

City of Madison Recreational Soccer Programs Descriptions

Recreational soccer: Is that soccer program that is primarily devoted to the enjoyment and development of soccer players without the emphasis on travel or high level competition. The purpose of recreational soccer is to provide an opportunity for the participants to have fun, learn the sport and develop life skills including a lifelong love of the game.

Youth Soccer Player Participation Objectives

1. Fun! It is critical that players involved in youth soccer enjoy the game in which they are playing. If the organization is able to instill a passion and enjoyment in the game than half the battle is already one. This also relates very closely to how players perceive their coach (es) and their interaction with them. One of the main reasons players under 12 decide not to continue is that they no longer are enjoying the game, it has become work.
2. Development: A necessary element to support fun, without it training and games get stale because there is no improvement.
3. Life skills: In our case through the sport of soccer (Mission)

Under 5 Little Kickers

Our U5 Little Kickers Recreational Soccer Program is offered in the fall to children who are ages 3-4 (age as of December 31st of that current year). The U5 age group is our first introduction to "team" soccer. The focus is learning the basic skills of soccer (dribbling, striking and passing) in a fun non-competitive environment. All U5 teams will practice and play games on Saturdays. The first 25-30 minutes of each session will feature skill development with the remaining 30 minutes dedicated to game play. Teams will compete on (2) 30 x 20 fields playing 4 v. 4 without a goalie while using a size 3 ball. The U5 season will typically run 6 weeks (weather permitting). Participants can expect all practices/games to be held at Memorial Park in Madison, NE.

Under 7 Coed

Our U7 Recreational Soccer Program is offered in the fall to children who are ages 5-6 (age as of December 31st of that current year). The U7 age group is a step up in competition from the U5 level; however the focus is still centered on learning the basic skills of soccer (dribbling, striking and passing) in a fun environment. Teams will compete on a 35 x 20 field playing 7 v. 7 with a goalie while using a size 3 ball. U7 teams will practice once a week during the designated practice time scheduled by coach. A U7 team will play 1 to 2 games per week (usually once on a weeknight during your practice time slot and once on a Saturday) for 6-7 weeks (weather permitting). Participants can expect all practices and games to be held at Memorial Park in Madison, NE.

Under 9 Code

Our U9 Recreational Soccer Program is offered in the Fall to children who are ages 7-8 (age as of December 31st of that current year). This is can be a little more competitive than the U7 level, but the focus is still very much on skill progression and fundamentals. This is the 1st time a referee is introduced to the field, standings are kept and an end of the season tournament is offered. Teams will compete on a 55 x 35 field playing 7 v. 7 with a goalie while using a size 4 ball. U9 teams generally practice twice a week until the season begins dropping to 1 practice per week once games begin. Practices can be held during the week and on weekends. A U9 team will play 1 to 2 games per week (usually once on a weeknight and once on a Saturday) for 6-7 weeks (weather permitting). Participants can expect practices to be held at Memorial Park or another location specified by coach. Games will be held at Memorial Park in Madison, NE.

Under 12 Boy's and Girl's

Our U12 Soccer League is offered in the fall to children who are ages 9-11 (age as of December 31st of that current year). This is a step up from U9 as the field size is larger (75 x 50) and an additional player is added to the field (9 v. 9) while still using a size 4 soccer ball. This is the first time boys and girls are split into separate leagues. U12 teams generally practice twice a week until the season begins dropping to 1 practice per week once games begin. Practices can be held during the week and on weekends. A U12 team will play 1 to 2 games per week (usually once on a weeknight and once on a Saturday) for 6-7 weeks (weather permitting). Participants can expect practices to be held at practices to be held at Memorial Park or another location specified by coach. Games will be held at Memorial Park in Madison, NE.