



## OCONEE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT SOCCER LEAGUE – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What age group will my child play in?

U6 Boys	4 - 5 years	U6 Girls	4 - 5 years
U8 Boys	6 - 7 years	U8 Girls	6 - 7 years
U10 Boys	8 - 9 years	U10 Girls	8 - 9 years
U12 Boys	10 - 11 years	U12 Girls	10 - 11 years
U15 Boys	12 - 14 years	U15 Girls	12 - 14 years

*The age control date for Youth Fall League Soccer is September 1, 2019. Age on that date determines league.*

### What do I need to wear/buy?

A quality soccer jersey is provided. Cleats are recommended. Shin guards are REQUIRED and socks that can cover the shin guards are REQUIRED to be worn. Black socks & shorts are recommended.

### Are exceptions made to the age control date?

Exceptions are not made for a child to play in a league below his/her age level. Occasionally, exceptions may be made to move a child up to a higher age level in order to play with a sibling or if the child is exceptionally advanced in the sport. Approval from the Program Coordinator is required before a child can be placed in a higher age level.

### Can I request a specific team or coach for my child to be placed with?

Team placement requests are not considered. Players are placed on his/her parent's team if parent is coaching, and and players are placed on sibling's team if a sibling is playing in the same league based on age and/or gender, unless a parent requests the siblings to be on separate teams prior to teams being formed.

### How often will my child's team meet?

Pre-season: All teams will have one weeknight and one Saturday practice. Sometimes our older leagues may see 3 activities per week. Once games begin: Most teams will have one practice and one game per week; exceptions if they have a bye week. Practice length: 1 hour practices with exception of older leagues that may run 75-90 minute practice.

### Where will practices and games be held?

The following is intended as a guide as changes may occur based on the number of teams per league, etc.

**HCM** = Herman C. Michael Park      **OVP** = Oconee Veterans Park      **OCMS** = Oconee Middle

U6	OCMS Micro Fields, HCM
U8	OVP
U10	OVP, HCM
U12	OVP, HCM
U15	OVP, OCMS

### **When will my child's team see activity?**

There is no guarantee to any team/league on a specific week night; however, below are the primary days:

U6 Monday Leagues	Monday Nights and Saturdays
U6 Thursday Leagues	Thursday Nights and Saturdays
U8 Boys Monday League	Monday Nights and Saturdays
U8 Boys Tuesday League	Tuesday Nights and Saturdays
U8 Girls	Thursday Nights and Saturdays
U10 Boys Monday League	Monday Nights and Saturdays
U10 Boys Tuesday League	Tuesday Nights and Saturdays
U10 Girls	Thursday Nights and Saturdays
U12 Boys	Monday Nights and Saturdays
U12 Girls	Thursday Nights and Saturdays
U15 Boys/Girls	Monday Nights, Tuesday Nights, <u>OR</u> Thursday Nights AND Saturdays

*All leagues could see activity on Fridays pending any make-up games due to cancellations/postponements.*

### **What time will activities be scheduled for my child on school nights?**

U6 & U8 League practices will begin no later than 6:15 pm.

U10 League practices can begin at 6:00 pm, 6:15pm, 6:30pm and no later than 7:15pm.

U12 thru U15 League practices can begin at 6:15pm, 6:30pm and no later than 7:30pm

### **What are the Saturday times?**

Saturdays vary in start times ranging from 9:00 am through the late afternoon to accommodate all teams.

### **How many players make up a team?**

Varies by league/age group. Target number for U6-U8 roster is eight (8) players. Target roster size is 10 players in U10 Leagues. Target roster size for U12 thru U15 is 12 to 15; however, depending on our registration roster sizes may vary.

### **Will my child make a team? My player is nervous about "Try Outs".**

There will be a not "try out". Leagues where evaluations are held for our coaches in order to rate the players' skills. This helps us provide the best balance of team assembly and/or draft process. Every registered player is placed on a team. No cuts.

### **Does my player have to attend Player Evaluations?**

Allowing our coaches and staff to accurately assess the skills of ALL the players keeps our teams evenly balanced when they are being assembled. \*The more kids that are absent from EVALs, the greater the chance for absence of parity among our teams.

### **I never heard from a coach and practice begins tomorrow. Whom should I contact?**

If you do not hear from a coach regarding team information, it is possible that the first team email is in your junk/spam folder. Please check there first. It is also possible that your child's team has not secured an individual to coach; in which case, you should receive an email from the Program Coordinator. If there is still no information found regarding your child's team, please call 706-769-3965.

### **Are there minimum playing time requirements?**

Yes. All players are required to play a minimum of half a game unless sick, injured, or ejected from the game.

### **What height goal and what size ball will my child play with?**

<u>Leagues</u>	<u>Goals</u>	<u>Balls</u>
U6	4' x 6'	Size 3
U8	4.5' x 9'	Size 3
U10	6.5' x 18.5'	Size 4
U12	7' x 21'	Size 4
U15	7' x 21' or 8' x 24'	Size 5

### **Does OCPRD coordinate tournament or all-star post season play?**

Post season tournaments/jamborees may be offered for U10 and older when the schedule permits.

U6 & U8	No end of season/post season games
U10	End of the season day or night of games
U12 – U15	End of the season single elimination tournament

*In addition, no all-star teams are formed.*

### **Does OCPRD coordinate end of season trophies?**

OCPRD does not coordinate or arrange for trophies or end of season awards.

Teams are free to arrange this on their own; however, OCPRD encourages all teams to limit expenses to parents. Teams interested in renting a park facility must complete the request form and pay the rental fee.

### **Is there a role other than coaching where I can help?**

Yes! Most coaches want a parent to coordinate snack schedules, end of season activities, etc.

### **The registration deadline has past. Can we still register to play soccer?**

Registration is on a first come, first serve basis. If space were available in a league, then we would allow you to register past the deadline. If a league is full, we encourage you to register for the waitlist. If a spot becomes available in a league that was full, we will call the individuals in registration order to fill the open space. There is no guarantee that space will become available past the registration deadline.

### **Where can I find more information about the soccer program?**

If you are looking for more information about the OCPRD Youth Soccer Leagues, our website is a great resource.

Check it out here and select the soccer tab: <http://www.oconeecounty.com/402/Youth-Athletics>

### **What is the PAYS Requirement?**

PAYS stands for the Parents Association of Youth Sports and is part of the National Association of Youth Sports.

At least one parent/guardian of each youth participant is required to complete the online PAYS program:

- Go to <http://www.nays.org/paysonline/how-it-works.cfm> and click “Get Started”
- Step 1 – Contact Information: Complete contact info, then click “Next”
- Step 2 – Select League/Agency Affiliation: Click “Yes”, select “Oconee County Parks & Rec Dept” then “Next”
- Step 3 – Payment Information: NO PAYMENT OR DONATION REQUIRED, simply click “Confirm”
- Step 4 – Confirmation: Click “Process”
- Thank You for Registering page appears, click “Next”
- Click “Start PAYS Course”
- Click on video to begin course
- Answer required course questions to complete

**What do I need to do to volunteer to coach or to be an assistant coach?**

1. Complete Volunteer Application (download from OCPRD website) or register online as a volunteer coach at <https://register.communitypass.net/OconeeCounty>
2. Complete and pass the online background check \*[Oconee County P&R Background Screening Form](#)\*
3. Complete free online CDC Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports training at [http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/online\\_training.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/online_training.html) and then submit a printed copy of the CDC certification of completion to OCPRD
4. Attend and complete the NYSCA training

**What other Soccer programs are offered?**RAD Performance Development Program

Provides advance instruction for players aged 7-13 years interested in additional skill training. For more information, please visit <https://www.oconeecounty.com/663/Instructional-Athletic-Programs>.