

Amherst County Recreation & Parks Dept

2016 Spring Soccer

The Scouting Combine is set for Sat **March 12th Rain or Shine** at Amherst High School

If you want your child to have a good experience this season, then as a parent there is one thing that you can do that will greatly increase the odds that they will have a good season. Ensuring that your child attends the "Scouting Combine" greatly assists the coaches to assemble balanced teams. This is not a try out but merely a chance for the coaches to get familiar with the players and their skill levels. The combine is only for the U10, U12 & U15 divisions. The players will be split into random groups and will play several short games on a small sized field.

This greatly helps the volunteer coaches to assemble balanced teams. Having balanced teams can reduce the possibility of lopsided games. Unbalanced teams tend to short change everyone. The winning team is not really challenged and thus they are less likely to reach their potential. The losing team in some cases can become disheartened and loose interest, which also prevents them from reaching their potential

- Having balanced teams equates to more exciting games.
- More exciting games lead to players wanting to and actually working harder.
- Working harder will bring a sense of accomplishment and pride.
- Accomplishment and pride will spill over and have a positive impact on their daily lives.

Once the teams are determined, the coaches will reflect back on the combine to begin planning their practices to help the players to improve upon the areas that they are weak in, as well as to strengthen the areas that they are already strong in. **In order for a player to be drafted they must attend the Scouting Combine.** Players who don't attend the combine regardless of the reason will still get on a team, but not being there will likely have a negative impact on the entire age group, as the coaches will not have the opportunity to assess the player. We strive for each team to have an equal number of players and to keep the number of players on each team to a minimum. The goal is to give each player ample opportunities to learn & grow.

Important Details for Parents regarding the Scouting Combine:

1. This is a **rain or shine** event that should take about 60 minutes. Weather permitting we will meet at the High school football stadium. In the event of bad weather we will simply move into the gyms, so dress accordingly.
2. Look for the registration table where the players will get their pre-assigned number
3. Due to limited space in the gyms, we will not be offering any seating.
4. The first practice for all teams will be on Saturday **March 19th**. Once the team assignments have been determined, you will be sent an email to let you know who your coach is & the time of the first practice. The rosters and schedules will also be posted on the county's website.

Important Details for the Players:

1. Shin guards are required for all practices and games, and also required for the Skills Combine.
2. Each player will be given a number to wear and must keep the number on at all times.
3. In the event of bad weather Players should dress for both inside and outside activities.& bring tennis shoes as cleats are not allowed on any of the gym floors.

Division/Ages	Find the Year and month of birth to determine which division that is age appropriate for your player	Attend Scouting Combine on March 12 th	The Early bird fee ends on 1/31 After 1/31 add \$10.00 After 2/29, then add another \$10.00
U6- 4 & 5, Co-Ed	2009 – Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. 2010 – Any month 2011 - Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul	No	\$40/\$50/\$60
U8 – 6 & 7, Co-Ed	2007– Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. 2008 – Any month 2009 – Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul	No	\$40/\$50/\$60
U10 – 8 & 9 Co-ed	2005 – Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. 2006 – Any month 2007 – Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul	Yes – Arrive at 9:00 am	\$40/\$50/\$60
U12 – 10 & 11, Co-Ed	2003– Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. 2004 – Any month 2005 – Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul	Yes – Arrive at 10:30 am	\$40/\$50/\$60
U15 – 12,13 & 14 Might be Co-ed	2000– Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec. 2001 – Any month 2002 – Any month 2003 – Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, Jun, Jul	Yes – Arrive at 12:00 pm	\$40/\$50/\$60

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PURPOSE: The purpose of the Amherst County Recreation & Parks Department's Youth Soccer program is to give the youth of the county the opportunity

- To participate in a team sport
- To learn the skills and rules of soccer
- To learn to use good sportsmanship, have fun, and meet new friends

Each coach is required to play every player 50% of each game. The intent is to help each player to grow individually as well as to learn to work together as a team. We are fortunate to have many wonderful coaches. Some coaches have invested much of their own time to become certified. While these coaches may know a lot about soccer, they may not have had the chance to get to know any of the players prior to forming a team. The Recreation Department is holding a Soccer Scouting Combine. Please see the opposite side for more details on the Scouting Combine.

INFORMATION

Coaches: Our program couldn't exist without volunteer coaches like you. Please let us know if you would be available to help. We encourage and offer on-line coaching classes to our coaches at no charge. We also bare the expense of running background checks on all of our coaches.

Fields: Most practices and games will be held at Coolwell Recreational Park. The U15 division may need to play half of their games at other nearby localities.

Age limit: Each Division is made up of specific age groups and a player will be placed into a division based on their age as of July 31st 2015. The age groups coincide with the school year, so your child will play in the same age division as they did this past fall.

Registrations

- You can register at the Recreation Dept. Monday - Fridays 9:00am-4:30.
- You can register at Amelon Elementary Gym on any Thursday in Feb between 6 & 8:00 pm while Recreation Basketball practices are occurring
- You can also register on-line at www.CountyofAmherst.com. If a player is registered online then a parent or guardian **must attend** the combine and sign a waiver, before a player will be allowed to participate.
- A parent/guardian signature is the only acceptable signature. 1st year players must show a copy of their birth certificate.

Uniforms: All players are given a team shirt & socks to keep. Be sure that you specify the correct shirt size when registering. If you find that you ordered the wrong size then to get a nother shirts will be an **additional cost of \$15.00**. Due to the lead time required as well as the shipping cost, the Recreation Dept. will only place one re-order of shirts. When specifying the shirt size, we suggest ordering one size larger than you normally would wear.

SHIN GUARDS ARE REQUIRED These are worn for player protection, on the shins, under the socks. They are required for all practices & games. They can be purchased at stores in our community.

Shoes: Cleats are recommended for older players (8 & up). Make sure your shoes DO NOT have a cleat right under the tip of the shoe, as in baseball or football shoes. This is a danger to other players if they get kicked.

Insurance: The Amherst County Recreation & Parks Department does not carry insurance on players, coaches, volunteers, or spectators. Parents/guardians are responsible for the cost of medical bills relating to any injuries.

Refunds: If you withdraw prior to March 11th, regardless of the reason, we will gladly issue a full refund. No refunds will be granted after March 10th

For more information about the program and for practice schedules please visit www.CountyofAmherst.com