

How are the leagues set up?

We have a combined league and a girl's league (at the U10 and up level) that is dependant upon age. We reserve the right to combine age levels in order to allow sufficient competition and games for the players. Age levels U11 & U12 play together under "U12". Age levels U13 & U14 play together under "U14". These age levels are combined due to lower enrollment at these age levels and to help ensure competitiveness in the Fox Valley League. Each child will play at these age levels for two years. For example: If your child is a 5th grader, they will play U-12 for this season and next season (6th grade) even if their coach moves up. ****OUR COMPUTER SOFTWARE RANDOMLY ASSIGNS TEAMS** *THERE ARE NO SPECIAL REQUESTS TAKEN, NO EXCEPTION***

What if my child wants to play on a specific team?

Teams are randomly selected by the computer each season (fall/spring). **WE WILL NOT SWITCH TEAMS FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS:** 1. you or your child do not get along with your current coach or other players (this is part of a child's learning experience-dealing with differing personalities). 2. Your child's best friend is on another team. 3. The team is the same as last season's team and you would rather be on a winning team this season. 4. Because it would be easier to carpool. 5. As a single parent you can't be in two places at once. 6. The practice location and/or time is not convenient. 7. Scheduling conflicts with other sporting activities. **PLEASE NOTE-MASF soccer and other sports do not mix well-it will present MANY scheduling conflicts, regardless of what team you are assigned. *We will not do for you something that we are not prepared to do for every other parent and player in MASF. Switching a child creates a domino effect. IT may be better for you, but now another player must e moved and possibly inconvenienced.**

What if the coach plans his/her practice and my child is unable to attend?

The \$110.00 registration fee is **NON-REFUNDABLE**, so please be as flexible as possible. In this day and age both spouses have employment that sometimes conflicts with their child's sports commitment. Other parents are usually more than helpful in providing transportation or sharing transportation responsibilities. Ask for help, maybe the coach could swing by and pick up your child on the way to practice.

When are the games?

If your child's birthday falls under the preschool age bracket, the games and practices will be held on Tuesdays, (to be explained later). If your child's age falls under the U6 through U14 age brackets the games are typically on Saturdays, but there may also be some evening games. Most games are played from 8:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m.

When are the practices?

We are an organization strictly run by volunteers. Since our coaches are volunteers we let them decide when and where to hold practices that are convenient to their schedules. When you sign up your child for soccer they could practice at any time. However, typically, we find that most coaches hold their practices one to two days a week from Monday through Friday for periods ranging from 45 minutes to 1 ½ hours beginning at 4:30 p.m. through 7:00 p.m.

Where can I find soccer equipment and knowledgeable personnel who can properly help me equip my child?

Most department stores sell soccer merchandise and have helpful associates who can make sure you are getting the proper equipment for your child. If you're still unsure and want to make sure your child is getting the best equipment for the buck, check for soccer specific stores.

What do I need to buy for my child to play soccer?

The registration fee pays for a soccer jersey, shorts and socks. You need to provide a pair of soccer cleats, shin guards and bring an appropriate sized soccer ball with your child to each and every practice and game (your coach can tell you what size ball they need before the first practice).

What if I cannot afford to pay for my child's registration fee?

The Randy Palya Memorial Scholarship Fund is available for individuals that meet eligibility requirements based on economic need that can receive assistance. If you feel you might meet this eligibility, the scholarship form is online under scholarship. For more information, please contact the vprecreation@mcherysoccer.org.

Where is open registration and the walk-in only registration held?

We are asking that everyone register their child online. You have the option of mailing your payment in, or paying online by credit card. Registration typically opens in May and closes by July 1st.

What is the Kiddie Kickers League?

Kiddie Kickers is the U5 league only and consists of games on Tuesdays in the Fall, and Tuesdays in the Spring. Practices are held first, followed by the game. Remember it is Tuesdays only. Kiddie Kickers receive a t-shirt and socks as their uniform. Cost of \$55.00 includes uniform and trophy.

I'm not sure what age group my child falls under?

Children are assigned to teams based on their year in school. i.e. All 4th graders will play in the same group of teams.

What is the Club's Philosophy?

1. We exist for the benefit of all children, and we want them to have fun. 2. All players are encouraged to play to the best of their ability through positive reinforcement. 3. Recreational Teams-Every child gets equal playing time regardless of ability. the only exception to this philosophy is that if your child does not attend team practices at least once a week, he/she will play in every game, but will not be subject to the equal playing time requirement. 4. Travel Teams-Due to the competitive nature of the Travel Program, every child plays in every game, but equal playing time is not a Travel Team requirement.

Can my child wear eyeglasses or jewelry?

*If you child wears eyeglasses, they must wear safety goggles over them or wear prescription sports eyeglasses. *No jewelry is allowed. This includes earrings, starter earrings, necklaces, bracelets (including Livestrong) or metal hair clips. The only exception to this rule are Medic Alert necklaces or bracelets. These bracelets or necklaces may be worn, but only if fastened securely to the body with tape. *All hair control devices must be soft to the touch. No knotted devices will be allowed. *No casts are allowed.

Can my child "play down" a level?

We do not allow a child to play in a lower age group than what his school age would allow.

Can my child "play up" a level?

*We require every MASF player to play at least one season at the proper age level before this can be considered. The season must be immediately preceding the season for which you want your child to move up. *If you feel your child is ready to move up ONE level, your current coach and the Recreation VP must be in agreement that it would be appropriate, and then the President makes the final determination.

Do you run background checks on Coaches?

*MASF runs annual background checks on EVERY Volunteer, Board Members, Coordinators, Coaches, and Assistant Coaches. If felonies against a child, and battery or drug-related convictions appears in this background check, the volunteer is not allowed to participate.

What can parents do about problems with coaches and officials?

*If you have a problem with any coach, contact MASF at vprecreation@mchenrysoccer.org. Be sure to include date, time, field and coach name if possible. *Our referee range in age from 12 and higher. They have a very tough job, and we must support their decisions during the game. If you want to dispute a call, please mention it to your coach, NOT the referee.

What happens if a parent or coach gets out of hand?

*Please remind the parent or coach of the "code of conduct form" they read and acknowledged at registration. All comments directed towards the field should be words of encouragement and praise, not criticism. IF the parent or coach continues to be a problem, any board member, coach and/or referee has the authority to ask that person to leave immediately and the offending person shall be immediately found to be in possible violation of MASF's "ZERO-TOLERANCE" policy. If the offending person refuses to leave, the referee has the authority to end play immediately, issue a red card if appropriate, and the offending team will forfeit the game. *Any Coach or player that receives a red card or two yellow cards in the same game is subject to an immediate 2 game suspension and Disciplinary Committee Hearing to determine if it is in the best interest of the Club that the person be allowed to continue to be an active participant. *The Disciplinary Committee is composed of the President, VP Recreation, Travel VP, one Travel Coach and one Recreational Coach. The offending person/people are encouraged to attend and present their side of the story. *All decisions by the Disciplinary Committee are immediate, final and are subject to appeal.

What is MASF's Zero Tolerance Policy?

*MASF maintains a ZERO-TOLERANCE policy for abusive parents, players and coaches on the sidelines. Any form of abusive language, gesture or behavior directed towards any player, parent, coach, board member or referee is UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR, and will be dealt with accordingly. MASF reserves the right to suspend and/or expel any person found to be in violation of the zero-tolerance policy. *If a substantiated violation of the ZERO-TOLERANCE policy occurs, the MASF President has the authority to immediately reprimand, suspend, or expel the offender. In accordance with our Constitution, the offending person has an opportunity to appeal to the Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee has the authority to uphold the

President's decision, overrule or make it more severe without any further discussion or Board Consideration. Any decision made by the Disciplinary Committee is final.

What are the safety rules?

*Suspend playing/practicing IMMEDIATELY if there is ANY LIGHTNING. *Shin guards are mandatory (under socks) for games AND practices. *No jewelry may be worn for games OR practices. *Regular eye glasses are allowed-but only if securely fastened and covered by goggles. We strongly suggest purchasing sports glasses instead. *Hoods may not be worn during play-they must be tucked inside the jersey. *Jerseys must be tucked into shorts. *If there is an injury on the field, we always err on the side of caution, and play will stop while the injury is assessed. We will call an ambulance anytime a head injury is suspected. *NEVER ALLOW ANYONE TO HANG FROM OR SIT ON TOP OF THE GOALS! Although they are securely anchored and/or counterbalanced, don't tempt fate! Accidents can happen at any time.

What should the coaches do if a strong team is dominating a game?

*If a team appears to be dominating the game, in the spirit of good sportsmanship, the leading coach should put his strongest players on defense or rest them on the sidelines for a short time to allow other to gain game experience. *Whenever a team has a 4 goal lead, the leading team should reduce their player on the field by one, or the other team may add a player. When the differential becomes 2 goals, the normal number of players will return to the field.

What does my registration fee cover?

*Registration fee is NON-REFUNDABLE. Fee includes uniforms, game balls, cones, first aid kits and ice packs for every team, IYSA fees, liability insurance, nets, goals, corner flags, publicity, website fees, on-line registration costs, general printing, telephone expense, room rental for the monthly Board meetings, payment of referees, striping paint, annual contributions to the Villages, and background checks on all coaches. MASF is a Non-For-Profit Organization, all registration fees we collect are immediately sent out for the above mentioned items.