

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Players about SYSA Spring Soccer Updated for 2018

SYSA's Spring Soccer League started in 2002 with just a handful of teams. As the league continues to grow and more players participate, it's important to keep in mind the spirit of Spring Soccer:

A league focused on kids playing soccer in a safe, comfortable environment, without the pressure of winning and losing, allowing them to get more touches on the ball and find joy and creativity in the game.

Please read this FAQ carefully. If you still have questions, please contact us at information@sypsa.org. Please remember that over 600 teams participated in spring soccer in 2017, and the email volume is often very large. We truly appreciate your patience.

This FAQ document is organized into two parts:

- **Questions Most Asked by Parents and Players**
- **General Questions**

Questions Most Asked by Parents and Players

WHO CAN PLAY SPRING SOCCER AND HOW ARE TEAMS FORMED?

Spring Soccer is organized around registration by teams. Most of the players in Spring Soccer play on the same team they played on in the fall. Ask your fall coach if they plan to enter the team in SYSA Spring Soccer. If so, they can simply include you on the roster.

If your fall team is playing in the spring, you DO NOT need to register as a player. Your fall coach will simply include you on the roster.

If your fall team coach is not planning to enter the team in Spring Soccer, then you'll need to find a team to play on. See the sections below for finding a team to play on.

HOW CAN INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS FIND A TEAM TO PLAY ON?

Spring Soccer is based on fall team registration. There are two ways for individual players to find a team.

1. Parents or players should ask friends or acquaintances in their neighborhood or school if they know of teams looking for players. The coach can then add them to the roster. This is by far the best way to get on a team, and play in the spring. Also, players should contact their neighborhood club where they played

fall soccer for help in locating a team.

2. In 2018, SYSA will try to place individual players on teams that have roster space. There will be a separate registration for players without teams. Although we'll try to find a team for each individual player, **we cannot guarantee that every individual player will be placed on a team, or that the team the player is placed on will be from their neighborhood club.**

HOW DO INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS WITHOUT A TEAM REGISTER?

Individual player registration is different, depending on the player's age group.

Individual U6, U7, and U8 Players -- All U6, U7, and U8 players without teams **must register as part of our Spring Skills & Games Academy.** You can read about the Spring Skills & Games Academy and find out how to register in this FAQ.

Individual U9 and Older Players -- All **U9 and older players** without teams must register as part of SYSA. We will try to find you an open spot on a team.

NOTE: If you played fall 2017 soccer in SYSA, contact Anne at anvalg@hotmai.com BEFORE you register to receive a code that will eliminate the \$25 fee.

TO REGISTER AS A U9 OR OLDER SOLO PLAYER, CLICK HERE.

WHAT IS THE SPRING SKILLS & GAMES ACADEMY?

SYSA has organized a special program for U6, U7, and U8 players who do not have teams to play on. Most of these players are new to soccer and new to SYSA. For full information about the Spring Skills & Games Academy, click here.

CAN SELECT PLAYERS PLAY IN SPRING SOCCER?

Yes. Select players can join and play on existing fall Recreational teams in the spring.

WHAT AGE CHILD CAN PLAY IN SPRING SOCCER?

Any child 6 years or older by July 31 of this year is eligible to play.

WHAT DOES IT COST?

The cost for teams varies by age group. **PLAYERS DO NOT PAY SYSA DIRECTLY TO PLAY IN THE SPRING.** The coach or team manager pays for the entire team when they register the team in Spring Soccer. The coach or team manager then collects payment directly from the individual players. On average, Spring Soccer costs about \$35 per player for the 8-game season.

There is a schedule of team fees on the Spring Soccer page. Financial assistance is available. Contact pfblooms@hotmai.com for inquiries.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY TEAM'S COACH DOES NOT WANT TO PLAY SPRING SOCCER, BUT SOME OF MY TEAMMATES DO?

First, try contacting your neighborhood club, which organized your fall team, to see if they can help you find a spring team. Players and families should also ask other players or coaches if they have a team in spring and if there are open roster spots.

CAN A PLAYER PLAY ON TWO DIFFERENT SPRING SOCCER TEAMS?

Yes. In Spring Soccer, unlike fall soccer, players can play on more than one team. Note that no special scheduling requests can be made to accommodate players who choose to play on more than one team.

General Questions about Spring Soccer

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SPRING SOCCER AND FALL SOCCER?

Spring Soccer is more like an old-fashioned pick-up game. The focus is and should be on the kids having fun and getting as many touches on the ball as possible. The biggest differences are: **no practices, just games on Sunday**; scores are not recorded, and no standings are kept or posted; games are refereed by coaches from the teams playing the game; the fields are shorter and the teams smaller.

WHEN ARE THE GAMES PLAYED?

Spring Soccer games are played on Sundays only. The Spring Skills & Games Academy for U6-8 players without teams to play on is on Saturday afternoons.

WHEN DOES SPRING SOCCER START AND WHEN DOES IT END?

The season will start on Sunday, April 8 and be completed in mid-June. Each team will be scheduled for eight games.

IS A MEDICAL RELEASE FORM NECESSARY?

Yes. The coach/manager should have a signed medical release form for each player at all games. There are two ways to get a medical release form

1. The coach/manager may use the form from the fall season.
2. The Player can download a medical release form, sign it and give it to the coach.

ARE GAMES PLAYED ON EASTER AND MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND?

No, we do not schedule any games on Easter Sunday or the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. We do schedule games on Mother's Day and Father's Day. There are not enough weeks available in the spring season to avoid scheduling games during some of the school spring breaks.

ARE DOGS ALLOWED AT SPRING SOCCER GAMES?

No dogs are allowed at athletic fields in Seattle and Shoreline.

NOTE: *Playing on a spring team does not affect where you play in the fall.* On occasion, players find new friends to play with during the spring, and want to play

with them again in the fall. Most SYSA clubs do not permit this kind of player movement in the fall as it comes very close to looking like select soccer. Recreational teams must be formed by club registrars in order to preserve the "non-select" nature of recreational soccer.

Questions? Problems? Email us at information@sysa.org.