



KENT COUNTY YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK

Organization Name

This organization, officially named Kent County Youth Soccer Association - KCYSA.

Objective

The Kent County Youth Soccer Association (KCYSA) seeks to teach children how to play soccer in an environment that is encouraging to youth and helps them to seek their full athletic potential at an age-appropriate level. This is done through coaching and instruction that is positive, constructive and competition that is fair and appropriate. The KCYSA will not discriminate against any individual on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, or national origin. KCYSA will be subject to and abide by the rules and regulations of United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) and the Maryland State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA). This league is affiliated with and is a member of Maryland State Youth Soccer Association (MSYSA).

Expectations

All players, parents/guardians, and coaches are expected to abide by the league's Code of Conduct, Bylaws and other policies. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension or banning completely from the league.

Program Structure

KCYSA is open to all players three years age to fourteen years of age as of September 1 of the given year, and offers the following age groups:

- 3-4 Coed
- 5-6 Coed
- 7-8 Coed
- 9-11 Boys
- 9-11 Girls
- 12-14 Boys
- 12-14 Girls

Registration

To be a member of KCYSA, players must be fully registered, including payment, annually. Registration must be received and confirmed prior to participating in practices, games or other KCYSA events.

Registration may be done online, by mail or in person, during the league's designated registration period. Late registration is possible at an increased rate and based on availability. No players may be registered after Opening Day.

Refunds

Refund requests must be submitted in writing and received by Opening Day to be considered.

KCYSA will only refund registration fees in the following cases:

- A registered player moves from the area prior to the first scheduled practice of the season
- A registered player withdraws for a medical reason prior to the first scheduled practice of the season
- KCYSA is unable to place the player on a team KCYSA will issue refunds within six (6) weeks of the formal request.

Teams

Registration in full, including payment, must be completed before a player is assigned to a team. Team assignments will be done at random based on player ages. Requests are not considered beginning with the 7-8 Coed age group and above. Home field requests are not guaranteed. Teams are formed by the KCYSA Board and switching teams is not permitted. Coaches will have their own child(ren) and one Assistant Coach and their child(ren) on their team.

Registrants must play for their assigned team only. No outside players are permitted to participate in any KCYSA related practices or games. Games played with unregistered or ineligible players will result in a forfeit for the team using that player.

Fields

KCYSA has assigned fields at parks in Worton, Galena, Rock Hall, and Millington. For practices, fields are first come, first serve. Scheduled games take priority over practices. It is the responsibility of all coaches to check game schedules accordingly.

Practices

Coaches will assign practice days and times at their own discretion. Each team must practice at least once a week for the duration of the season, assuming field are open and accessible.

Games

The league will assign games times and locations.

If at game time, a team does not have the required number of players, both coaches will meet and confer.

Teams will play to the least number available.

OR

If no agreement by coaches can be reached regarding the game, the game will be rescheduled by both coaches.

If the Coach is unable to field a team, he/she is responsible for:
Re-scheduling of referees through the Referee Coordinator \
Advising all involved players and coaches of the new date.

If a game ends in a tie, then a tie is what is recorded. There will be no overtime period during regular season play.

Teams are discouraged from running the score up.

Rules Applicable to All Age Groups

Each age group must follow the specific rules published by the league; however, the following rules apply to all age groups:

- No slide tackling is permitted
- Each player should have access to play at least half of each game
- Teams and spectators should be on opposite sides of the field
- Spectators must be at least two (2) feet off of the sideline, behind the white spectator line if applicable
- Coaches must stay between the penalty line and the midfield line on their side of the field
- Coaches are not allowed on the field of play, unless otherwise directed by the referee (7-8 Coed age group and above)
- No more than two (2) coaches are allowed on the team sideline for one team

Uniform and Apparel

All players will be provided with a uniform prior to Opening Day, including a jersey, shorts, and soccer socks.

Players must wear the assigned uniform during all games.

Shin guards must be worn at all games and practices. They should always be worn under the soccer socks and remain covered.

Cleats are not required for the 3-4 Coed and 5-6 Coed age groups but are encouraged. All age groups 7-8 Coed and above, must wear cleats. Cleats cannot be metal or have a toe spike (i.e. baseball cleats).

Players may not wear any jewelry or other personal decoration, except a medical identification bracelet, which should be taped.

Any eyewear worn should be secured with a sports strap.

Players wearing a hard cast, splint, or other such devices are not permitted to participate in practices and/or games.

Any braces necessary should be soft in nature.