



## Medford Parks and Recreation Youth Indoor Soccer League – Winter 2012 Parent Meeting

### 1. Introduction

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

### 2. Thanks to Our League Sponsors!

Sports Authority

Real Deal Cafe

### 3. Upcoming related youth programs:

#### **Kid Kicks Soccer Clinic Series**

A fun introduction to the sport of soccer or a basic skill-builder for more experienced kids. The three one-hour clinics also help prepare kids for the Youth Indoor Soccer League. The clinics feature fun soccer-related games and instruction designed to develop fundamental soccer skills. Clinics are conducted by SOU assistant coach and former Oregon State soccer standout Stephanie Pogue and Raider players.

Ages: 4–8 years

Dates: Saturdays, Jan. 21 through Feb. 4

Place: Santo Community Center gym

Cost: \$24 Resident; \$30 Non-Resident (price is for all three clinics)

Note: \$5 discount for Winter 2012 YIS registrants

### 4. 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)
- Rules and format may be adjusted for the oldest age group

### 5. Practices and Games

- Practices begin week of Jan. 30
  - All practices at Santo Community Center – Main Hall or Gym
  - Game schedules and other forms will be distributed at the first practice
  - Jerseys are distributed at the second practice
- Each team practice once per week for 40 minutes
  - Practices are weekday nights at either 5:45 or 6:30 p.m. throughout the season
- Games are played on Saturdays at the Santo Center Community Gym
- First game is Feb. 11. The sixth and final game is March 17.

- Games start as early as 9 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

## 6. How Teams Are Formed

- We make every effort to create balanced teams in terms of age and gender
  - Each player is randomly assigned to a team
  - We want kids (and parents) to make new friends

## 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
  - Wanting special practice days/times due to piano lessons, karate, Boy Scouts, etc.
- If you have a qualifying request, please fill out a special request form before you leave

## 8. What to Expect Next ....

- Sometime by Jan. 29 the person who registered the child(ren) will receive a phone call from a Parks and Recreation staff member with the following information:
  - Practice day, time and location
  - Team name and Coach name
- If you have moved or changed phone numbers in recent months, PLEASE make sure your phone number, e-mail and address are correct in our registration system

## 9. Team and Individual Photos

- Team and individual photos taken before Game 1 on Feb. 11 by Lifetouch, Inc.
  - Lifetouch: 772-4455
  - No obligation to purchase – proceeds benefit youth scholarship fund

## 10. 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 will be:
  - Criminal background checked
  - Certified through the National Youth Sports Coaches Association

## 11. Benefits of Being a Volunteer Coach

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

## 12. Duties and Expectations Coaches

- Fill out 3 separate forms after the meeting tonight
- **Must be available to attend training/certification session:**
  - **Wed., Jan. 25 - 5:45 p.m. – Santo Community Center (plan on 2 hours)**
- 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 20-30 minutes before games to meet and organize your team

## 13. 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)

## 14. 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

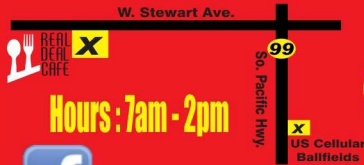
**Most importantly:  
Have FUN!**



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