



Youth Soccer Program

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Kirkwood Parks & Recreation



FREQUENT ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Kirkwood Youth Soccer League? This program is a recreational soccer program, for boys and girls who will be enrolled in grades 2 - 8 during the current school year. The program is for all levels of players, and stresses participation, not winning, as its main purpose. Teams are scheduled for a minimum of six game season that runs from Mid-September through November.

How much does it cost for a child to play? Costs will vary from team to team, but generally the range is somewhere between \$30-\$50 per child. A team fee of \$250 is assessed for resident teams, and \$275 for non-resident teams. This covers officiating, game balls, field fees, and awards. The cost of uniforms, practice time & equipment, etc., is the responsibility of each team.

How are teams formed? Teams are usually organized by grade from individual schools. It takes an interested parent or adult, who is willing to organize and/or coach a team. While the school district is not directly involved with this program, most will assist in distributing information when people are forming a team.

How are the leagues themselves organized? Usually leagues are formed by grade at the 2nd through 6th grade level. 7th and 8th grade level teams are usually placed in a league together.

Can girls play in the program? Absolutely! We actively encourage female participation. Teams in grades 2 - 5 are required to have at least 20%, or a minimum of three (whichever number is greater) female players as active members of their team.

Where are games played? Games are played at several sites, including Kirkwood Park, North Kirkwood, and Keysor Elementary.

Who can coach these teams? Most often a parent, with the assistance of other volunteer parents, takes on the task of coaching a team. This task is made easier if others can be found to assist with organizational tasks, such as phone calling, uniform procurement, etc. Very often, high school and college students, with proper adult backing, can be excellent coaches.

I would like to coach, but I don't know anything about soccer! Don't worry! It's a simple game. In addition, each new coach is given a National Youth Sports Coaches Association clinic DVD. This DVD offers valuable information and a wide variety of topics, including how to run practices, how to teach basic skills, how to condition young athletes, psychology of coaching, and basic first aid skills. Call 314-984-6966 to pick your DVD.

How can I get my child involved? Put simply, if you want your child to participate, we'll need your help. Our crying need is for coaches! In about five hours, we can teach you enough to get started on the road to coaching. If you are interested in coaching, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department and let us know of your interest. If you feel coaching is too much, but would be interested in serving as a manager, please let us know. We can let you know if there is already a team from your grade level and school, and get you "networked" with them, or, if there is a not a team, help you get started with organizing your own. Get in touch with us now!

Need more information? We can help you find more players, give you information on finding practice fields, train your coaches, help you find uniforms and practice balls, and get you registered. What we can't do is replace you. Without your time and commitment, there is no way to have a program. For additional information please call Don LaChance, Soccer Program Supervisor at 314-984-6966.