



Christ United Methodist Church
Recreation Ministry
6101 Grelot Road, Mobile, AL, 36609
251.706.3326

2017 Soccer League Parent Information

It is the mission of this program to offer Christ centered character building, self-esteem, skill enhancing instruction, and spiritual nurturing to children and families of our church and community. As a sports program we will always strive to increase skill development, game strategy, game rules, and enjoyment of sports. It is our hope that sports can be “Christ-like and Competitive” with an emphasis on doing ones best while respecting the coaches, officials, and opponents. We as parents have a difficult job that offers great rewards. We must provide a safe, fun environment for our children to exercise and develop physical skills that will lead to a healthy and fulfilling lifestyle. We must encourage them positively with love and always remember that the *most important thing to them* is to have **FUN**.

We are a Developmental League which has certain rules that demand that our focus is not on winning games. Our program is designed to teach sports in a safe way in which *each* child is given an opportunity to learn skills, increase their knowledge of the game, gain self-confidence and enjoyment being part of a team. Each coach is required to focus attention on all players.

League “Player Game Rotations” are put in place to make sure all players play an equal amount of time, start and finish games and receive an equal amount of time and attention from the coach. This means that coaches are restricted from adjusting the league required Player Game Rotation. There may be a game where normally when behind in score, a coach could put all of the better skilled players in to increase their chance to win. But because of the rotation rule, it is not their turn to finish the game. This can be hard for some players and parents to understand but this is the nature of CSports.

On certain occasions when the score of a game becomes lopsided, we have a “Grace Rule” that requires the team in the lead to ease up, back their defense up to let the opposing team try to score-all at the cost of losing a game. Winning is good but our purpose is to DEVELOP all players. Another example may be requiring a coach to adjust their game strategy to use the “Grace Rule” during a mismatch of talent by asking the team to pass the ball 5 times before shooting. Sometimes it may be asking teams that are in the lead to not let the one player who has scored many points shoot again. This is what is called a developmental league. If a player is told not to shoot again and they do they may be benched by their coach.

This means that CSports is not for everyone. Some parents and players would enjoy a more aggressive league where the main focus is winning as many games as possible. We understand☺. Remember that CSports is a positive environment. We do not permit parents to speak harshly to their own children, other children or parents. We do not permit arguing with a referee or umpires. Coaches must never use negative comments to players, other coaches or officials. Please

keep this in mind if you invite a guest to our campus and make sure they know our rules. We want our players to hear only cheers and see lots of smiles.

League Positive Affirmation Rules: This program is built by the hard work of many people who are volunteering their time. Coaches, assistant coaches, team parents, referees and other volunteers are what make this league possible. These people work hard to insure that all of the children who participate will experience God's love, peace and understanding. Please thank them every chance you get. Please review our "campus rules" and instruct visitors you bring.

1. Always speak positively toward your child and/or any other player.
2. Always speak positively toward an adult (coach, volunteer or another parent).
3. Please direct any complaints regarding a call made by an official to Steve Ellisor at steve@christumcmobile.com or call 706-3326 and not to the official.
4. Please react in an appropriate manner regardless of your child's performance or team's performance.

These rules are in place to insure that our focus is on "what is best for our children". Children want to have fun and play the game. If you witness someone that you feel is not aware of these rules please bring it to our attention.

Parents,

Thank you again for allowing me the opportunity to work with your children. I take this responsibility very seriously and will do all that I can to meet the goals I detailed at the beginning of this letter. Please call me if there is anything you need or that I can do. I welcome both compliments and criticism (constructive, of course!) – If you see something that CUMC can do better, please speak up!

May God Bless You & Your Family,

*Rose Farnell,
CSports Coordinator, Christ United Methodist Church
251-706-3326
rose@christumcmobile.com
www.christumcsports.com*

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him & He shall direct thy path." Prov. 3:6

SOCCER LEAGUE INFORMATION – Please read thoroughly!

Age of Players: Must be age 4 by 9/1 & no older than entering 6th grade for the 2017-2018. See chart on back of registration form to verify.

Registration Fee: \$70.00 Registration Fee. After July 14th, 2017 - \$80.00.

PARENT CONFERENCES:

- **K4 PARENTS:** ALL K4 PARENTS must attend the **K4 Parent Conference on Tuesday, July 18th, 2017** in the hospitality room at 6:15pm.
- **K5-6th PARENTS:** **FIRST TIME** CSports participant parents must attend **the Parent Conference** located in the hospitality room **on Monday, July 17th or Tuesday July 18th** before or after their child's evaluation time.

Evaluations: **REQUIRED EVALUATIONS** for K5-6th grade are on **Monday, July 17th or Tuesday July 18th, 2017 and will follow the schedule below. K4 will not have evaluations.** Any player not evaluated may be placed on the waiting list. Teams are drafted so that talent levels on each team are as equal as possible. All children should wear tennis shoes-NO CLEATS PLEASE.

Monday July 17th		Tuesday July 18th	
1 st /2 nd Girls	6:00pm	K5 Girls	6:00pm
1 st Boys	6:30pm	K5 Boys	6:30pm
2 nd Boys	7:00pm	3 rd /4 th Girls	7:00pm
5 th /6 th Girls	7:15pm	3 rd Boys	7:15pm
5 th /6 th Boys	7:30pm	4 th Boys	7:30pm

Coaches, Assistants, Referees, and TEAM PARENTS are needed. Indicate on your registration form if you will be team parent or coach. Please complete a coach's packet if you plan to coach.

Coaches Meetings: ALL COACHES MUST ATTEND THE *MEETINGS and are asked to volunteer to help with EVALUATIONS.

- *Coaches Evaluation Training is held at 5:30pm on both evaluation nights on **Monday, July 17th or Tuesday July 18th.**
- Needed for evaluations both **Monday, July 17th and Tuesday July 18th** from 6pm-8pm.
- *Coaches Meeting and Roster Handout - Thursday, August 3rd at 6pm.

Forming Teams: Assignment of players to teams will be done by the Recreation Ministry based on abilities of players as determined by an evaluation process of skills. We do this so all teams are balanced with beginner, seasoned and advanced players. **Parents are discouraged from requesting teammates (for car pool purposes) or coaches.**

Equipment & Uniform: Registration fee includes shirt, player award, team parent gift & coach's award. Each player will need to have (purchase) their own:

- Soccer Ball to practice with
 - K4, K5, 1st/2nd grade need size #3 ball
 - 3rd grade and up need size #4 ball
- Black socks with shin guards (inside sock or built in sock-**no outside guards**)
- Black shorts for games
- Soccer cleats (not baseball cleats)

- We strongly recommend that your child wear a mouthpiece for his / her safety

Jewelry: No player is allowed to wear jewelry to practice or games. No rings, bracelets, necklaces, or **EARRINGS.**

There will be a FREE SOCCER CLINIC by The University of South Alabama Women’s Soccer team, Saturday, August 12th, 2017 from 8:30am to 10:00am. Please bring fluids for your child (and your lawn chair for you) to this event.

League Practices: **Begin the week of August 7th.** Team assignments will be given to coaches at the meeting on **Thursday, August 3rd and parents will be contacted after that meeting about their child’s team placement.**

There are two practice waves. The first practice wave is 5:30pm-6:30pm & the second practice wave is 6:30pm-7:30pm.

Due to seasonal changes in daylight, *beginning the week of September 11th all practice start times will be: 1st wave 5:30pm-6:15pm, 2nd wave 6:15pm-7:00pm.

Practice Schedule:

4yr old Little Kicker	One practice per week	Tues 5:30pm/*5:30-6:15
K5	One practice per week	Mon 5:30pm/*5:30-6:15
1 st &2 nd Grade	One practice per week (coaches choice)	Thur. 5:30/*5:30-6:15/6:30 pm/*6:15-7:00
3 rd & 4 th Grade	Two practices per week	Tues 6:30/*6:15-7pm & Fri 5:30/*5:30-6:15pm
5 th & 6 th Grade	Two practices per week	Mon & Fri 6:30/*6:15-7:00pm

Picture Day: **Saturday, August 19th, 2017** in the Christ Center. You will be notified of picture times the week prior to pictures & you will be given a photo order form at practice. All players need to be at Heartwarming Café area 20 min earlier before picture time to get in uniform. Only the coach or team parent may pick up uniforms to distribute to players from the rec desk. **GAME SCHEDULES** will be available on picture day.

Games: All games will be played on Saturdays at CUMC Fields. Game team schedules will be handed out at Picture Day. Also game schedules will be available to view and download on our Church Website - www.christumcsports.com.

Inclement Weather Policy Regarding Outside Play:

*The Recreation Ministry will monitor conditions daily. Decisions on canceling practice or games **WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL PRACTICE OR GAME TIME.** Games and Practice will be cancelled if the Recreation Ministry feels it would be unsafe to play. Unsafe: lightning, thunder, or strong winds. Soccer, football, running club & baseball practices and games may be played in the rain!! Coaches or referees may STOP a game or practice if the weather conditions warrant. Parents and coaches should be prepared with appropriate rain wear. We will try to notify coaches and coaches should try to notify their Team Mom or parents. If you have not heard from your coach you should call the recreation desk at 706-3326 for weather decisions. There will be no make-up practices or make-up games (rain outs).*

The main thing to emphasize to all parents is ultimately, **IT IS THE PARENT’S DECISION TO COME TO A**

PRACTICE OR A GAME with questionable weather.

Team Service Project: In line with the ministry of Christ United Methodist Church each team participating in a CSports sponsored or related sport is asked to perform at least one service project during their season. Please contact your Coach or Team Mom for additional information.

Parent Expectations: Make sure fluids are available to your child during practice and games. Please be present at all practices and games. You must bring your child to the coach and you may not drop them off in the parking lot and leave. If you must leave campus, you must give your coach your cell phone # and return 10 minutes before practice ends. Parents will be put to work if they are willing! Parents are not allowed on the field for games. There must be an adult in the bench area at all times for those children waiting their turn on the field.

Players will be expected to be on the bench if they are not on the field. It's distracting and difficult to keep up with them if they are running to their parents at will. This will allow coaches to make sure everyone is accounted for and gets their proper turn to play. Please encourage your child to follow this rule.

You are the key to your child's development and enjoyment. Work with them at home. They can practice dribbling, passing & trapping to work on the mechanics of the skill itself. Be encouraging!! You are their best cheerleader!!

PLEASE SEE THAT ALL TRASH IS PUT INTO A RECEPTACLE!

Parking: Please do not park beside the road or by the black fence. Always park in the paved parking lot, or wooded parking area.

Celebration: We will have an end of the season celebration in the CUMC Christ Center Gym on Sunday, October 9th at 3:00 p.m. Teams and Coaches will be recognized and players will receive an individual trophy.

Christ United Methodist Church

If you would like more information about our church and the many different ministries and worship opportunities please visit our website www.christumcmobile.com or call 342-0462.

UPCOMING CSports REGISTRATIONS:

Young Runners Club:

Registration begins in July. Practices are once a week for K5-2nd, twice a week for 3rd-9th. Season begins late September and runs through mid-November. Fee is \$40 for first time 2017 YRC, \$20 for returning 2017 Spring season YRC.

CSports Basketball Registration Begins in September:

Registration fee - \$85. Age - K5-6th grade for the 2017-2018 school year.

CSports Emergency Plan

Lightning Disturbances:

1. Except in the case of a local storm emergency, lightning emergencies will only affect outdoor sports.
2. Staff should be assigned to monitor weather conditions prior to the event.
3. A 30 second or less “flash to bang” count calls for the removal of people from the playing fields to appropriate shelter.
4. Once play has been suspended, 30 minutes must expire after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming play.

National Federation of State High School Associations

Communicable Disease and Skin Infection Procedures:

While the risk for blood-borne infectious diseases and skin infections remains low in sports, proper precautions are needed to reduce the risk of spreading the condition to others.

- Proper hygiene is expected for all players, coaches, and associated personnel.
- Any known illness or condition that may be considered infectious should be evaluated by a physician before the participant comes to the event.
- CSports personnel reserve the right and responsibility to refer any participant for medical evaluation before allowing their participation.
- Wounds that are bleeding must be covered and blood soaked clothing must be changed before the participant is allowed re-enter the game.
- Caregivers are encouraged to wear protective gloves to treat wounds.
- All contaminated surfaces must be cleaned with disinfectant before being used again.
- Any blood exposure or bites to the skin should be reported to the coach and league director as soon as possible.

Emergency Procedures:

There should be no Recreation Ministry sanctioned sports activities without CUMC personnel on campus and available in case of an emergency.

- CSports/Recreation Ministry personnel should have thorough knowledge of first aid resources and procedures.
- When an injury occurs, or a child/adult shows symptoms of a medical condition that may require attention, the coach must be notified at once. The coach will then notify CUMC Recreation Ministry staff and report the condition.
- Parents and family members will be the first resource if a child or adult needs transport to a medical facility or temporary care (ice bag on a knee, etc.)
- Injuries or symptoms that appear serious may require emergency medical personnel. 911 should be called as soon as that determination is made.

In the case of a potentially harmful situation on the field (angry fan, growling dog, etc.) children and adults will be moved away from the situation before or while CSports and/or Recreation Ministry officials deal with the situation. Any official may determine if emergency personnel are needed and call 911. Safety is our first concern.

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Soccer Coaches Meeting/Roster handout	4	5
6	7 Soccer Practice #1	8 Soccer Practice	9	10 Soccer Practice	11 Soccer Practice	12 Jags Soccer Clinic
13	14 Soccer Practice #2	15 Soccer Practice	16	17 Soccer Practice	18 Soccer Practice	19 Soccer Pictures
20	21 Soccer Practice #3	22 Soccer Practice	23	24 Soccer Practice	25 Soccer Practice	26 Soccer Games #1
27	28 Soccer Practice #4	29 Soccer Practice	30	31 Soccer Practice		

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Soccer Practice	2 Soccer Games #2
3	4 LABOR DAY No Practices	5 Soccer Practice #5	6	7 Soccer Practice	8 Soccer Practice	9 Soccer Games #3
10	11 Soccer Practice #6 Mid Season Soccer Meeting	12 Soccer Practice Mid Season Soccer Meeting	13	14 Soccer Practice	15 Soccer Practice	16 Soccer Games #4
17	18 Soccer Practice #7	19 Soccer Practice	20	21 Soccer Practice	22 Soccer Practice	23 Soccer Games #5
24	25 Soccer Practice #8	26 Soccer Practice	27	28 Soccer Practice	29 Soccer Practice	30 Soccer Games #6

OCTOBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Soccer Practice #9	3 Soccer Practice YRC	4	5 Soccer Practice YRC	6 Soccer Practice	7 Soccer Games #7
8 Soccer Celebration	9 Soccer Practice #10	10 Soccer Practice	11	12 Soccer Practice	13 Soccer Practice	14 Soccer Games #8