

# FAQ for Spring Preschool and Youth Soccer Parents



## Summary

1. Registration runs January 2-21. Starting January 22 a \$10 late registration fee applies on any sign-ups. Preschool soccer is for boys and girls age 3. The fees are \$25 for members and \$42 for nonmembers. Youth soccer is for boys and girls ages 4-13. The fees are \$40 for members and \$57 for nonmembers. Youth soccer evaluations will be on the front fields of the Y on Monday, January 22 from 5:30-6:30 pm for 4-5 year olds, 6:30-7:15 pm for 6-7 year olds, 7:15-7:45 pm for 8-10 year olds, and 7:45-8:15 pm for 11-13 year olds.

## Participation and Rosters

1. How do I know what age group to sign my child up for?
  - a. Whatever your child's age is as of September 1, 2017 determines which age group he/she is in.
2. My child played last fall season. Will he/she go back on the same team? Do I need to come to evaluations?
  - a. Your child will go back on the same team and doesn't need to come to evaluations. There is no age up between our fall and spring seasons.
3. My child played last spring season. Will he/she go back on the same team? Do I need to come to evaluations?
  - a. Your child may be placed on a different team since you didn't play in the fall & may have aged up. Your child will need to come to eval.
4. I have multiple children in the same age group. Will they be placed on the same team?
  - a. If there is room, siblings in the same age group will be placed on the same team.
5. My child has advanced soccer skills for his age. Can I register him/her for a higher age group?
  - a. Yes, your child can always play up in an age group if both you and the sports director are comfortable with that. However, you can never play down in an age group.
6. I requested my child to be on a certain team or with another player. Can you accommodate my request?
  - a. Teams are split up as evenly and fairly as possible based on experience, age, and gender. We also take into consideration any times you listed on the registration form than you cannot practice. Any other type of request is not guaranteed to happen.
7. How do I know what team my child is on?
  - a. For youth soccer you should receive contact from a coach by Monday, January 29. For preschool soccer, you should hear something by Tuesday, February 6. If you don't hear from a coach by those dates, email the sports director or call the Y.
8. Due to circumstances my child can't play anymore. What do I need to do?
  - a. Let your coach know. Call or email the sports director and let him know too.
9. Can I get a refund if my child isn't playing anymore?
  - a. Full refunds are only given prior to the first practice and are subject to a processing fee. After the first practice, only partial refunds may be given out.
10. Does the Y provide trophies or awards to the players?
  - a. No, it's up to the discretion of each coach and team if they want to get trophies/awards.

## Practices

1. When does the youth soccer (4-13 year olds) season start and end?
  - a. Practice starts the week of January 28. The week of March 18 is the last week of practice with the last game scheduled for March 24.
2. When does preschool soccer (3 year olds) practice start and end?
  - a. Practice starts February 10 and ends March 17. They do not play games.
3. What days are preschool and youth soccer practices on?
  - a. Preschool soccer practices are on Saturdays from either 9-10 am or 10-11 am. Youth soccer practices are on Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday from either 5:30-6:30 pm or 6:30-7:30 pm.
4. Where are practices held and how long do they last?
  - a. Preschool practices are held on the back field of the Y. Youth practices are held on the front fields of the Y. All last at most one hour.
5. Does my child's team practice on the same day, at same time, and at the same location each week?
  - a. Yes, the practice day, time, and field location is set before the start of the season by the coach and sports director. That is your child's team practice day, time, and field location the entire season. However, there are certain circumstances (inclement weather/poor field conditions, coach scheduling conflict, a game, etc.) that may require a practice to be moved.
6. There is threatening weather outside. Is practice cancelled? If practices are cancelled, will they be made up?
  - a. We generally don't make a decision to cancel practices due to bad weather or poor field conditions until after 4 pm during the week. For practices that are on Saturday, the decision may come late Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning. In the event we do have to cancel, we will notify the coaches as soon as possible and they, in turn, will contact you. If you're unsure or haven't received any contact from a coach, check our website, check our Facebook page, or sign up for Remind. However, there may be times when it's a game time decision. We typically don't offer makeup practices due to time and field constraints.

## Games

1. When do youth (4-13 year olds) games start and what days are they on?
  - a. They are mainly on Saturday mornings and start February 10. There is at least one weekday game during the season too.
2. How long do games last?
  - a. They last at most around one hour.
3. Are games during spring break?
  - a. Spring break falls after the season is over so there are no games.
4. Do preschool (3 year olds) teams play games?
  - a. No, they do not play games however the coaches may get together during practice and play a scrimmage.
5. Where do I get a youth game schedule?
  - a. Your coach should pass them out at your first practice. You can also download one from our website at [florenceymca.org](http://florenceymca.org).
6. My child won't be able to make the game. What do I need to do?
  - a. Contact your coach and let him/her know.

7. Where do spectators sit during youth games?
  - a. All spectators except for the 4-5 year old age group spectators must sit behind the orange dashed line on the sideline opposite of the coaches and players' sideline. 4-5 year old spectators can sit anywhere off the field except on the coaches and players' sideline.
8. There is threatening weather outside. Is the game cancelled? If games are cancelled, will they be made up?
  - a. See question #6 above in the practices section. We try to makeup any games that get cancelled due to inclement weather or poor field conditions if we have sufficient time and space.

## Equipment

1. Do I need to get cleats for my child?
  - a. Cleats are optional but recommended.
2. Do I need to get shin guards for my child?
  - a. Yes, shin guards are required.
3. What size ball does my child's age group play with?
  - a. 3 and 4-5 year olds use size 3; 6-7 and 8-10 year olds use size 4; 11-13 year olds use size 5
4. Can my child bring his/her own ball?
  - a. Yes, but please label it with his/her name.
5. When do we get uniforms?
  - a. Soccer jerseys/socks are tentatively scheduled to be handed out at youth practice the week of February 4 and at preschool practice on February 10. Your child can wear shorts or pants. Your coach may request a certain color.
6. My child's jersey is too small/big. What can we do?
  - a. Your child's jersey size was ordered based on the size you selected on the registration form when you signed him/her up. Reordering just one jersey isn't possible. Check with other players on your team to see if a swap can be worked out.

## Youth Rules

1. How much does my child get to play?
  - a. Every child will play at least half of every game and fully participate in each practice.
2. Does my child get to play different soccer positions?
  - a. Yes, every coach should rotate players throughout the season to different soccer positions.
3. Can my child wear jewelry during practices or games?
  - a. No, due to safety reasons all jewelry (rings, earrings, beads, bracelets, etc.) must be removed prior to playing.

## Facilities

1. Are pets allowed at the Y?
  - a. No, they are not.
2. Is smoking allowed at the Y?
  - a. No, the Y is a tobacco free campus. E-Cigarettes and vaping are also prohibited.
3. I forgot to bring my child something to drink. Where is a water fountain located?
  - a. The closest one to the front fields is located in the front lobby. The closest one to the back field is located inside the building by the entrance to the outdoor pool which is near the indoor pool. There are also vending machines located in the front lobby.
4. Where are bathrooms located?
  - a. There will be a port-a-john located next to the shed that sits between the front fields. The closest bathrooms to the back field are the ones inside the building in the youth locker rooms which are located close to the indoor pool.
5. Can I bring my own chair to practices and games?
  - a. Yes, you are more than welcome to as we have limited seating. Please label any belongings you bring.
6. Where should I park?
  - a. Please park in the main lot at the front of the Y, on the side lot adjacent to the childcare entrance, or the side lot next to the far front field. If you are attending back field activities, please do not park on the side of the road.

## Pictures

1. Do we take team/individual pictures? Where do I get a picture schedule?
  - a. Yes, each team takes individual and team pictures. The picture schedule will tell you when your pictures will be. Your coach should pass them out at your first practice. You can also download one from our website at [florenceymca.org](http://florenceymca.org).
2. Is there a form I need to fill out?
  - a. Yes, picture order forms will be handed out one week prior to picture day. They can be downloaded from our website, too.
3. How do I pay for pictures?
  - a. Quality Photo Sports takes cash or check.
4. When do I need to pay?
  - a. Payment is expected when pictures are taken.
5. When do I get pictures back?
  - a. Pictures will be returned towards the end of the season. The sports director will give your coach your pictures.
6. I haven't received my pictures yet. Whom do I need to contact?
  - a. Contact your coach to see if he/she has them. If not, then check with the sports director.
7. I have received my picture packet but I am missing some. Whom do I need to contact?
  - a. Contact Gene Robinson at Quality Photo Sports at 843-260-6744 between Mon.-Fri. 9a-5p or by email at [greatpicsinc@aol.com](mailto:greatpicsinc@aol.com).

Contact Information: Brent Freeman; Sports Director; Florence Family YMCA  
 1700 South Rutherford Drive Florence, SC 29505  
 843-665-1234; [bfreeman@florenceymca.org](mailto:bfreeman@florenceymca.org); [florenceymca.org](http://florenceymca.org)