



Getting Your Kid Started in Soccer

So you've got a son/daughter who wants to play soccer?

The Whitefish Bay Soccer Club, an affiliate of the Milwaukee Kickers Soccer Club, has over 1000 kids ranging in age from K5 through high school. Started in 1981, the WFBSC sees over 800 kids play in recreational ('Rec') leagues while another 250 (in older age groups) participate in the more competitive 'Select' league.

Your child will join a Rec team, which generally involves a game once each weekend during the season as well as a practice on a weekday. (If they're old enough, they can give a Select team a shot during June tryouts. There is information on 'Select' here *\\ provide link.)

Here's how:

1. Register your family/child on the MKSC website.

www.mksc.org

Click "Member Registration" on the left side menu.

The registration fee (ranging from \$60 to \$120, depending on age) covers a year of play. A 'year' spans September of one calendar year through the following summer, and for rec players, includes a fall and a spring season of games. Registration for a September->August season generally runs during the May before that September. For example, registration for the September 2009 -> August 2010 season is open during May 2009.

What if you want to join but it's not May anymore? You can still register, subject to availability of a spot on a team. Generally, there are openings for the younger age groups throughout the year.

Registration fees go both toward MKSC and WFBSC items, such as individual uniform, team ball, team medical bag, individual WYSA registration, secondary medical insurance, continuing education for coaches, and so on.

When you register, you'll select the age group for your child. At the bottom of the Membership Registration page on the MKSC site, there's a description of how age groups match up with birthdays. For example, as of May, 2009, U7 players are those born 8/1/01 -> 7/31/02.

2. (optional) Contact the WFBSC age group coordinator.

Registrations from the MKSC website are automatically collected by the WFBSC registrar and teams are formed for each age group.

The registrar will assign your child to a team, either one being formed or one in existence, depending on age group and when during the year you're joining.

If you've got specific questions about team placement, you can contact the age group coordinator for your child. The list of AGCs is found under Contact Us, Age Group Coordinators. *\\\ duplicate this under Rec Program link.

3. The coach of your team will contact you with

- schedule for games and practices for the upcoming season
- uniform
- roster

4. You will need to get

- shin guards (explain)
- shoes (explain what type, where)
- ball (explain sizes/age group)
- water bottle

Note that team uniform shirt, shorts and socks are included in the registration fee.

You may also want to pick up (this is all optional)

- gym bag
- sweats
- girls - place for earrings (can't wear earrings at games)
- special sports eyeglasses

5. Other Notes

Spring and fall games are played out-of-doors at locations around Milw County. For example, local areas include Cahill, Cumberland, Richards, Water Tower Park, and Kletsch. Teams also play in away games against other Milwaukee area clubs associated with the MKSC. These locations include Fox Point, Germantown, Uihlein Outdoor, and South Milwaukee. (Maps are available on the MKSC web site.)

6. Other Opportunities

WFBSC offers other opportunities as well, including our own WFBSC Indoor Tournament (usually late January), skill oriented events such as clinics and tournaments, and social events like the annual Sprecher Night and gatherings at Wave games. You'll hear about these through your coach and others through the regular WFBSC emails.

7. More information

Click on the links to the left for lots of useful information. In particular, check out the "Recreation Program", "Camps and Clinics", and "Tournament" links. Additionally, the "Resources/Links" link has a LOT of general soccer-related information.