

Concord Soccer Association

Soccer Development Program- Fall 2009

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Concord Soccer Website – www.concordsoccer.com

Weather – Changes in game day schedules will be communicated on the Concord Soccer web site. Practice changes due to weather will be left up to each team / coach.

I. Introduction. These are administrative guidelines and details for Concord Soccer Associations Soccer Development Program (SDP). Please review this information and communicate on a timely basis to parents of players during the season. We have included some key names/and emails; please email with any questions.

II. Equipment

- Pad lock on equipment box is 6-4-3-2
- If you have an 8:30 game and you are the first to arrive at the field it is your responsibility to open the equipment box and setup your fields. If you have the last game of the day on a field, please return equipment to the box. The last group to return equipment is to lock the box.
- Home teams wear Red shirts, Visitors wear White.
- **Shin guards MUST be worn at all times during games AND practices**
- U12 and U14 teams playing in the NDDSL are to provide corner flags for home games. These can be borrowed from the equipment box and returned at end of the season.
- Equipment is provided for each team, and is the responsibility of the coach to maintain and return all equipment at the end of each season
- Players should be encouraged to have their own soccer ball and bring the ball to each practice **Please ensure that players mark their personal soccer ball.**
- Equipment bags for practice are stored in the equipment box. A bag consists of soccer balls, practice pinnies and practice cones.
- CSA jerseys are available for \$20.00 the first two Saturdays of each season
- Each player must wear a Concord Soccer Association shirt during a game.

III. Locations:

- KK, U8 and U10 age groups will be playing at Talley Day Park on Foulk Rd.
- The U12 boys and girls home games will be at Hanby Outdoor Center in Arden. The u14 boys and girls home games will be at Bechtel Park field.

- U12 Boys and U14 Girls teams will be playing in the NDDSL and at various locations in New Castle County.

IV. Rules / Guidelines:

KIDDIE KICKER DIVISION

Division 1 - 4 year olds as of August 1st

Division 2 - 5 year olds as of August 1st

Game length:

- 4 quarters, 8 minute lengths each,
- 2 minute breaks between quarters
- 5 minute half-time.
- **Teams will be playing a dual game system. Players should play a variety of positions**
- **Each player must play a minimum of 2 quarters each game..**

Fields:

- Four fields are set up for Kiddie Kickers, situated on the large soccer field, located on the left as you enter from the parking lot

Players:

- Each game is to have 3/4 players to a side; 3/4 on the field at once
- NO GOALKEEPERS
- ONE COACH per team must be on the field during the game

Age Group Guidelines:

- ONE COACH per team must be on the field during the game
- Penalty Kicks – not allowed
- Goal kicks, corner kicks, and throw ins – All related restarts will be managed by a “ball boss”. A designated coach or adult will restart play by kicking the ball back in play to the player or area of the field that best stimulates the flow of the game and player participation.
- It is recommended that substitutions take place at quarter breaks but may occur as needed

UNDER 8 DIVISION

Game length:

- 4 quarters, 10 minute lengths each
- 2 minute breaks between quarters,
- 5 minute half-time.
- **Teams will be playing a dual game system. Players should play a variety of positions**
- **Each player must play a minimum of 2 quarters each game..**

Fields:

- Fields are located on right side of the park as you enter from the parking lot.
- Goal crease will be used to deter goal keeping

Players:

- 4 v. 4 or 5 v. 5 (depending on the number of players present)
- NO GOALKEEPERS
- It is recommended that substitutions take place at quarter breaks but may occur as needed

Age group regulations:

- NO coach is to be on the field during the game
- Goal kicks – taken from the goal crease line.
- Corner kicks – taken from corner of field.
- Penalty kicks – not permitted
- Throw-ins – player is permitted one “second chance”; if unsuccessful possession changes to opposing team.
- **Balls in the goal crease area can not be touched by either team. If touched by the defending team it becomes a corner kick, if touched by the attacking team a goal kick is awarded.**

UNDER 10 DIVISION

Game length:

- 2 quarters, 25 minute lengths each
- 5 minute half-time.
- Players should play a variety of positions

Field:

- The Under 10 field is located on the far left end of the soccer field, behind the Kiddie Kicker fields
- Coaches are not allowed on the field during the game. Please do not have coaches/parents stand behind the goals

Players:

- 7/8 players per team on the field at any time **including** 1 Goal Keeper
- Substitutions may take place on throw ins and goal kicks, but may occur as needed
- Players should play a variety of positions

**** NOTE: On occasion, there may be sufficient numbers of players at the game to allow for more players on the field than is called for (as above). At these times the opposing coaches will agree on the number of additional players on the field at a time for that game only. Please inform the ref immediately. Remember, we want to provide each kid maximum playing time.**

Age group regulations

- Offsides **WILL** be called.

- Goal kicks – taken from either front corner of the penalty box
- Corner kicks – taken from the corner of the field
- **Penalty kicks - will be awarded**
- Throw-ins – player is given one chance to successfully throw-in; if unsuccessful then possession changes to opposing team

UNDER 12 & 14 BOYS & GIRLS DIVISIONS

The U12 Boys team will be playing in the NDDSL. The rules for the NDDSL will be handed out separately from this material. Check the website of the home team if the weather is bad.

VII. Contact Parent

After receiving your team's roster, please contact players as soon as possible; parents will start contacting the club immediately after one of their child's friends is contacted. During the initial telephone conversation please remember to inform the player's parent of the following:

- your name, telephone number
- your team name A,B, C etc.
- uniform requirements, especially shin guards
- day, date, place, duration and time of first practice
- day, date, place of first game

VIII. Coaching Tips.

Remember, the purpose of the Instructional program is to teach basic soccer skills, sportsmanship, and team play as well as to ensure that kids **have fun!** There is plenty of time to worry about winning, but at this level winning should be of secondary concern.

Visit ConcordSoccer.com for coaching material including practice drills.

Team communications

- set up a telephone tree, share the responsibility
- use name tags for the first practice or two; the sooner that the coaches and kids learn names the better
- put together a list of names (players and parents) along with telephone numbers for every player
- Talk to your parents as a group before and after each practice and game. Remind them of good sportsmanship, highlights of the game/practice and upcoming events.

Set realistic goals for the team and each player

- U10 kids can be expected to pick up new skills more readily than Kiddie Kickers. Learning to communicate on the field, crossing the ball, correct throw-ins, dribbling with both feet, etc. are just as praise-worthy as scoring a goal.

Practice

- set a lesson plan for each practice; ask any teacher how important this is;
- get to practice early and prepare
- minimize down time; keep as many kids active as possible at all times
- dress like a coach - no suit; no sunglasses when talking to the players
- kids learn from seeing how it's done right, practicing, then receiving feedback
not long lectures or detailed multi-level strategies

Typical practice session:

- warm-up ("stretching" is for after kids are warmed up/break a sweat) skill review
- introduce new skill, practice, let them enjoy learning it
- small group/individual activities that are fun and reinforce the skills as well as simulate game conditions
- scrimmage (2v2, 3v3 . . .)
- warm down, feedback, encouragement
- encourage each player to bring a soccer ball to each practice
- plan drills where every player touches the ball as often as possible
- schedule breaks during practice
- keep practice moving, minimize standing around (lines + standing=boring)
- keep practices **fun** . . . it's only a game
- listen and read your players; some times they are up and ready to learn while some nights they are only able to play and do "fun" things
- set goals and get your players to develop their skills over time
- ensure that every practice, and game, has a lot of fun in it

Game day:

- **Organization:** Have a line up card for each game with all of the players listed and some way of designating what position each will play every quarter (in pencil to allow for easy last minute changes). This is an easy check to ensure that everyone plays at least 2 quarters, and that players get to play different positions. It is important that games start on time, as scheduled; referees will be asked to move games along.
- **Side line** - Minimize coaching from the sidelines; when the coach is directing players during play, it generally confuses them. Save on field coaching for positioning players (throw-in, corner kicks, goalie kicks, etc.) and encouraging. Save feedback for the players sitting on the side line.
- **Fans/Parents** - For Kiddie Kicker games have the spectators stand behind the goals close to Foulk Rd. or the behind the goals on the side line of the full size field. For u8 girls have the spectators stand behind the south goals or the side line of the full field. For u8 boys have the spectators stand behind the north goals or the side lines of the full field. For u10 boys and girls have the spectators stand on the side line of the closest to St. Paul's Church. **The county has asked us to keep spectators off of the full size fields.**

- **Referees** - Be a role model for players and parents. CSA is proud to use licensed soccer referees. But referees are people and will make mistakes (just like players and coaches) - they should be treated with respect. **Yelling at the referee is not allowed.** Use the period between quarters to discuss any problems. Feel free to speak with the Referee Coordinator, if needed.
- **First Aid/Emergencies** - First Aid kits are available at the snack stand and in the Equipment box at the field, and accessible through the Referees.

Purpose - Remember that this is the Soccer Development Program, not the World Cup. This is the time for kids to have positive experiences and fun while learning to play team ball and to compete. Encourage players to use the skills learned in practice, and to try different positions.

Remember to create an atmosphere of FUN and
GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP!

Thanks.

www.concordsoccer.com