



## Medford Parks and Recreation Youth Indoor Soccer League – **Summer 2016** Parent Meeting

### 1 Introduction

Info: [www.sportsmedford.com](http://www.sportsmedford.com) – click on “youth sports” – click on “soccer”

Rich Rosenthal – Recreation Superintendent: [richard.rosenthal@cityofmedford.org](mailto:richard.rosenthal@cityofmedford.org)

Chuck Hanson – Recreation Program Coordinator: [chuck.hanson@cityofmedford.org](mailto:chuck.hanson@cityofmedford.org)

Phone: 774-2400

### 2. Thanks to Our League Sponsors!

Real Deal Cafe & Summit Family Dental Care

### 3. League Overview

- This is an introductory recreational league emphasizing basic skill development
- Scores are not kept, and “winning” is not important
- This league is the first organized sports experience for many kids (and parents)

### 4. Practices and Games

- Practices begin week of **July 11th**.
  - All practices at Santo Community Center
  - Game schedules and other forms will be distributed at the first practice
  - Jerseys should be available at the second practice or the first game
- Each team practices once per week for approximately 40 minutes
  - Practices are weekday nights at either 5:45 or 6:30 p.m. throughout the season
- Games are played on Saturday mornings/early afternoons at the Santo Gym
- Game 1 is **July 23**. The sixth and final game is **Aug 27**
- Games start as early as 10:00 a.m.
- Games last about 40 minutes
- Participation medals and certificates of achievement distributed after the final game
  - Parents/families are not expected to bring postgame snacks or treats
  - Medford Parks and Recreation does not subsidize or sanction team parties
  - MPRD does not subsidize special awards coaches may purchase on their own

### 5. How Teams Are Formed

- We make every effort to create balanced teams in terms of age and gender
  - Each player is randomized then sorted by age and gender
  - We want kids (and parents) to make new friends and meet new people
  - Siblings are placed together (if in the same age group)

## 6. What to Expect Next ....

- Team rosters, practice days/times, and coach contact information will be posted at [www.sportsmedford.com](http://www.sportsmedford.com) under “youth sports” – “soccer” by **July 7**.
- MPRD will send a blast email to the parent email address listed in our registration database announcing that rosters have been posted to the web site.
- If your contact information has changed in recent months, PLEASE make sure your phone number, **e-mail** and address are listed correctly in our registration system.
- If you don't see your child's name listed on the online roster, contact 774-2400 or email [chuck.hanson@cityofmedford.org](mailto:chuck.hanson@cityofmedford.org) (email is preferred)

## 7. Special Request Policy

- Large numbers of special requests are a burden on league management
- We automatically place siblings in the same age group on the same team
  - Notify us if siblings in the same age group have different last names
- We make every attempt to accommodate:
  - Physical considerations
  - Religious considerations
  - Carpooling or transportation considerations
- We will not accommodate the following:
  - Wanting friends, classmates or neighbors to play on the same team
- If you have a qualifying request, please fill out a special request form before you leave

## 8. Team and Individual Photos

- Team and individual photos taken before Game 2, on **Jul 30**, by Lifetouch, Inc.
  - Your team will be scheduled early to accommodate pictures
  - Check game schedules to verify your team picture time
  - Lifetouch: 772-4455
  - No obligation to purchase – proceeds benefit youth scholarship fund

## 9. Coach Recruitment

- We need volunteer coaches! If you're interested in serving as a coach, please see me after the meeting
  - No previous experience necessary – we will train you
  - If we don't have enough coaches, parents may be “drafted”
- All Medford Parks and Recreation youth sports coaches are criminal background checked

## 10. Benefits of Being a Volunteer Coach

- Your child(ren) automatically placed on your team
- You select your practice day and time
- Receive a “coach” jersey
- Make a positive difference in kids' lives

## 11. Duties and Expectations Coaches

- Fill out 3 separate forms after the meeting tonight
- **Must be available to attend training/certification session:**
  - **Wed. Jun 29 @ 5:45 pm – Santo Community Center**
- Conduct organized practices
- Always be positive and encouraging
- Emphasize good sportsmanship and safety
- Make sure players receive equitable playing time each game
- Recruit an assistant to help during practice and along the sidelines during games

- Arrive 20 minutes before games to meet and organize your team

## 12. Your Duties as a Parent

- Always be positive and encouraging
- Applaud the accomplishments of **both** teams
- Be a problem solver, not a problem creator
- Reinforce basic skills learned in practices with your child(ren) at home
- Encourage “superstars” to pass the ball and value an assisted goal
- Make sure your child:
  - Wears **shin guards** to practices and games
  - Wears his/her jersey to all games
  - Wears soft-sole gym shoes only (**no cleats**)

## 13. Basic Game Rules

- Rules will be reviewed at practices
  - 5 vs. 5 (U5); 4 vs. 4 (U8)
  - No goalkeeping – Please do not let your child goal-guard!
  - Unsafe behavior and unsportsmanlike/inappropriate conduct by players and spectators will not be tolerated.

**Have FUN!**



**[www.sportsmedford.com](http://www.sportsmedford.com)**