



# Youth Soccer Frequently Asked Questions

Newberry County Parks & Recreation Department in partnership  
with Newberry County Family YMCA and the Town of Prosperity



**Q.** What is the objective of the soccer program?

**A.** To provide a FUN, educational soccer experience for the players and their families as well as to provide instruction and to inspire teamwork, sportsmanship and community awareness.

**Q.** Where and when are practices and games held?

**A.** Most practices/games are held on fields in Prosperity; however, some are held at fields behind the Newberry County Family YMCA (*field space/availability is subject to change*). Practices and games are typically either Monday, Wednesday, and/or Saturday OR Tuesday, Thursday, and/or Saturday. There will be no Saturday games on October 12, or November 2, 2024. Saturday games and are typically completed by noon. Every effort is made to ensure weekday events do not interfere with schedules in relation to school. Practices are roughly the same length as game times (see chart at the bottom of page 2).

**Q.** Are the teams co-ed?

**A.** Yes, every age division will be made up of boys and girls.

**Q.** How will information be communicated to us?

**A.** Staff and coaches primarily communicate via text messages to expedite providing information to all involved. However, information may also be communicated via phone call. It is important that you provide a working number and are responsive. County of Newberry Recreation also utilizes Facebook to provide updates and post cancellations.

**Q.** How are teams selected?

**A.** Younger division teams are randomly selected. An effort is made to ensure each team has an even number within each age bracket. Older division teams are selected using a draft format. A returning player will be placed on the same team as the year prior unless they are moving to a new division.

**Q.** What does the registration fee cover?

**A.** The registration fee covers the player's jersey and socks as well as a t-shirt. Players must supply their own shin guards and black shorts as well as cleats for ages seven (7) and up. Each player will also be provided a medallion at the end of the season.

**Q.** Can my child play at an older age level?

**A.** Typically this is discouraged as it affects player development; however, if you would like your player to move up, a request must be made directly to the Director of Parks & Recreation at Newberry County (Phone: 803-924-8328 or E-mail: [recreation@newberrycounty.gov](mailto:recreation@newberrycounty.gov)) for approval.

**Q.** What if my child needs to miss a practice/game?

**A.** Advance communication when possible is always encouraged. Typically, there is no impact or penalty to missing a practice or game; however, if it becomes habitual it will likely impact playing time during games. Again, communication is important.

**Q.** How are parents/guardians notified of practice/game cancellations?

**A.** Newberry County Parks & Recreation staff make the determination as to whether practices/games will be cancelled due to weather, safety or health related circumstances and will communicate this information to coaches. Cancellations are made as far in advance as possible, but there may be times in which cancellations are not made until a practice/game begins. The goal is to make a determination at least one hour prior to practice/game start time. Once rosters have been set, coaches will communicate the information regarding cancellations to parents/guardians. Cancelled games are rescheduled if possible, but rescheduling can be difficult due to field availability, team/coach schedules, staffing/officiating needs, etc.

**Q.** Can I request for my child to be on a specific team, with a specific coach, or with a friend?

**A.** Siblings are placed on the same team if their dates of birth put them in the same age division unless we are notified otherwise. No other requests for a specific team/coach should be made. Requests for a player to be on the same team as a friend should not be made.

*See chart below for more information about age divisions, teams, and/or games.*

Age Group	Roster Size	# of Players on Field	Field Size (in feet)	Ball Size	Length of Game	Refs	Game Days	# of Scheduled Games/ team
3-4	6-8	4 vs. 4 (no goalkeeper)	45 x 75	3"	4 - 7 min. quarters (5 min. half)	0	T, H, S	6
5-6	8-10	5 vs. 5 or 6 vs. 6	60 x 90	3"	2 - 20 min. halves (5 min. half)	1	M, T, S	6-8
7-9	9-11	7 vs. 7 or 8 vs. 8	80 x 120	4"	2 - 25 min. halves (5 min. half)	1	T, H, S	8-10
10-12	11-13	9 vs. 9	135 x 220	5"	2 - 30 min. halves (5 min. half)	2	M, T, S	8-10
13-15	11-13	9 vs. 9	135 x 220	5"	2 - 30 min. halves (5 min. half)	2	T, S	8-10

*\*All of the above is dependent on the number of players/teams per age division and is therefore subject to change.*