday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023.

**Registration:** Our 2022 tour was sold out so we would suggest if you are interested to go to your family portal and register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

In the following pages you will find additional information on the itinerary for the tour, payment schedule, refund policy, and travel insurance information. We hope that you, your player, and even your family will join us on this opportunity of a lifetime. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

*John Curtis*

John Curtis  
Technical Director  
National Center of Excellence

# BASIC TRIP INFORMATION

## **Who is invited:**

Selected players with the 2006 and 2007 birth year and their respective supporters.

## **Squad Sizes:**

We intend to take a combined squad of 20 players for the 2006 and 2007 age groups. This boys' team will represent the best of NCE and compete against top Academies in the UK. Once we reach 20 players any additional players will be added to a waiting list, so we encourage you to register early to avoid disappointment.

## **Player's commitment:**

Spots will be filled on a first come first served basis from the pool of invited players.

## **How do you commit:**

Complete the online registration, by clicking on the link in your family portal and pay the deposit payment.

## **How do parents and supporters sign up for the tour?**

You will need to add any additional travelers to your family portal then contact Nick Dunbar our Chief Operating Officer at [nick@ncesoccer.com](mailto:nick@ncesoccer.com) once done. Nick will then be able to assign you to the tour providing there is available space and you can then complete the registration process. We also welcome those supporters who choose to travel independently to the group and attend the matches our teams play but please note we can not provide tickets to live games, transportation or access to other events unless you are on the official NCE Supporters tour.

## **Land cost per person:**

**\$2,650** per player includes everything listed in the tour itinerary.  
Additional travelers and supporters' price is only **\$2,350** per person.

## **Payment Plan:**

Outlined on the next page.

## **Location of the events:**

Northwest England

## **Flight bookings and prices:**

Flights are not included in the above prices. See page titled 'Flight Information'. Travelers are responsible for booking their own flights but must use Consolidator Webfares if you want to access our group flight. If you want to fly independently you will be responsible for meeting up with the group in the UK. We ask that any players travelling by themselves travel on the group flight with NCE Coaching staff members.

## **Extra Training:**

Due to club commitments additional squad training will be limited but we hope to provide the opportunity to play together as a group before we travel.

# ITINERARY 2023

## **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

- PPM - Depart New York/New Jersey airport and fly to Manchester

## **Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**

- AM - Arrive In Manchester and light training session to shake off jet lag
- PM - Head to Old Trafford Stadium for a tour of Manchester United's home ground. Check out the museum and club shop then check into Hotel.
- PPM - Dinner at hotel and team meeting to go over the week ahead with NCE coaching staff.

## **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

- AM - Play your first game of the tour against top local academy program (this may be moved to Sunday based on final schedule)
- PM - Watch a live game from the English Premier or English Football League
- PPM - Dinner at hotel or local city center restaurant after game

## **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup>**

- AM - light training session with NCE staff coaches (or fixture against local team)
- PM - Watch a live game from the English Premier or English Football League
- PPM - Dinner at hotel or local city center restaurant after game

## **Monday 20<sup>th</sup>**

- AM - Travel to top Academy for a training session with Club Staff and Q and A Session.
- PM - Play your second game of the tour against Academy Program
- PPM - Return to hotel for dinner or city center restaurant.

## **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>**

- AM - Travel to top Academy for a training session with Club Staff and Q and A Session.
- PM - Travel to Etihad Stadium home to Manchester City for a tour and visit the club shop.
- PPM - Watch your third live game of the tour from the English Football League or potential European Champions league Fixture.

## **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- AM - Travel to top Academy for a training session with Club Staff and Q and A Session.
- PM - Play your final game of the tour against Academy Program
- PPM - Return to hotel for dinner or city center restaurant or option to add a fourth and final live game!

## **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**

AM - Depart to USA

(This schedule may be subject to change based on fixtures and availability of other events)

# WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE?

We will receive our final schedule approximately 2 weeks prior to travel dates. All details on the confirmed itinerary will be communicated to travel group along with further information such as packing lists, FAQ's and general information.

## Meals and Accommodations

- Players will be assigned a room mate and will be in double occupancy.
- 2 meals per day - Breakfast and lunch OR Dinner daily.
- 6 nights accommodation at top class hotels.
- Individual rooms are available for an additional \$500 per person for any parents and supporters who want their own room.

## Transportation and Assistance

- All internal transportation by luxury motor coach.
- Full time experienced NCE Staff and Tour Director with the group at all times.

## Events

- Tickets to live professional games with the option to add more based on final fixture list. (Please note that special requests or additional games will incur additional fees.)
- Manchester United Old Trafford Stadium and Manchester City Etihad Stadium Tours.

## Soccer Program

- Training sessions with coaches from professional clubs.
- Visits to professional club program's academy facilities.
- Games against top academy opposition from local Northwest Professional Clubs.

## Players Kit

- Players will receive a gift voucher for soccer.com to purchase a complete NIKE team uniform of 2 shirts, 1 pair of shorts and socks. This gift voucher will also allow players to purchase an NCE Polo Shirt, warm up pants and jacket for travel to games and training sessions.
- We recommend purchasing additional kit in case of bad weather.

## General Expenses

- All your Tour Manager expenses;
- All your Driver, Bus & Transportation expenses as per your itinerary;
- All taxes & VAT included.

## Not Included

- International Flight
- Spending money for souvenirs and lunch (note the tour includes 2 meals a day)
- Travel Insurance
- Other entry tickets at visits
- Everything not included above
- Cancellation Insurance
- Tips for driver

# PAYMENT SCHEDULE AND REFUND POLICY

## The payment schedule is as follows:

Cost is \$2,650 per player (Please note that for this trip players will stay together in rooms of 2 or 3.) Additional Traveler Package is \$2,350 per person. Prices are based on double occupancy with individual rooms available for an additional fee of \$500.

\*Please note a \$500 deposit is required per traveler to secure a spot. Spots are not confirmed without receipt of the deposit.

### PAYMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	PAYMENT	AMOUNT DUE
Now	Deposit Due	\$500pp*
Aug 1	2nd payment due	\$500pp
Oct 1	3rd payment due	\$500pp
Nov 1	4th payment due	\$500pp
Dec 1	5th Payment due	\$Balance pp

## What happens if plans change, and we need to cancel?

We understand that situations may change, so we offer a generous refund policy for the land package. These refund dates only apply to the land portion of the tour. Flights are booked separately and the responsibility of the player or supporter.

WITHDRAWAL DATE	REFUND AMOUNT OWED
150+ days out	100% refund
90-140 days prior to departure	75% refund
60- 89 days prior to departure	50% refund
less than 60 days prior to departure	0% refund

**\*\*All refunds will be issued less \$250 per person, which will act as the service fee.**

# FLIGHT INFORMATION

## TEAM FLIGHT

All independent travelers are required to meet up with the group at their own expense and need to confirm travel details as soon as possible with the NCE team. Players travelling alone will be required to travel with the NCE staff coaches.

## GROUP FLIGHT DETAILS

If you want to take the group option, you will need to contact Consolidator Webfares. Group flights are available on a first come first served basis with a limited number available.

### Group Flight Departure

Airline and Flight Number: Aer Lingus Flight 44

Departs: JFK Airport on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 6.15PM

Arrives: Manchester Airport, UK on Friday February 17<sup>th</sup> at 6.00AM

### Group Flight Return

Airline and Flight Number: Aer Lingus Flight 45

Departs: Manchester Airport, UK at 12.35pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Arrives: JFK Airport at 4.15PM on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Total with taxes and fees are \$1,073 per person and includes checked bag.

Please note that airlines reserve the right to change times of departure and return.

## Important Dates and Flight Provider Information

\$100 deposit per person is due on registration

Dec 14, 2022 - Names as on the passport, TSA information and full payment are due.

## FLIGHT CONTACT

The group flight will be booked through our Consolidator Webfares contact Klaus Bieber. Please contact Klaus using the information below to secure the group option.

Klaus Bieber e-mail: [klaus@consolidatorwebfares.com](mailto:klaus@consolidatorwebfares.com) or phone 888.316.7514 x7

## CONFIRMING PARTICIPATION FOR PLAYERS

Space is limited to those who register first and to guarantee the roster position players should complete the online registration and pay the deposit as soon as possible with a credit card.

## CONFIRMING PARTICIPATION FOR ADDITIONAL TRAVELERS

If additional travelers and supporters want to join the tour you will need to go into your family portal and add the details of the respective individual. Please then e-mail Nick Dunbar at [nick@ncesoccer.com](mailto:nick@ncesoccer.com) with the name of the individuals and if there is space available we will add you to the tour. You will then be required to confirm your registration for this event by paying the deposit.

## PASSPORTS

You must have a current passport which is valid for at least 6 months after your return date. If your passport expires within 6 months of our return date you should immediately look into securing a renewal as there is a current backlog on passports. If you are traveling on a non-U.S. passport



# IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING TRAVEL INSURANCE

We do not provide individual travel insurance coverage as part of the fee. It is strongly suggested that all travelers investigate the various options and consider purchasing travel insurance.

When investigating the many companies that offer travel insurance, we suggest that you ask questions regarding what is specifically included. The cost for coverage can vary based on reasons such as the cost of the trip and the level of coverage for expenses related to:

Trip cancellation  
Travel delays or interruption Lost  
Stolen or delayed luggage  
Medical or dental coverage  
Emergency services or expenses

.... and much more.

While we don't endorse any company listed below are links to some of the major company's previous travelers have used for insurance.

**AIG Travelguard**

[www.travelguard.com](http://www.travelguard.com)

**Allianz Global Assistance**

[www.allianztravelinsurance.com](http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com)

**CSA Travel Protection**

[www.csatravelprotection.com](http://www.csatravelprotection.com)

There are also many websites that compare rates and coverage, or your local travel agent might be able to offer further suggestions. It may also be worthwhile checking with your credit card company to see if they offer travel insurance when you make payment using your card.



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**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR SELECTION  
NCE PRO PLAYER PATHWAY  
ENGLAND 2023**