

# Amherst County Recreation & Parks Dept

## 2020 Spring Soccer

The Scouting Combine is set for Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>. 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. 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 on Sunday 3/15/2020:**

1. This is a **rain or shine** event that should take about 60 minutes. Weather permitting, we will be on the soccer field @Coolwell. *In the event we need to cancel on Sunday 3/15, then the makeup date for the scouting combine for the U10 division will be Monday 3/17/2020 @6pm. The U12 will meet on Tue 3/18 6pm & the U15 will meet on Wed 3/19 @6pm. Be sure to call 434-946-9371 after 7:30am on Saturdays and/or after 12pm on Sundays to confirm if the event is going on as scheduled.*
2. When you arrive look for the registration table where ALL players need to get their pre-assigned number.
3. **Shin guards are required** for the Scouting Combine as well as for all practices and games.
4. 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 & schedules will also be posted on the county's web site by 9pm on 3/15.**
5. **All U8/U10/U12/U15** teams will begin practicing during the week beginning 3/16/2020.
6. **All U6** teams will have their first practice on 3/21/20

Division/Ages	Find the Year of birth to determine which division that is age appropriate for your player.	Do you need to Attend a Scouting Combine on Sunday 3/15/2020	To pay the lowest amt shown register by midnight 2/1. After 2/1 add \$10.00 After 2/28, add another \$10.00
U6- 4 & 5, Co-Ed	2014 & 2015	No	\$41/\$51/\$61
U8 – 6 & 7, Co-Ed	2012 & 2013	No	\$41/\$51/\$61
U10 – 8 & 9 Co-ed	2010 & 2011	Yes – Arrive @2:00 pm	\$41/\$51/\$61
U12 – 10 & 11, Co-Ed	2008 & 2009	Yes – Arrive @4:00 pm	\$41/\$51/\$61
U15 – 12,13 & 14 Might be Co-ed	2005, 2006 & 2007	Yes – Arrive @6:00 pm	\$41/\$51/\$61
U18	2002, 2003, 2004	No	\$41/\$51/\$61

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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. Depending on the number of U15 team, 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 year of birth.
- Registrations:** You can register at the Recreation Dept. Monday - Fridays 9:00am-4:30. You can also register on-line at [www.CountyofAmherst.com](http://www.CountyofAmherst.com).
- 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 another shirt you will need to pay an **additional cost of \$15.00 and any expedited shipping costs**. When specifying the shirt size, we suggest ordering one size larger than you normally would wear, as this may allow extra room to wear warmer layers under their jersey.
- 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 any and all medical bills relating to any injuries.
- Refunds:** If you email or write to us by or on to 2/28/20 regardless of the reason, we will gladly issue a full refund. **No refunds will be given after 2/28/20 regardless of reason.** For more information about the program & for practice schedules please visit [www.CountyofAmherst.com](http://www.CountyofAmherst.com)