



REC SOCCER FAQs

Q. Does it matter that my child has never played soccer before?

Absolutely not! Our program is designed so that a player of any skill level can join and have fun. Loudoun Soccer offers a variety of programs and supplemental programs to meet the interests and needs of all its Recreational players.

Q. What is the general commitment? Do we have practices during the week?

The Pre School and Pre-K programs hold sessions once a week on Saturdays. The Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade teams holds one practice on a weeknight evening, plus Saturday sessions/games. The teams in 3rd grade and older (Rec 2, Challenge 1 and 2, Classic, and High School) practice twice a week. Practices are in addition to the game on Saturday.

Q. Who are the coaches?

Coaches are volunteers, often a parent of a participating player.

Q. What equipment is needed for each player?

Each player should come to practice, and games prepared to play. Shin guards are mandatory for all players. They should also bring a ball, appropriate shoes (soccer cleats or turf shoes, or normal athletic shoes), a water bottle and dress for the weather. No jewelry may be worn – this includes earrings.

Ball size:

- Micro and Minis (ages 3-6) and Rec 1 (grades 1-2): size 3
- Rec 2, Challenge 1, Challenge 2 (grades 3-6): size 4
- Classic (grades 7-8) and High School (grades 9-12): size 5

Q. Where do we purchase our child's uniform?

Rec uniforms are ordered online through our Capelli Sport.

Jerseys are included in the registration for Micros (Pre-School), Minis (Pre-K and K) and High School (Grades 9- 12) and are distributed by your team's coach. Uniforms must be ordered individually by families with children in Grades 1-8.

Grades 7-8 require a numbered uniform.



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Visit our uniform page ([CLICK HERE](#)) for additional details on uniform requirements, and how to order online.

Q. What color jersey does my child wear?

For 1st grade and older: Red is the “Home” team and White is the “Away” team. Minis (Kindergarten and younger) wear the jersey provided to them for all Saturday sessions. High School teams wear the jersey provided and may wear scrimmage vests in the event of a color conflict with the opposing team.

Q. How do I find out what team my child is placed on?

Team assignments are typically announced in the third week of August for the fall season and in the third week of March for the spring season. Your coach will contact you once he/she receives their roster. Or you can view your team assignment within your user account.

Q. Can I request a specific coach or teammate for my child?

Special requests can be made during on-time registration. These requests should be limited to carpool/teammate and coach requests; requests pertaining to specific days or times cannot be accommodated. Requests are never guaranteed. Requests for Challenge 1 and Challenge 2.

Q. What is the process for my child to play up one year?

Play-up requests must be made prior to team formation. Parents can make a play-up request via email to mack.brodie@loudounsoccer.com for players Grades 2 and younger, and to karen.corpe@loudounsoccer.com for players Grades 3 and older. Play-ups are never guaranteed. There is detailed information regarding play-ups below:

Playing-Up – Based on Ability: players capable of playing-up an age group based on ability are extremely rare. To be beneficial to the player and the player’s teammates, a player who is playing-up must be able to perform at an average to above average skill level for that age group. When determining if a player should play-up based on ability, the following must be considered:

- Physical Characteristics – size, speed, strength
- Individual Skill Level – ball handling and control
- Emotion Maturity – ability to interact with other players and handle different competitive levels
- Mental Development – ability to understand teamwork and the dynamics



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Failure to account for all these factors can be detrimental to the development of the player and his or her teammates. Requests to place players in an older age group must be made in writing, detailing why the player and the player's teammates would benefit from playing in an older age group. Independent verification of the player's ability shall be required before a decision will be made by Loudoun Soccer.

Q. If my child gets hurt during the season, can I request a refund?

Refund requests need to be made by the set refund request deadline. Details can be found on our Bylaws & Policies webpage. Additional paperwork may be required. Requests submitted after the stated deadline regardless of reason are unlikely to be issued.

Q. How do I find a specific field at a given location?

Most of our large sites have multiple fields. For these sites, we provide field maps. These maps are posted in pdf format under the link for the field directions. More information is available at our website under location-specific field pages.

Q. How do I find out about Field closings due to inclement weather?

All our fields, apart from Loudoun Soccer Park, are owned by Loudoun County Parks and Recreation. We are required to wait until we have verification from the county as to whether a given field is open for use. This is usually 3pm on weekdays and 8am on weekends. The closings are then posted on our web site www.loudounsoccer.com under facilities.

You can also subscribe to our rainedout.com alert system and receive an automatic text message when fields are closed.

Q. Do we have to buy trophies at the end of the season?

No. End-of-season medals are provided for all players Grades 2 and younger. 3rd grader and older teams may receive certificates awarded by their coach. Challenge 2, Classic, and High School teams compete in an end- of-season playoff with awards. Rec 2, Challenge 1, and Challenge 2 teams can participate in an optional end-of-season tournament where awards are given.

Q. How do I find information regarding Picture Day?

Our website will contain all the information needed for picture day. The schedule for picture day will be posted shortly after game schedules are posted each season. Picture Day will occur Rain or Shine. Olson



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Photography is our official Picture Day Photographer and will work with parents and coaches to reschedule due to any conflicts. Olson can be reached at 703-392-7551.

Q. What is the All-Star program?

The All-Star program is a supplemental program, typically 9U-12U players in the Rec 1, Rec 2, Challenge 1, Challenge 2, and Classic programs. All Star teams are selected by in-season tryout and attend a post-season tournament (Herndon Youth Soccer All-Star tournament in November for the fall season, and FPYC Father's Day All Star Tournament in June for the spring season).

Q. What does U (as in 9U) mean?

U stands for Under, as in 9U means 9-and-Under.

Effective Fall 2016, the age groups are defined by birth years, with players born between January 1-December 31 belonging to the same age group. The age group applies to the Fall and Spring seasons but is based on the Spring season.

For example, in Fall 2019-Spring 2020:
2020 (spring season) – 2010 (birth year) = 10U.

The birth year age groups only apply to certain Rec programs (e.g., 8U Academy, Rec All Stars, etc.) as most Rec programs are structured by grade.