

Oceanside Youth Soccer **F.A.Q.**

Can I sign my child up for soccer even though soccer has already started?

Yes, at the opening jamboree we will accept your form(s) and accompanying payment although we prefer that you do it before the opening jamboree, using our online system if possible. We have registration reporting deadlines that determine our cut off dates. Typically we try to do our best to accommodate everyone and you can always request a refund if you change your mind.

Can my child play up – or down from their age level?

The quick answer is no to playing up or down. We have to follow the policies and procedures of BC Soccer, which can be found on their website. A lot of it has to do with insurance coverage. There have been some instances where a child has been allowed to play down. This is an exception and must follow strict protocol. They need to submit a medical note clearly outlining the reason, the Board then must arrange an assessment by an independent soccer professional and then both are reviewed by our Board Members. Each exception must then be accepted by UISA (Upper Island Soccer Association – our district club), and then BC Soccer if necessary.

Where, when, and at what time do we play?

All Oceanside Youth (Pony Division ages 5-9) players play at the Parksville Community Park on Saturdays. Once finalized, we post game times and schedule to our website at www.oceansideyouthsoccer.com. Practices may be held outside or in a school gym as determined by the coach who also picks the day and time.

What is a Jamboree?

We start our Pony League with two Jamborees for each Fall and Spring session. This is to give us sometime to determine numbers, accommodate late registrants, organize coaches, develop a schedule, and finally arrange for uniform and equipment pick up. We have a wind up Jamboree at the end of each session for equipment drop off, pizza and juice, and medals for the kids.

Can I coach/assistant coach?

We would love anyone to coach. First time coaches need to download an application form from our website: www.oceansideyouthsoccer.com. Once this is submitted by email to oyssregistrar@shaw.ca, reviewed and accepted by our Board; you will then

need to ensure a criminal record check is completed as well. Coaches wishing to return in following seasons should notify a board member of their interest.

What does my registration fee include?

This fee includes insurance, association fees, field maintenance, field lighting, referees, coaching development, equipment, pictures, and the final Jamboree handouts.

How do I know what age group my child plays?

The U stands for “under”, so in each age group U6-U10 the child’s age at December 31 determines where they should be placed for the fall session. This is used for the spring session as well, and then they would move up starting the following fall.

How many games does my child get?

Each season is determined by field accessibility. The schedule, including jamborees and final wind up dates, is based on that information.

How do I know if soccer is cancelled?

Watch our website: www.oceansideyouthsoccer.com where we will post the field status. We sometimes send out mass e-mails but appreciate that not everyone is sitting in front of their computers every waking moment. For insurance purposes the Board will determine if it is unsafe, but in most cases field closure or soccer game cancellation is determined by the City of Parksville based on weather and/or field conditions. We receive this information via e-mail and do our best to post it immediately to the website.

How are teams structured?

We do our best to accommodate everyone. This is how we build teams: first and foremost the number of registrants in each age category and gender, then geographically, followed by requests from single parents or families with one vehicle, and then finally on registration order. Keep in mind it is in the best interest of every child to have teams with an equal number of players, this allows for equal playing time. From time to time some families do have to travel further for practices, but all are within the Oceanside area.

Can I practice with a team whose practices are more convenient?

This has to be approved by both coaches. We do not encourage this; however, at this age level it is important to develop skills and have the children out as much as possible kicking the ball around, so if both coaches agree then we will not interfere.

Some teams appear to be stacked?

Again all decisions for coaching and team selection are made from the above criteria and there are times when geographically some kids have already been playing together for a number of years. We would like to make it clear that we ask our coaches to follow guidelines for fair play. Our Board Members try to ensure these are adhered to and that all kids are having fun.

What help is out there for coaches?

*We hand out coaching packages every season as well we run coaching clinics and development days for everyone to join. We will post this to our website:
www.oceansideyouthsoccer.com*

Why do we use the Nanaimo Registration System?

Oceanside Soccer piggy backs on Nanaimo's registration system because it works and it is far less expensive than if we try to build and run our own. We had tried another system offered by BC Soccer, but have since decided to go back to using Nanaimo's at this time.