



# City of O'Fallon Parks & Recreation Information for Youth Soccer Parents



This guide contains useful information and answers to questions you may have regarding the City of O'Fallon youth soccer league. Please read it thoroughly and if you have any comments or questions about the information or the program itself, please contact: Alyssa Groeteke, Recreation Coordinator at [agroeteke@ofallon.mo.us](mailto:agroeteke@ofallon.mo.us) or 636-474-8120.

## OVERVIEW OF YOUTH SOCCER PROGRAM

- The City of O'Fallon offers recreational youth soccer leagues each fall and spring for children ages 4-14. The following leagues are available in Fall 2016:
  - Girls: 4 & 5 year olds, 6 & Under, 7 & Under, 8 & 9 year olds, 10 & 11 year olds, 14 & Under
  - Boys : 4 & 5 year olds, 6 & Under, 7 & Under, 8 & 9 year olds, 10 & 11 year olds, 14 & Under
- The focus is on sportsmanship, learning and fun. Scores and standings are not recorded.
- Each child will receive a soccer ball, jersey and socks which are yours to keep. These will be handed out by the coaches at the beginning of the season, although some coaches will keep the balls until the end of the season so they are available for team practice.

## REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- Register online at <http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/register.htm>, over the phone by calling 636-474-2732 or 636-379-5606, or in person at the Renaud Spirit Center or Parks & Recreation office.
- Eligibility is determined by a child's age as of August 1<sup>st</sup> prior to the fall and spring seasons. Children may play up one year. The only exception is that 3 year olds must turn 4 by the end of the current season in order to register.
- Resident registration begins June 1<sup>st</sup> for the fall session and December 1<sup>st</sup> for the spring session. Non-resident registration begins June 15<sup>th</sup> for the fall session and December 15<sup>th</sup> for the spring session.
- A \$12 late fee goes into effect approximately 2 weeks before the registration deadline. The registration deadline is typically about 3-4 weeks before the first game. **The Fall 2016 late fee goes into effect on July 7 and the registration deadline is July 21.** Limited spots are available, so register early to make sure your child doesn't miss out on a fun season of soccer!
- The coaches meeting will be two weeks before the first game. **The Fall 2016 Coaches' Meeting is Saturday, 8/27.** Parents should expect to hear from their child's coach in the week following this meeting. If you have not heard from your coach by one week before the first game, please contact the RSC front desk at 636-474-2732.
- Requests for refunds/credits must be made via email to [agroeteke@ofallon.mo.us](mailto:agroeteke@ofallon.mo.us). Requests must be submitted at least one week before the first game and will be subject to a 10% processing fee.



## COACHES

- All of the youth soccer coaches are volunteers and without their efforts, this program would not be possible.
- If you would like to coach your child's team, please specify this at registration. Coaches will receive a discounted rate for one child's registration fee per team coached and must pass a national criminal background check.
- If you would like to be an assistant coach or offer to help out in some way, please let your coach know when he contacts the team at the beginning of the season. (Assistant Coaches do not receive a registration discount.)
- Coaches may submit a Player Request Form by the specified deadline to request players for their team. This document will be emailed to the coaches and can also be found at [http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath\\_volunteer.htm](http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath_volunteer.htm)
- **Roster Requests DO NOT register a child for the program and it DOES NOT guarantee a child a spot in the program.**
- **Parents must register with O'Fallon Parks & Rec and pay the appropriate fee. Encourage parents to register early. If the child is not registered within the dates below or before the program fills, they will be placed on the waitlist. After all the children who are registered have been placed on teams, available spots will be filled with those on the waitlist in the order in which they were placed on the waitlist**
- Coaches must attend a mandatory meeting and coaching clinic at the beginning of each season. This is typically the Saturday morning 2 weeks before the first game. **The Fall 2016 Coaches' Meeting is Saturday, 8/27.** The Pee Wee Coaches will meet at 8am and all other age groups will meet at 9:30am. Coaches will receive their game schedules, rosters, rules, team uniforms and equipment at this meeting.



## PRACTICE

- This is a recreational soccer league and practice is not required. Some coaches may schedule practice sessions during the week or before games. Please remember your child's coach is volunteering their time and some may be unable to schedule additional practice times.
- Roster changes will not be made to accommodate practice schedules. Regardless of practice attendance, every child will play approximately 50% of each game.
- If a player is going to miss practice (or a game) please let your coach know in advance.

## GAMES

- Teams play an 8 game schedule. The games are scheduled on Saturdays between 8am-5pm at O'Fallon Sports Park on Hwy K. Make-up games are played on Sunday afternoons. **Fall 2016 games will start 9/10.**
- Although it varies by age group, most games will take about one hour.
- Game schedules will be posted on [http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath\\_schedules.htm](http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath_schedules.htm) approximately one week before the season begins.

### QUICK GUIDE TO YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUES

League	Goalie	Players on field	Roster Limit	Game Length	Referees	Ball Size
4&5	no	3 v 3	8	2 x 20	coaches	4
6&U	yes	5 v 5	10	2 x 20	coaches	4
7&U	yes	7 v 7	14	2 x 20	yes	4
8&9	yes	9 v 9	16	2 x 25	yes	4
10&11	yes	11 v 11	18	2 x 25	yes	4

## WEATHER, CANCELLATIONS & RESCHEDULING

- Games are only cancelled due to unplayable field conditions or severe weather conditions. Soccer is an outdoor sport played in all types of weather. (Rain does not automatically cancel soccer games.)
- To determine field status, please check <http://rainoutline.com/search/dnis/6363339900> or call **636-333-9900** after 4:00pm during the week and after 6:30am on weekends. If you check prior to the times listed, you may not get accurate information. Information is only updated when weather conditions are unfavorable.
- Each game schedule will also list a rainout schedule. Games rained out on Saturdays will be made up on Sunday afternoons.
- In the event that an entire weekend is rained out, games from the rained out weekend will be moved to the end of the game schedule. Coaches may choose to reschedule make-up games during the week instead of waiting until the end of the season. Updates will be posted on the website.

## NOTES FOR GAME DAY

- Arrive plenty early for your game. Parking may not be available in the immediate vicinity of your field.
- Bring a water bottle for your child with his or her name printed clearly on it.
- A good way to get involved is to sign up on the snack roster. Notify your coach if your child has any food allergies.
- Parents and spectators are encouraged to watch and support their team from the side opposite the team benches. No one is allowed behind the goal lines or goal area.
- The concession stands & restrooms will be open during games.



## SOCCKER PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Transport your child to and from practices and games on time.
- Be supportive of all the players.
- Help your child understand that he/she is contributing to a team effort.
- Focus on mastering skills and having fun, not winning.
- Attend games and cheer on the team.
- Refrain from criticizing the opponents; be positive with all players.
- Respect the referees. (They will make mistakes, but they are doing their best.)
- Please remember that the coaches are volunteers and they are putting a lot of time and effort into your child's team. Please respect the coaches and their decisions. If for some reason you are ever dissatisfied with a coach for any reason, please contact the Recreation Coordinator so that the situation can be reviewed and resolved.

## DIRECTIONS TO SPORTS PARK: (click [here](#) for a map)

- From Highway 70 - Take Hwy K south, approximately 4.5 miles to Sports Park Drive. Sports Park is on the right just past the Par 3 course.
- From Highway 40/61 - Take Hwy K north, approximately 2 miles to Sports Park Drive. Sports Park is on the left.

## HELPFUL WEBSITES & PHONE NUMBERS

- RSC [www.renaudspiritcenter.com](http://www.renaudspiritcenter.com) 636-474-2732
- Parks & Recreation <http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/index.htm> 636-379-5606
  - Game Schedules & Rules: [http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath\\_schedules.htm](http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath_schedules.htm)
  - Soccer Field Map: [http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath\\_maps.htm](http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath_maps.htm)
  - Rainout Information: <http://www.renaudspiritcenter.com/fieldstatus.asp> 636-474-8188
  - Register: <http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/register.htm>
- FIFA Laws of the Game: [www.fifa.com/worldfootball/lawsofthegame.html](http://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/lawsofthegame.html)

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR Fall 2016 SOCCER SEASON

June 1	Resident registration opens
June 15	Non-resident registration opens
July 7	\$12 late fee added for all registrations
July 21	Registration deadline (or when program fills)
August 27	Coaches' Meeting - 8am for Pee Wee Coaches & 9:30am for all other age groups
September 10	First day of soccer games

## FAQS

### When will I receive my child's schedule?

The Coaches' Meeting is normally 2 weeks before the first game. After the meeting coaches will begin contacting their players and will share information regarding schedules and practice. Schedules will also be posted one week before the first game at [http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath\\_schedules.htm](http://www.ofallon.mo.us/ParksandRec/ath_schedules.htm)

### What does the price of the program include?

Fees include eight scheduled games, a soccer ball, and matching jersey & socks.

### How should my child dress?

The City of O'Fallon will provide your child with a jersey and soccer socks. Your child should dress appropriately for the weather and always wear shin guards. Soccer cleats are not required, but may be worn. (no metal cleats) Your coach may also request each team member wear matching shorts so wait to hear from your coach before purchasing shorts.

### Can I request a certain coach or teammate?

Parents cannot make requests, but volunteer coaches may request specific players for their team. Please specify at registration if you are interested in coaching. (Siblings will be assigned to the same team unless requested otherwise.)



### Will awards be distributed at the end of the season?

Each child will receive a medal at the end of the season. The coaches will pick these up the last scheduled day of games at the concession stands.

### When are team pictures?

Team pictures are coordinated between the coach and the photographer. Please check with your coach for your assigned date and time. If you have questions about the pictures you purchased, please contact the photographer. Your coach will have this information.



### What size soccer ball do they use?

All ages use a size 4 soccer ball.

### Where should I park?

We realize parking is limited at Sports Park and are trying to rectify the problem. However, for the time being, please be patient and try to arrive a little early. Additional parking is available at the west end of Phase II.



### Where can my child get first aid?

The concession stands are open during games and will give out ice and bandages.

### What if my child's jersey does not fit?

You can either attempt to trade with one of the other children on your team or you may bring the jersey to the RSC and we can exchange it here provided we have the size and color you need.

### To handle problems that occur during the games, who should I contact?

If a problem arises during the game, and you feel it needs immediate attention, locate the field marshal near the south concession stand. For general concerns or questions, contact Alyssa Groeteke at [agroeteke@ofallon.mo.us](mailto:agroeteke@ofallon.mo.us) or 636-474-8120.