



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **HOW DO I REGISTER?**

The easiest and fastest way to register is online. Just click our registration link and it will work you through a simple 5 minute online registration process. You can also pay online and once submitted your child's registration is accepted immediately.

You can also register by completing the paper form and mailing it in to our PO Box. Forms that are mailed in must include payment and are accepted once they are entered in to our system. You will receive an email notification letting you know it has been accepted.

### **WHAT DOES MY REGISTRATION FEE COVER?**

Your registration fee includes a full uniform (professional style jersey, shorts and socks), a complete picture package and a trophy (or medal). Once you pay we will not ask you for any more money. We are proud to say we do not offer any "optional extras". We do, however, require each soccer player to wear shin guards during games and bring a soccer ball to practice each week; cleats are optional.

### **HOW LONG IS A SEASON AND HOW MANY SEASONS ARE OFFERED PER YEAR?**

Each of our seasons is 7 weeks long. We offer three seasons throughout the year, with our Fall season beginning September, our Winter season which begins in January and our Spring season which begins in April.

### **MY CHILD HAS NEVER PLAYED SOCCER BEFORE. IS THIS A PLACE FOR THEM?**

Yes, our recreational and select programs are just the right fit. We encourage all children to give soccer a try, regardless of their skill level or age. MSC United is dedicated to including all players in each and every game. Equal playing time is allotted to every child. We focus on developing a skill, achieving a goal and having fun.

### **DO YOU OFFER SIBLING DISCOUNTS?**

At this time we do not offer any discounts for siblings. As part of our efforts to provide you with the best experience at the best absolute price, we have designed our registration fee to be as low as possible. Our costs are based on our expenses, meaning the cost for a uniform, trophy, etc stays the same whether you register one child or three.

### **ARE REFUNDS GIVEN?**

Due to the fact that MSC United operates as a non-profit we are unable to provide refunds. One of our key goals is to provide you with an organized sports experience. That means once you have registered we begin the process of ordering your child's uniform and other materials so that you are not waiting once the season begins. We incur costs almost immediately once you register your child.

### **HOW DOES RECREATIONAL SOCCER DIFFER FROM COMPETITIVE SOCCER?**

MSC United operates its recreational program to children of all ages and abilities. We do not hold tryouts, skill assessments or rely on talent to ensure game, playing time. All of our coaches are expected to make sure that each child receives equal playing time.

### **HOW ARE TEAMS FORMED?**

Teams are formed based on the child's age, location of where you live, then coach and friend requests. At this time we offer five different age brackets which serve children ages 3-11: U4, U6, U8, U10 and U12.

### **ARE COACH AND/OR FRIEND REQUESTS PERMITTED?**

Yes, we will do our best to accommodate coach and friend requests. There is a designated area on the registration form for you to make such requests.

## **WHO ARE THE COACHES?**

For our recreational teams:

All of our coaches are parent volunteers. MSC United greatly appreciates all our parents who volunteer their time to make our programs a success. We provide all our coaches with a professional Training Manual as well as personal, live training prior to each season. We also have a link on our website with training videos full of simple drills coaches can incorporate into their practice sessions if they so desire. We make it easy for you to be a coach with us!

For our select teams:

All of our coaches are paid, professional staff coaches. Each coach is certified and licensed. Their specific experience and education provide a higher level of training for your child.

## **I DON'T KNOW HOW TO COACH, BUT I THINK I MIGHT WANT TO TRY. IS THIS OK?**

Yes! No previous experience is necessary. We provide all our coaches with a professional training manual as well as personal, live training prior to each season. We also have a link on our website with training videos full of simple drills coaches can incorporate into their practice sessions if they so desire. We make it easy for you to be a coach with us!

## **WHO ARE THE REFEREES?**

Our referees are all trained and experienced individuals. Many of our referees continue to work for us season after season, offering stability and familiarity for the kids.

## **WHERE ARE TEAM PICTURES TAKEN?**

For your convenience, pictures are always taken at the game fields prior to a scheduled game. We provide photographers who take team and individual photos prior to your child's game on a designated week. As an added bonus there is no need to arrive early on picture day! Show up at your game time, snap your pictures, then play your game!

### **WHEN ARE PICTURES AND TROPHIES HANDED OUT TO PLAYERS?**

Pictures and trophies are handed out by your team's coach at the last game of the season. Many teams hold an end-of-season party after the last game and some coaches choose to award their team with pictures and trophies at the party.

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF IT RAINS?**

Arizona weather is fragmented, so even if it is raining at your house it may not be raining at the field. If it is indeed raining at the fields we will notify all coaches who, in turn will contact each of their players. If you do not hear from your coach, please assume that games will be played as scheduled.

### **WILL CANCELLED GAMES BE MADE UP?**

Yes, if we are forced to cancel a game due to weather we do our best to make it up.

### **WHAT EQUIPMENT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO HAVE TO PLAY?**

For soccer, each child is required to wear shin guards. These are relatively inexpensive and can be purchased at any local retail store. Shin guards are personal protective devices and are not provided by the league.

### **WHEN AND WHERE ARE PRACTICES?**

All practice information is determined by the team coach. Two weeks before games begin, we will post team rosters and schedules online and hold our seasonal coaches meeting. After this meeting coaches will contact you to inform you of the day, time and location of practices.

We suggest to our coaches that since teams are formed by location they practice near where the team lives. This may be in a neighborhood green belt or a nearby park. We suggest that each team practice one day per week for no more than one hour. Our suggested times and days for practice are a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday after 5pm .

### **WHAT DAYS ARE GAMES PLAYED ON?**

All of our games are played on Saturday mornings.

**WHEN DO GAMES START?**

Game times may start anytime between 8am and 12pm. Please refer to our online schedule for your team's start time each week. You can access the online schedule by entering the Parent's Login.

**HOW LONG DOES A GAMES LAST?**

Game times vary by age group but you can expect to be at the park for about an hour.