

OTTAWA INTERNATIONALS SOCCER CLUB (OISC)

Youth Recreational Soccer

Frequently Asked Questions

2008

1- Why do we need to register early?

Soccer is the largest sport in the region - over 40,000 players and constantly growing. In the last ten years our club has grown from 600 to 2,400 players, which has resulted in real growth pains. The youth recreational program operates on a first come first served basis. As you know the city has not developed many new soccer fields especially in the former City of Ottawa. We have limited number of sites available for games and practices for youth recreational soccer. In the U13 age group we have a north and south orientation in terms of home and practice fields. In order to ensure that you get assigned on a team within your geographical area, we encourage you to register early. Request to be placed on teams with specific volunteers, or team mates will be entertained but again only on a first come basis. Once teams are filled to capacity, players are placed on teams in need of additional players. There is a limit of 25 players per youth recreational team. If we cannot field sufficient numbers for additional teams, late registering players run the risk of not being placed on any team.

2- Are there any new fields this year?

There are no new fields being allocated or used for youth REC for 2008. We presently have the following fields for use:

- U13 Mixed and Girls: OTLC and Bruff Park for games (Tues and Thurs)
OTLC and Fielding P.S. for practices (Tues and Thurs)
- U15 Mixed and Girls: OTLC and Bruff Park for games (Mon and Wednes)
OTLC and Fielding P.S. for practices (Mon and Wednes)
- U18 Mixed and Girls: Vision Jeunesse for games (Mon, Wednes and Thurs)
Vision Jeunesse for games (Mon, Wednes and Thurs)

3- How are players assigned to teams?

As each registration is received and entered into the database, the player is given a date received and a sequential number. Players are applied to teams by their receipt date as per their site request.

Players are assigned to teams along with volunteer coaches. If a team has a Coach(s), we fill the team to the limit, each recreational team has a maximum of 25 players. Our standard is to have one coach, one assistant coach and one manager/trainer on each team. If a team does not have a coach, we fill the team to three (3) players less than the limit and any parent/player that wishes to coach this team will skip the cue and the parent and child will be on the team.

If a team has no coaches or a very small number of registrants, we identify this as early as possible and contact the players and try to offer alternative placements.

4- What are the player ages for each group?

U13 players born in 1996, and 1997

U15 players born in 1994 and 1995

U18 players born in 1993, 1992, and 1991

5- Are all coaches assigned?

Some coaches are returning but we require many more coaches and managers. It is important that parents volunteer for these positions.

Youth REC is a volunteer driven program. Last year we had over 345 players, and over 50 managers, assistant and head coaches. We are looking forward to your continued strong support so please be a volunteer.

In some cases, we cannot find parent volunteers for some teams, in these situations, the club will try to find suitable coaches from our adult program to assist parent volunteers in coaching the team. We encourage parents to also provide us with names of suitable coaching candidates for their teams if they cannot volunteer. We generally have an easier time to find managers for teams but in some cases, suitable coaching becomes a much greater challenge to find for some age groups. Your assistance is requested to help the club fill your child's team's coaching positions even if you cannot volunteer.

6- Once I register, when will I hear from the club again?

Within a few weeks, you will receive an email confirmation that your registration has been received and processed. The coaches will be supplied with the player's names the week of April 28 and they will contact the players. The coaches/managers will receive the team supplies the first week of May. The season starts after May 15, which is the first week that field permits are valid. The first Festival is June 27 and 28 and the team photo will be taken at this time.

7- Does Youth REC provide refunds to players?

All requests for refunds must be in writing (email) to the VP Youth REC indicating the reason for such a request. Prior to April 30, full refunds would be permitted for situations such as not being able to receive your primary site choice or moving out of the district less an administration fee of \$25. Prior to July 1, where a player suffers a season ending injury, a refund will be issued based on a proration of time and less an administration fee of \$50. No refunds will be issued after July 1.

8- My child would like to try-out for competitive but does not want to lose the Youth REC site. What should we do?

The club recommends both the Youth REC program and the Competitive program for player development. The club ensures open and fair try-outs for youth REC players at the U12 to U-18 competitive levels. For a youth REC player that is interested in trying out for competitive, the Club recommends that your child register with youth REC and indicate on the registration form that you wish to be called for the competitive program. This will ensure that the player is contacted for the competitive try-outs and will also hold the youth REC spot at your site until the competitive teams are selected. If you return to youth REC, you have a pre-assigned spot on a team. If you are selected for competitive, your entire youth REC fee will be applied to your competitive fee and you will simply have to pay the difference. **Please note that the competitive try-outs start in the week of March 1st** and you should register real early so as to be contacted in time. Please note that those trying out for competitive teams will need to pay the try out fees in addition to their youth REC fees. Try out fees are non refundable.

9- Who referees the youth REC regular season and festival games?

We use qualified and trained referees for the festivals and regular season games. These referees are assigned by our club for all home games and directed by league rules and regulations. League rules indicate that referees need to be at least two years older than the age group they are refereeing. The performance of referees is monitored by referee assignors, clubs and the league. The purpose of this program is to train and develop young referees. There is a zero tolerance policy for the abuse of referees that is enforced by the league.

10- What are the basic duties of a team manager?

Managers' Basic Duties are:

- 1) Work with the coaches so as to contact all the players concerning team information. Be the conduit between the site convenor and the coaches.
- 2) Pick up or arrange for pick up of equipment and uniforms at the club house in early May..
- 3) Organize a parents meeting at the first practice for the coaches and parents. One coach works with the players while the other coaches attend the meeting, which should be run by the coaches.
- 4) Make sure that each team member has submitted a complete health form and that the coaches must at least read.
- 5) Distribute equipment and uniforms at first few practices.

6) Confirm who will be participating in each festival and let the coach know two weeks in advance if the team will not be able to attend.

7) In the event that are insufficient players available for regular season games the manager will be required to contact the club, the league and the coach/manager from the other team to ensure that a replacement games is rescheduled and that referees are contacted prior to game times. A minimum of 48 hours notice is mandatory for other team, league and referee notification.

11- What are the attendance commitments for a player?

All players should inform the team manager of their availability both for practices, games and festivals. Soccer is a team game and healthy attendance is required for all teams to ensure team success throughout the summer months.

12- When do practices start?

The City of Ottawa field permits start on May 15 and we run from May 15 until the last festival which is the weekend prior to the September long weekend. The weekday permits start each night at 6 PM. We ask our coaches to try and start the practices between 6:00 and 6:30 though sometimes coaches availability may affect this and also limited field times.

13- When and where are the festivals?

June 27-28	Festival- Leitrum Park (Saturday U13, U15 and U18 Girls) (Sunday U13, U15 and U18 Mixed)
July 25	Chesterville Fair (Saturday U13, U15 and U18 Girls, U13, U15 and U18 Mixed)
August 29 - 30	Kemptville, KCAT (Saturday U13, U15 and U18 Girls) (Sunday U13, U15 and U18 Mixed)

14- Gently used soccer equipment

OISC as a club collects gently used soccer equipment and provides these to needy groups. I you wish to donate, we collect these at all the OISC festivals at the information tent.