



**GC  
SPORTS**



**Parent Guide  
Fall 2020**

# GC SPORTS MINISTRY

Welcome to Greenwood Christian Church!

We hope our sports ministry is a blessing to you and your family. We love our community, and we hope you'll think of us not only as neighbors, but as friends.

Here at GCC, we're into sports activities not only because they're a fun way to stay fit, but also because teams are a great picture of the way God brings people together, unites us, and leads us to victory.

## **Our mission:**

### **love:**

God and others

### **grow:**

together in Christ

### **inspire:**

transformation

Whatever your age, family situation, or interests, there's a place for you here, and we'd love to help you find it. We hope you'll join us at one of our Sunday services: 9:30 and 11am. Visit [greenwoodchristian.com](http://greenwoodchristian.com), or call 881-9336 for more information.

Many blessings,



**Matt Giebler**

*Senior Minister*

[mgiebler@greenwoodchristian.com](mailto:mgiebler@greenwoodchristian.com)

Dear Parents and Players:

We couldn't agree with Matt more. We are so glad you are a part of our soccer program at GCC. We want to share Christ with you this season, and equip you to share Him with others. This season we will study Colossians 3:13 together: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you." We hope this season is a blessing for you and your family, and we're excited to serve you this season, and in many seasons to come.

For His Glory,



**Rudy Lyon**

*Director of Sports Ministries*

[rlyon@greenwoodchristian.com](mailto:rlyon@greenwoodchristian.com)

**Jeremiah "J" Tworek**

*Asst. Director of Sports Ministries*

[jtwarek@greenwoodchristian.com](mailto:jtwarek@greenwoodchristian.com)

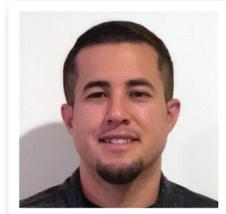


# GC SPORTS RECREATIONAL YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE CONTACT INFORMATION

## 2020 Soccer Directors



**Bryan Bauman**  
*Director of U11*  
graceland\_tcb@hotmail.com



**Fernando Patino**  
*Director of U14*  
safetypatino@gmail.com

## Website

[www.greenwoodchristian.com/gcsports](http://www.greenwoodchristian.com/gcsports)

## Sports Hotline and Make-Up Schedule

In case of bad weather, please call our Sports Hotline one hour before your practice or game: 317-534-4321. Our hotline will be updated no earlier than one hour before your practice or game. Any games that are canceled will be made up at a future practice. Practices that are canceled will not be made up. No game will be made up after our last game on May 30.

# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>5</b>	<b>GC Sports &amp; Recreation Ministry</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Responsibilities &amp; Expectations</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Team Huddles</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Facility Rules</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Equipment Rules</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Well Child Policy &amp; Touch</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Circle of Criticism</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Circle of Praise</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Youth Soccer Rules</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Team Contact Information</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>Soccer Field Diagram</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>Greenwood Christian Church Information</b>



# GC SPORTS & RECREATION MINISTRY

**GCC's Vision:** love. grow. inspire.

## **Sports Ministry Mission Statement:**

Sports Ministry exists to be a place where people come to play, experience belonging, follow Jesus, and make disciples.

We want to redefine competition so that every player gives 100% effort to the glory of God which in turn, challenges his/her opponent to do the same. We want to challenge every participant to obey the commands to love God, love others, and make disciples on the soccer field. We want to encourage lifestyles of prayer, while your kids develop meaningful relationships, and share stories of God's work in our lives.

## **Goals that support our Mission Statement:**

- Coaches will pray for their players and families throughout the season.
- We will develop quality coaches who will embrace our philosophy, and teach it to their players.
- Prayers will be offered before and after each practice, and before each game with the team.
- Coaches will lead their team through each day's Huddle before practice begins.
- Coaches will make practices and games fun.
- Each child is taught rules/fundamentals that allow progress in skill level.
- Every player, regardless of ability, gets equal playing time.
- Every player, regardless of ability, plays multiple positions.
- Parents and spectators will create an environment that encourages the players to have fun.
- We will share stories of life transformation.

## **Key Verses:**

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of age.*  
Matthew 28:19-20

*So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.*  
1 Corinthians 10:31

*On one of those days, Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray. He spent the night praying to God.* Luke 6:12

*Jesus replied "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbor as yourself." All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."* Matthew 22:37-40

*Let the redeemed of the Lord tell their story.* Psalm 107:2

# RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

Thank you for registering your child for our GC Sports Youth Basketball League. Please take a few minutes to read over the following with your son or daughter. Together, we can make this a place where people come to play, experience belonging, follow Jesus, and make disciples!

## **What to expect from the Sports Director, League Directors**

We do make mistakes, but we strive to follow Jesus and help others do the same through the power of the Holy Spirit.

- We will invest in the lives of our coaches on and off the field in order to help them become disciples of Jesus.
- We will know the schedule of practices, games, and events, and will communicate these things with coaches and parents.
- We will glorify God with our words, attitude, and actions.
- We will address issues that we believe are not promoting character and sportsmanship.

## **We expect our Coaches to be...**

- Leading our teams through our Huddle at every practice and actively praying for our players throughout the season.
- Modeling good character and sportsmanship.
- Being on time for all practices and games.
- Being respectful of parents and making an effort to introduce ourselves at the parent meeting and again at the first practice.
- Giving our contact information to the parents on our team.
- Reporting any concerns that parents have to the League Director.
- Communicating any unsportsmanlike behavior from parents, or confrontations with parents, to the League Director.
- Communicating changes in schedules with parents.
- Making practices and games fun and exciting!
- Ensuring equal playing time for each player.
- Ensuring each player plays multiple positions.
- Giving natural praise to our players whenever possible.
- When seeking correction at practice or a game, we will use constructive criticism rather than negativity or yelling.
- Knowing the rules of the game and passing that knowledge along to our players.
- Respecting the calls of the officials and treating them as we would like to be treated.
- Sharing any concerns about a ref with the sports director in writing.
- Glorifying God with our words, attitude, and actions.

## **We expect our parents and families to be...**

- Modeling good character and sportsmanship.
- Keeping a positive attitude for the sake of the kids.
- Making an effort to help other families feel welcome.
- Supporting your coaches and not publicly criticizing them. If you have a concern, sharing it with them privately (face to face when you are calm).
- Supporting the referees, and not criticizing them.
- Helping your coaches whenever possible at practices and games.
- Encouraging your child and team, but not discouraging the other team.
- Acknowledging the other team's accomplishments.
- Making sure your child arrives to practices and games (and pictures) on time.
- Making sure your child is properly equipped to play with gym shoes, shorts/sweats, shirt, and socks.
- Informing your coach if your child cannot attend a practice or game.
- Staying at practices and games whenever possible to support your child and team.
- Enjoying the games and having fun!
- Glorifying God with your words, attitudes, and actions.

## **We expect our players to be...**

- Modeling good character and sportsmanship.
- Staying positive.
- Making an effort to be friends with all of your teammates.
- Listening to what God is teaching you during your team Huddle.
- Listening and showing respect to your coaches at practices and games.  
Asking questions when appropriate.
- Listening to your parents.
- Having lots of fun!
- Glorifying God with your words, attitude, and actions.

# TEAM HUDDLES

Our coach huddles are a time at the beginning of practice in which our coaches engage their players with God's Word. It's tempting for many people to view our huddles and practice time in separate boxes where they learn about God in one box and then play soccer in another box. However, we view each as affecting the other. Our huddle time prepares our hearts so we can love God and love others when we play soccer and our practice time allows God's Word to take root in our lives through application of His Truth.

We want parents to be aware of what your children are learning and how it applies to them on the soccer field and in life. At the end of every practice all of the teams gather together to close in prayer. We encourage every parent to join us in our time of prayer and to engage their kids on the way home by asking questions about what they learned.

# FACILITY RULES

1. U4/U5/U7 NO parking along Averitt Road or Worthsville Road.
2. U9/U12 NO parking in the Barton Lakes subdivision.
3. Kids bring their own soccer balls. GCC soccer balls are not to be taken off GCC soccer fields.
4. Children who are not participating in a practice are to be supervised at all times.
5. No playing on portions of unused fields while teams are practicing.
6. No playing around teams while devotions are taking place.
7. Pick up trash and leave grounds in better condition that found.
8. No use of profanity, please.
9. Lawn chairs are allowed but on parent side only, **no** spectators behind the goalies.
10. No pets are permitted.
11. Alcoholic beverages will not be allowed at anytime before, during, or after practices or games.
12. All games and practices are considered to be smoke-free events. Please be courteous of the young athletes.



# EQUIPMENT RULES

1. All players must wear shin guards to every practice and every game. Hard surfaces of shin guards must be covered with socks. (Referees and Coaches will check this.) Buy properly sized shin guards that have a hard surface (plastic or fiberglass) and padding to cover the anklebone.
2. No shoes with front cleats may be worn (no baseball or football shoes if they have a front cleat). Only RUBBER cleats are allowed (no metal). (Referees and Coaches will check this.) Small children may wear tennis shoes (U4/U5/U7 only).
3. No jewelry or hazardous equipment (casts) may be worn.
4. Each player should bring a water bottle, with their name on it, to games AND practices. Coaches will allow adequate water breaks during practice.
5. Each player should have and bring a stitched ball (as opposed to a hard seamless ball) of proper size. The ball size is shown on the ball. Also, look for a stamp that says either "official size and weight" or "FIFA approved". Some balls are heavier and harder than others. Don't get a ball that is too heavy and hard or it will be painful to kick. Put your name on your ball and take care of it.
  - U4/U5/U7 will use a size 3 ball, U9 will use a size 4 ball, and U11 and up will use a size 5 ball.
6. Each player must wear the designated uniform to games. Thermal undershorts and long-sleeve t-shirts may be worn if the weather is cool. To practice, shirts, shorts and socks must be worn.
7. In U9-U18, goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from the other players and referees. Examples could be another color t-shirt or a practice pinnie.

# WELL CHILD POLICY

In an effort to provide a healthy environment for participation in our youth sports programs, we ask you to keep your child at home when you observe any of the following:

- Fever/Vomiting
- Discharge in or around the eyes
- Questionable Rash
- Any communicable disease

If your child is being treated with an antibiotic, he or she should have received treatment and be fever free for at least 24 hours before coming to a practice or game.

## TOUCH

### **Good Touch, Bad Touch...What is appropriate?**

#### **Coach to Child**

We DO promote: brief hugging or handshakes, brief pats on the shoulder, hand holding, or high fives.

We DO NOT approve of: hitting, slapping, spanking, rough housing, or sexual contact of any sort.

#### **Child to Child**

We DO approve: brief hugging, brief nice touches, or high fives.

We DO NOT approve of: hitting, rough housing, biting, or sexual contact of any sort.

At Greenwood Christian Church, we believe holding hands, hugging, and patting children on the back are an essential part of caring for and showing God's love to them. However, it has become necessary to set some guidelines regarding touch in order to protect parents, coaches and children.

Every coach in the Sports Ministry should be aware we expect the following:

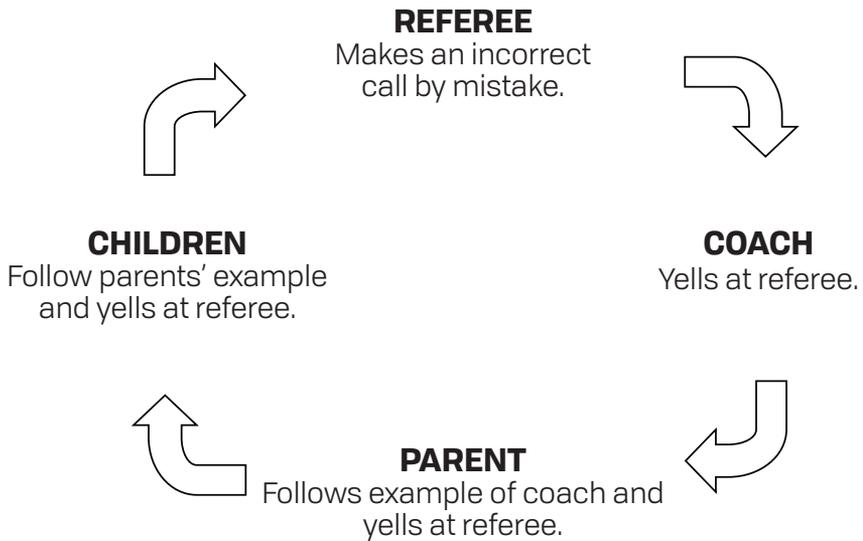
- Physical contact with children should not occur if another adult is not present in the room.
- No child should be held or touched if they are resisting it.
- Spanking or any other type of physical discipline should never occur in a sports league.
- Time out or time away from the team is the desired method of discipline.

# ////// CIRCLE OF CRITICISM

In this league, there are two critical sets of people, the coaches and the referees. Their performance on the field can have a lasting effect that opens the doors to ministry. The opposite is also true. Their performances can have an equally negative effect and can turn away all ministry opportunities.

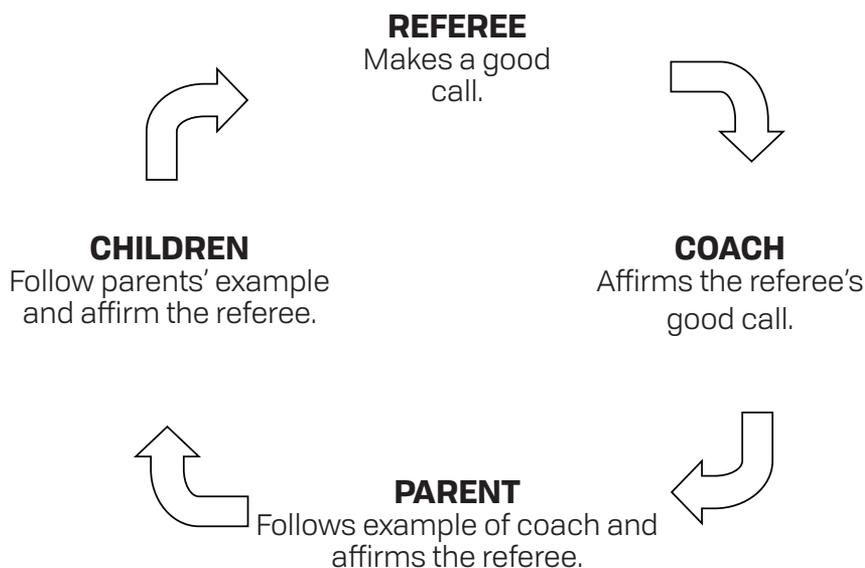
The referee usually has the best view of game situations. However, because the coach is into every aspect of the game, he thinks he sees everything and never misses a call. The fact is that the coach probably does see 90 percent of the correct calls.

Consider what happens in the "Circle of Criticism". The problem begins with the performance of the referee and the response of the coach. For example, suppose the referee makes an incorrect call, which happens in every game. At this point, the call is not really a big problem because the players would never yell at a referee without a parent's or coach's example. And, most of the time, a parent will not yell at a referee unless following the example of the coach. There is now a circle of criticism.



# CIRCLE OF PRAISE

The opposite is also true. If the coach makes a positive response to the referee's call, parents and children take note and respond accordingly. As a result, the referee works harder, and you get a better "called" game.



One of the things we would like to see happen in our leagues is for every player to know and respect those in authority. The authority of an official will only be undermined in the eyes of a player when that player sees a coach or parent questioning it. Here, respect is taught to the player by the example set by the adults in that player's life. Every call the officials make will not be perfect, but if our players see their parents and coaches responding positively to officials' calls, the players will react positively.

Respect is easy when we agree with authority. It is difficult when we disagree. Disagreements will occur, but you must choose to be proactive instead of reactive. Before making a critical comment, consider the lasting, negative impact it will have on everyone involved, especially the players. When you weigh these consequences, a bad call from an official is never worth such negative results.

*\*Adapted from Upward Basketball Coach's/Parent's Checkbook by Caz McCaslin*



# GC SPORTS YOUTH SOCCER RULES

The rules (laws) of the game are as follows. Anything not covered will come from the FIFA Laws of the Game. **Note:** Our U18 league follows the rules of Mount Pleasant Christian Church Youth Sports Ministry.

## Game Procedures

- All coaches, parents, players, directors, etc. share in the responsibility for the success of our league, and for maintaining our reputation as a home of good faith, sportsmanship, character, and class.
- Parents, coaches, non-playing players, and spectators should encourage and enjoy the activity of the players.
- No player, coach, parent, or spectator may harass or argue with a referee. All complaints should be in writing and give or mailed to a director. Remember, "The kids will play, and the officials will officiate."
- Any coaches or parents displaying unsportsmanlike conduct may be asked to leave the playing area for the duration of the game. Head Coaches will be responsible for all adults associated with their team.
- There is the possibility that a relative of a player or a coach may referee a game.
- Coaches will be aware of the score at all times and will actively refrain from "running it up." Coaches are expected to reposition stronger/ advanced players when ahead by three goals or more.

## Rules of Play (Pregame)

- Coaches should check for shin guards and appropriate cleats or shoes (no metal cleats).
- Referees will decide which team will kick off.
- Players will not wear anything that could be dangerous to them or other players (rings, bracelets, earrings, large hair clips, etc.).
- For U4/U5/U7, the coaches will be on the field instructing the players.
- For U9 and up, coaches and teams will be on one sideline with all spectators occupying the opposite sideline.
- Spectators should be five feet off of the playing field in case players go into the crowd.
- No players with casts of any kind are allowed to play.
- GCC-YSL encourages practice before and during the season.

# GC SPORTS YOUTH SOCCER RULES



## Rules of Play (In game)

- **Players and Goalkeepers:** (numbers may vary depending on sign-up)
  - U4-U5 5 v 5 (no goalkeeper)
  - U7 6 v 6 (no goalkeeper)
  - U9 7 v 7 (including goalkeeper)
  - U11 7 v 7 (including goalkeeper)
  - U14 7 v 7 (including goalkeeper)
- **Forfeit:** Teams will no forfeit games unless they fall below the minimum number of players for complete fielding, as listed below. Opposing team will only play with one player more than the team that is short, until more of their players show. If a team must forfeit a game due to lack of players, opposing team may loan several of their own players to allow a game to be played anyway
  - U5 4
  - U7-U14 5
- **Positioning:**
  - U5 Five players on the field for each team. Players may cover the entire field.
  - U7 Six players on the field for each team. Fullbacks and forwards cover half the field, while halfbacks cover the entire field. Two fullbacks will cover their team's offensive half of the field. Two midfielders will play the entire field.
  - U9 Players are positioned in a 2-3-1 (2FB-3MF-1FW) format, plus a goalkeeper.
  - U11-U14 Players positioned as determined by FIFA soccer rules.
- **Ball Sizes:**
  - U4-U7 Size 3 ball
  - U9 Size 4 ball
  - U11-U14 Size 5 ball
- **Game Duration:**
  - U5 6 minute playing quarters
  - U7 8 minute playing quarters
  - U9 10 minute playing quarters
  - U11-U14 25 minute playing halves
- **Playing Time:** All age groups will play each player at least half of the total playing time. If a player is late, he/she is only entitled to play half the time he/she is present.

- **Substitutions:**
  - U5-U7 Anytime ball is out of play, with permission of the coach on the field.
  - U9 Anytime ball is out of play, with permission of the referee.
  - U11-U14 A substitution may only occur on substituting team's dead ball, or when the other team substitutes a player. Play of game will not be stopped for substitutions except in the case of injury. No substitution allowed in the last two minutes of the half except in the case of injury.
- **Throw-ins:** The ball is awarded to the team the ball did not go out on. Throw-ins must be done over the head with both feet on the ground and outside or on the touch line. On incorrect throw-ins, the opposing team is awarded the ball to throw-in. One warning is given in U9. (The incorrect throw-in does not apply with the U5 and U7 leagues.)
- **Slide Tackling:** This is not allowed in any league and will result in a cautionable offense.
- **Offside:** The offside penalty will not be called for U5, U7, or U9. Though, for U9, a play will be called offside if they are cherry picking or if a team gains a lead of three goals, in order to teach them the rules of the game.
- **Ball In and Out of Play:** The ball is out of play when it has wholly crossed the goal line or touch line, either on the ground or in the air, or when play has been stopped by the referee. The ball is in play at all times, except as listed above, and including: If it rebounds off of a goalpost, corner flag, referee, on all throw-ins, goal kicks, corner kicks, or free kicks when action is taken.
- **Corner Kick:**
  - U5-U14 A corner kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the defending team, and a goal is not scored.
- **Goal Kick:**
  - U5-U14 A goal kick is awarded when the whole of the ball passes over the goal line, either on the ground or in the air, having last touched a player of the attacking team, and a goal is not scored.
- **Free Kick (Indirect):** All free kicks will be indirect for U5-U9, meaning a goal is not scored if the ball goes into the goal without any other player touching it after the initial free kick. Opposing team must stay 10 yards away from the ball before free kick.
- **Penalty Kick:** Results from a foul in the penalty box. This is the only direct free kick allowed in U9 and only the goalkeeper and the kicker may be in the penalty area. Goalkeeper must stand on the goal line until the ball is kicked.

# GC SPORTS YOUTH SOCCER RULES



- **Fouls & Misconduct:** Fouls can only be committed on the field of play and while the ball is in play. Fouls are dealt with by awarding a free kick to the opposing team, if the referee determines it is to their advantage to be called. Misconduct can be an included part of some fouls, or can be unrelated to a foul. Misconduct is dealt with by issuing a caution or sending the player off.
- **Fouls:**
  1. Kicking opponent
  2. Tripping opponent
  3. Jumping at opponent
  4. Charging an opponent
  5. Striking an opponent
  6. Pushing an opponent
  7. Holding an opponent
  8. Spitting at an opponent
  9. Deliberately handling the ball (deliberately touching ball with hands or arms from shoulder down)
  10. Dangerous play adversely effecting opponent's play
  11. Preventing the opposing goalkeeper from releasing the ball
  12. Impeding an opponent
  13. A goalkeeper taking more than six seconds or more than four steps to release the ball while controlling it with his/her hands
  14. Intentionally wasting time
  15. A goalkeeper handling a ball that has been intentionally played with a teammate's foot, or thrown in by a teammate, or that the goalkeeper has controlled with the hands and returned to or allowed to fall to the ground
  16. Any offense not mentioned above for which play is stopped to caution or send off

The first six are to be called if the referee considers that they were done carelessly, recklessly, or with excessive force.

A penalty kick is awarded if any of these fouls are committed in the offending team's own penalty area.

- **Cautionable Offenses:** A player is cautioned if he/she commits any of the following offenses:
  1. Is guilty of unsportsmanlike behavior
  2. Shows dissent by word or action
  3. Persistently infringes the laws of the game
  4. Delays the restart of play
  5. Fails to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a kick off, corner kick, or free kick
  6. Enter or re-enters the field of play without the referee's permission
  7. Deliberately leaves the field of play without the referee's permission
  8. Slide tackling

- **Sending-Off Offenses:** A player is sent off if he/she commits any of the following offenses:
  1. Is guilty of serious foul play
  2. Is guilty of violent conduct
  3. Spits at an opponent or any other person
  4. Denies an opponent a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by deliberately handling the ball (this does not apply to a goalkeeper within his/her own penalty area)
  5. Denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent moving towards the player's goal by an offense punishable by a free kick or a penalty kick
  6. Uses offensive, insulting, or abusive language or gestures
  7. Receives a second caution in the same match
  8. Two cautionable offenses result in ejection

## Additional U11-U14 Rules

- **Offsides:** It is not an offense in itself to be in an offside position

### A player is in an offside position if:

- he is nearer to his opponents' goal line than both the ball and the second to last opponent
- in the opinion of the referee, that player is in an offside position and actively involved in the play, whether or not the player is touching the ball

### A player is not in an offside position if:

- he is in his own half of the field of play or
- he is level with the second to last opponent or
- he is level with the last two opponents

### A player in an offside position is only penalized if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in action play by:

- interfering with play or
- interfering with an opponent or
- gaining an advantage by being in that position

### There is no offside offense if a player receives the ball directly from:

- a goal kick
- a throw-in
- a corner kick

In the event of an offside offense, the referee awards an indirect free kick to the opposing team to be taken from the place where the infringement occurred.

# TEAM CONTACT INFORMATION



Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Assistant Coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Player's Name:

Contact Number:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

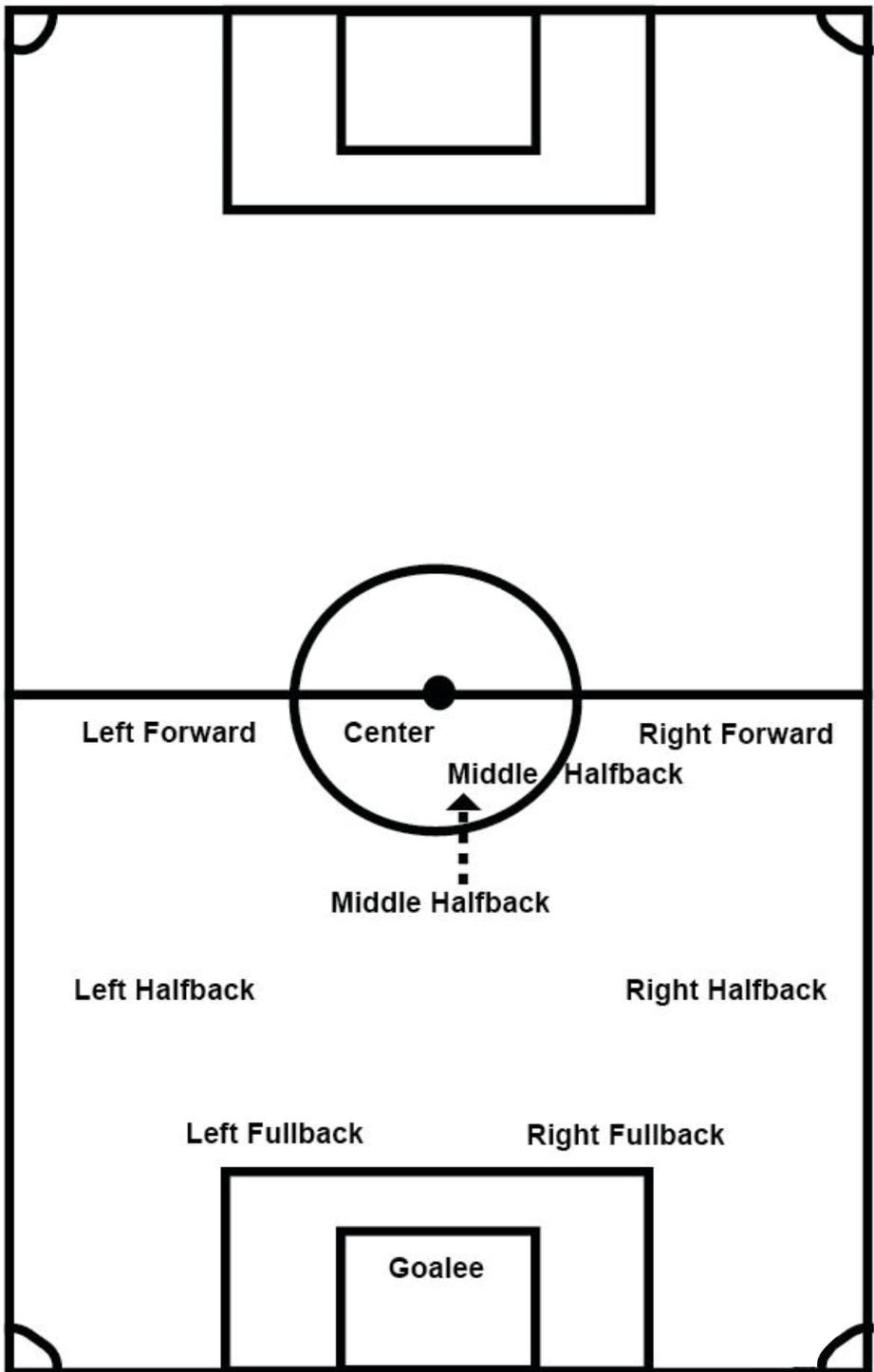
8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

11. \_\_\_\_\_

12. \_\_\_\_\_





# **GREENWOOD CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**love. grow. inspire.**

## **Adult Weekend Services**

Sunday at 9:30 & 11am

## **GC Kids**

Sunday at 11 am

## **GC Students**

Middle & High School: Sunday at 11am

Greenwood Christian Church · 2045 Averitt Road, Greenwood, IN 46143  
317-881-9336 Office · 317-881-9970 School · [greenwoodchristian.com](http://greenwoodchristian.com)

