

Amherst County Recreation Dept 2021 Spring Soccer Program

Information and details that you need to know about registering your child

If you want your child to have the best chance to have a good experience this season, then one thing that you will want to do is make sure your child participates in the Scouting Combine. 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.
- Working together with different talent levels teaches teamwork principles
- 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 beginning the week of 3/13/20

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, then the makeup date for the scouting combines will be during the week beginning Mon 3/15/21. Be sure to call 43-946-9371 after 4:30 pm on weekdays, after 7:30am on Saturdays and 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 be posted on the county's web site no later than 5pm on Fri 3/19/21.
5. **All** teams will be scheduled to have their first practice on **Sat 3/20/21**

Division/Ages	Find the Year of birth to determine which division that is age appropriate for your player.	Do you need to Attend one of the Scouting Combines?	To pay the lowest amt shown register by midnight 2/21/21. After 2/21/21 add \$10.00 After 3/7/21, add \$10.00 more
U6- 4 & 5, Co-Ed	2015 & 2016	No	\$45/\$55/\$65
U8 – 6 & 7, Co-Ed	2013 & 2014	No	\$55/\$65/\$75
U10 – 8 & 9, Co-ed	2011 & 2012	Yes – @9:00 am on 3/13/21	\$55/\$65/\$75
U12 – 10 & 11, Co-Ed	2009 & 2010	Yes – @11:00 am on 3/13/20	\$55/\$65/\$75
U15 – 12,13 & 14, Co-ed	2006, 2007 & 2008	Yes – @1:00 pm on 3/13/21	\$55/\$65/\$75
U18 – 14, 16 & 17, Co-Ed	2003,2004,2005	Yes – @3:00 pm on 3/13/21	\$65/\$75/\$85

Amherst County Recreation Dept

2021 Spring Soccer Program

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.
- 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.
- Uniforms:** All players are given a team shirt, socks and a ball 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 3/19/21 regardless of the reason, we will gladly issue a full refund. **No refunds will be given after 3/19/21 regardless of reason, unless there aren't enough players to form a division.**

Phase 3 in a Covid World: Amherst County Recreation has adopted the return to play guidelines as outlined by the Virginia Youth Soccer Association (VYSA). The VYSA received verification from the governor's office that matches are permitted during Phase 3. Phase 3 Guidelines which are mandatory are on the following page as outlined by the Governor of Virginia that specifically pertain to Outdoor Recreational Sports. For more information about the program & for practice schedules please visit www.CountyofAmherst.com

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RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES IN A COVID WORLD

Phase 3 Guidelines - Safer at Home: Outdoor Recreational Sports

MANDATORY Requirements issued by the Governor of Virginia

Beginning December 7, 2020 - All areas of Virginia • Spectators are Limited to 25 people per field.

- Ten feet of physical distancing should be maintained between all coaches, participants and spectators, where practicable.*
- Post signage at the entrance that states that no participant or spectator with a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, or known exposure to a COVID-19 case in the prior 10 days is permitted on the premises.
- Ensure anyone who has symptoms of, has tested positive for, or has been exposed to COVID-19 follows appropriate guidelines for quarantine or isolation. Persons with symptoms should stay home until CDC criteria for ending isolation have been met.
- Conduct daily screening of coaches, officials, staff, and players for COVID-19 symptoms prior to admission to the venue/facility.
- Shared equipment must be limited. If required, it must be disinfected between each use. Practice routine cleaning and disinfection of high contact areas and hard surfaces
- Post signage to provide public health reminders regarding physical distancing, gathering and options for high risk individuals.

*Per Virginia Governors Office, matches are permitted during Phase 3

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Orders regarding COVID-19 issued by your local jurisdiction must be followed

Regardless of the phase, clubs should consider the following guidelines:

Club

- If capability exists to take the temperature of participants, including coaches should be taken. Anyone with a temperature of 100 or more should be sent home and not allowed to participate for a minimum of 10 days.
- Training and game schedules should be staggered to eliminate congestion and crowding
- No centralized hydration or refreshment stations
- Provide a place for players and coaches to wash hands with soap and water, or provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers containing at least 60% alcohol
- Spectators should be limited and must maintain minimum social distancing, as defined by the CDC
- Respect for each individual's choices must be the top priority. If a participant wishes to wear a face mask this should be allowed, and accommodations should be made if needed For individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19, provide written confirmation of
- COVID-19 negative status should be required for participation return

Coaches

- During this crisis period, coaches should design training and pre-match warmups with as much physical distancing as possible
- Assign a "station" for each player to place their equipment, and that they should return to during breaks
- No one should share water, towels, balls or any equipment. All balls should be disinfected after every practice
- Only coaches should handle practice equipment
- Practice Vest/Pinnies should be washed after each use. Recommend issuing each player their individual practice vest/pinnie
- Disinfectant should be used to wipe down all equipment
- Participants should be given the option to stay home if they are uncomfortable returning to play

Players

- Each player must have their own ball and equipment.
- *During training, handling the ball should be limited as much as possible.*