

911 – Fields address is 16700 Old Simcoe Rd Port Perry ON



U4-U10 Coach Information

Scugog Soccer Association thanks you for volunteering to work as part of our coaching team. We aspire to provide a positive environment for everyone involved and hope that the attached information will help you have a great season. The goal is to have a house league program where activity, fun and sportsmanship, combine with skill development for a great season.

Important Contact Information

Club Phone: 905.985.7553

Club Email: info@scugogsoccer.ca

Team Communications

Once you receive your team roster, either at the coaches meeting or via email from the Club, please contact the players to inform them of your first meeting time & location. If you have a player that does not have email, please do call them.

During the season, keep in regular contact with your team parents. Please don't assume that everyone has heard if you announce something at the field! This is where mass email can really come in handy.

Privacy of Information

Please note that player rosters are for soccer use only. The contact information contained within is confidential and not for general distribution or personal use.

** When emailing your entire team, please make sure to use the blind copy (BCC) option.

Let's Play!

U8 and U10 teams meet twice per week. Generally, the format includes practise on the first night and game on the second. On practise night, our Master Coach, Chris Hill, will work together with all coaches to run a divisional practise including a variety of drills centers to which the teams can rotate, thereby providing consistent coaching as well as reducing pressure on all coaches.

At the first meeting

- Do a quick survey of the parents to see who might be willing/able to assist you with coaching or management duties if necessary.
- Invite all parents to come prepared to participate with their child each week.
- Set up a snack rotation schedule for each week's game night. Remember healthy snacks are best!
- Remind players to bring labelled water to the field every night to prevent dehydration.
- Discuss team and league rules (eg. jewelry policy, sportsmanship, electronic devices)

Uniforms

Uniforms should be worn each week. Uniforms help us keep organized as we move through our training stations. A demonstration is sometimes needed to show exactly how shin-pads go underneath the socks. Double knot laces. Soccer cleats and shin-pads can be purchased at Canadian Tire. Note that cleats do not come in very small sizes so many children will need to wear runners instead.

Jewelry

FIFA law 4 states: "All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands, etc.) are strictly forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is not acceptable". This is a safety related rule which will apply throughout a youth's entire soccer career.

Player Bench / Focus Blanket

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It is important that all players gather in one spot when not playing on the field. This helps keep player's heads in the game, allows the coach to keep track of players for substitutions, and helps the referee. Youth should be encouraged to keep their water bottle at the bench for easy access.

Positions/Substitutions:

At all house league levels, it is expected that all players receive equal playing time. Up until U12 all players should rotate to play all positions. For 10 and up remember that permission must be granted by the referee for players to enter/leave the field of play. Be sure that all parents and players understand this.

Season Tips

- Be realistic and positive – encourage your players with positive feedback. Remember that all players will be at a different skill level. Respect their levels and adjust accordingly.
- Be Punctual – Advise players and parents that we strive to start on time. Allow enough time to get cleats on when arriving at the fields.

Player Attendance

For insurance purposes, we are required by the DRSA to record who is in attendance each night. To simplify, we've created a single sheet that can be used for the entire season. Please use it and return it in August to the Clubhouse.

First Aid

First Aid kits are located on the wall inside the Clubhouse, hanging directly to the right of the door. There is no phone on site so if an ambulance needs to be called, please use a cell phone. If you do call an Ambulance, please alert the Clubhouse, someone from the Club can help direct the Ambulance to the appropriate field.

Accident Reporting

Accidents happen! In the event that one occurs at the soccer fields, we have an Accident Report that needs to be filled out. You can find extra copies of the report in the Clubhouse. Please fill the report out and submit it to the Club.

Insurance Claims

All Players and Coaches are insured for the soccer season and some injuries are worse than others. If an injury occurs as a result of soccer participation, insurance forms need to be filled out right away. Please alert the Clubhouse and they can help.

Inclement Weather

We play in the sun. We play in the rain. We play in all kinds of weather except lightning. Unfortunately, it is very difficult to make the call to cancel due to the weather before parents start heading to the fields. If soccer is cancelled early, it will be posted to Twitter, Facebook, our website and our voicemail. We do try to give enough notice but everyone should be prepared to turn around and go home at the last minute. 99% of the time, if soccer is cancelled, it is done from the fields and may not be cancelled at all, just delayed while a storm passes. Club Executive Members and Board Members are the ONLY people who make the cancellation call for any reason; it is not a decision to be made by individual coaches. Lightning detection equipment is present in the Clubhouse and we use it in conjunction with Radar websites to judge if its unsafe to play.

Lightning Safety – Excerpts from the Durham Referees Website

“The safety of players, coaches, management and spectators is the primary concern in any weather event that occurs during all matches sanctioned by the CSA.”

“When lightning is detected, you can determine the distance of lightning in your area by counting the number of seconds between the flash and the first sound of the thunder and dividing by five (5). This will give you the distance in kilometers from your location.”

30/30 RULE

When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If this time is thirty (30) seconds or less, seek proper shelter. Wait thirty (30) minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving the shelter. If you cannot see the lightning, just hearing the thunder is a good back up rule.

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In the event of lightning, move directly to a shelter or your car. Stay away from the tallest trees or objects (such as light poles or flag poles), metal objects (such as fences or bleachers), individual trees, standing pools of water, and open fields.

If you hear 3 blasts of an air horn, it means that lightning has been detected and you should clear the fields immediately.

Players left at the Fields

Parents are not to leave their children unattended at the fields. This is something the Club will communicate to all parents but it also is helpful for coaches to remind their parents. In the event that a parent leaves their child at the fields, Coaches should not leave until the parent has returned. In the event this happens and you, as coach, need to leave, please bring the child(ren) to the Clubhouse. A Board Member will take responsibility and work to contact the parents.

If a parent must leave, they should check in with the coach first and provide immediate contact information for emergencies. Ideally, another parent would be designated as an on field emergency contact.

In the event that a parent/guardian is not present to retrieve their child, the coach should be sure to have a second adult stay with them and the child. Attempts to contact the parent/guardian should be made. However, if it gets very late and you are unable to reach the child's family, it is considered prudent to call the police.

Referees

Even if they're wrong, the referee's call is final and is not negotiable. Please don't challenge referee calls on the field, and please resist the urge to make your own calls. It isn't helpful and it won't change anything.

Our referee program, like our player programs, focus on skills development. Referees on mini fields are expected to know what they are doing but are still building skills around communication, confidence and managing conflict. Your support in helping them learn is appreciated.

Every referee is someone's child or spouse. Please speak to them as you would expect your child or spouse to be spoken to in a similar situation. We take referee abuse very seriously and we don't tolerate verbal harassment, insults, threats and persistent yelling. Your conduct toward a referee will set the example for parents and players.

Hand balls: Please remember that hand balls must be deliberate for the referee to call them. Balls bouncing off the ground or a player and making incidental contact with a player's hand or arm will generally not be called. Please support the referees as they make these difficult decisions.