

Winnipeg Community Soccer Program Guide

(est.2022)

MISSION

Our mission is to positively impact the development of youth in our community by providing soccer and life-enriching opportunities to young players of all playing abilities and by doing so, create a lifelong passion for the sport of soccer. We strive to play an active role in the leadership, development and personal growth of our players and volunteers through service, partnerships, and programs. Our ultimate goal is to encourage, inspire and empower each player and coach while helping create leaders and individuals who will inspire others to do the same, while playing a sport we all love.

VISION

To create an all-inclusive culture that promotes fun and skill development and provides a foundation for all to reach their fullest potential on and off the field.

What to expect...

This low-cost program where players will practice, learn new skills through education while playing games with their friends twice a week. The season is FUN for all youth: no standings, no referees, no offsides, and a few smaller adaptations of the sport. Play within the community where a participant can walk or bike to the playing field. Minimal to no traveling around our city. Teams will be formed with gender inclusion and multiple age groups such as U9 and U10 together.

The program was created for our young players, to help them create a lifelong passion for the sport of soccer, while removing barriers for families and raising the level of the sport.

Coaches are an integral part of these programs. Without their volunteer efforts, we wouldn't be able to run these amazing programs. If you are interested in supporting this model in a coaching capacity, please reach out to your community centre.

FAQ

How do I register my child for soccer?

- Contact your local community centre.
 - Here is a list of centres which are participating in this model:
 - Greendale, Notre Dame, Norwood, Norberry/Glennlee, Winakwa, Windsor and St. Norbert

What is a soccer season?

- Our spring session will typically take place during the months of May to July.
- In the future, there may be some consideration given to running an indoor session from October to March.

How are the players being grouped together?

- All youth U9 & U10 – play Tuesdays and Thursdays
- All youth U11 & U12 – play Mondays and Wednesdays

How many sessions (practice and play) are there per week?

- Usually teams practice/play at least two times per week ranging in time from 60 – 90 minutes. Coaching staff will make this decision.

What equipment do I need?

- Shin guards and cleated shoes are required for all activities.
- Balls, uniforms and/or pinnies, and other equipment including first aid kits, ice packs, whistles, clip boards will be provided for each team through the community centre.

What size ball do you use?

- U9-U12 use size 4 balls and U13 and up use size 5 balls.

My child has a disability. Is there a place for him / her?

- Yes, this program works with all youth. Parents, coaching staff and the community centre will work together to form a plan for an inclusive experience.

Can I wear a cast (or earrings, religious medals, eyeglasses)?

- Any earrings, jewelry or medals are a hazard and could be dangerous for the wearer and other players. There is a potential for entanglement and due to this, should not be worn.
- It is recommended that eyeglasses have CSA approved lenses. Casts can be covered with a soft material in the event that the cast meets contact with another player. Coaches / convenors can determine if items can be worn without being a hazard.

Why can't players wear helmets?

- Although the player wearing the headgear is protected, the player may play in a more physically aggressive manner than others not protected, thereby becoming a danger to others.

Are mouth guards needed?

- Injuries to the teeth are so few that insurers do not require them. Many dentists, however, recommend them.

How many players are on a team?

- U9 & U10 typically have 10-12 players
- U11 & U12 typically have 10-12 players

How big is the outdoor field?

- U9 & U10 – Approximately 55 X 40 yards
- U11 & U12 – Approximately 55 X 40 yards

Why does our league not post standings?

- This is a non- competitive fun league with emphasis on skill development and building passion for the game.

Can I become a coach?

- While some coaches start out as athletes, most are parents, teachers, sport fans, and community members who want to be part of a sport they love and make a difference. Coaches inspire their participants through effective technical, tactical, and physical development. They lead while building tomorrow's leaders.

Are there coaching materials and supports available?

- Coaching materials and classes are available through your centre and other training providers at no cost.
- Individual community centres will each have their own ways and methods of supporting coaches and players. Some of these events / methods would include coaching clinics, coach on coach training, practice drills and fun activities for player development.
- Coaches will be required to complete criminal records and child abuse registry checks, at no cost to them.
- Coaches will be required to complete a "Respect in Sport" training course.

Cost and fees registration?

- Cost per child will cover equipment, coaching material and training and field maintenance.
- Financial assistance may be available upon request