



THE KICK-OFF

A NAPERVILLE PARK DISTRICT **SOCCER NEWSLETTER**

FALL 2024

KICK-OFF TO THE FALL 2024 NYS SOCCER SEASON!

It's the start of a new school year and a new season of Naperville Youth Soccer! From everyone at the Naperville Park District, thank you for volunteering as a coach. We could not offer the programs we do without volunteers like yourself. Please take a moment to read this newsletter as it contains important information regarding the upcoming season.

PRE-SEASON COACH REQUIREMENTS

NEW DCFS PROCESS AND PAPERWORK

Directions regarding required paperwork should have been received from your Naperville Youth Soccer Coordinator. For those with expired DCFS background checks, please follow the new online submission process for completing this step. If your DCFS background check is still active, you are not required to complete the online submission at this time. Please complete all forms and requirements as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact your respective coordinator. Failure to complete required paperwork by July 12 will result in cancellation of coaching status.

OPEN HOUSE

Head Coaches are required to attend the Coach Open House on Wednesday, August 14 between 11:30 am – 1:00 pm or 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at the Fort Hill Activity Center, 20 Fort Hill Drive, Naperville. If the Head Coach is unable to attend, an Assistant Coach will need to attend to pick up the following:

- Team roster
- Coaching t-shirts*
- Equipment bag; including two soccer balls, cones, electronic whistle (Pre-K – 1st Grade only), and first aid kit

*Please confirm t-shirt sizes with Head and Assistant Coaches prior to pick up

ADDING A COACH

Each team may have a maximum of one head coach and two assistant coaches. If you are in need of an assistant coach, you may request a volunteer within your initial email to parents. If an assistant coach is added, please provide your coordinator with that person's contact information. Their paperwork must be complete prior to assisting with any practice or game. The final date to add a coach is Tuesday, September 3.

DETERMINE A PRACTICE TIME

Please work with your coaching team to determine your practice time and communicate that practice time within your initial email to parents. If you find your practice location is crowded during that specific time, please work with the other teams present to stagger your practice times.

CONTACT YOUR TEAM

After you receive your roster at the Open House, please contact your team to introduce yourself, provide the practice time, game schedule and other important season information. An email template is provided by your coordinator for your convenience. Please contact everyone on your team no later than Saturday, August 17.

COACHING CLINICS

All of our volunteer NYS coaches are invited to attend one of our free Coaching Clinics. These clinics are a great resource for new and returning coaches. Pre-registration is required. Please visit <https://www.napervilleparks.org/registration> to register.

Saturday, August 24 Hosted by Chicago Fire

Nike Sports Complex Synthetic Turf Field
1:00-3:00 pm • CODE 95416

Sunday, August 25 Hosted by Mike Wiggins

Fort Hill Activity Center
Pre-k – 2nd • 9:00-10:30 am • CODE 95415
3rd – 8th • 10:30 am-12:00 pm • CODE 95414

HELPFUL RESOURCES

At [napervilleparks.org/napervilleyouthsoccer](https://www.napervilleparks.org/napervilleyouthsoccer) you can find the NYS Coach Training document and the complete NYS Manual. Rain out information, game schedules, field maps, and more are also available at this site. Additionally, you can access hundreds of free soccer drills and practice plans for your age group at <https://mojo.sport/bestsoccerdrills>

PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Dedicating your time as a coach entitles volunteers to receive priority registration for the following outdoor soccer season (Spring 2025). Volunteers will be eligible for priority registration provided they are in good standing and have completed the required paperwork for the current season. Coaches eligible for priority registration will receive registration information via email on November 6.

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, July 12	Coach Paperwork Deadline
Wednesday, August 14	Coach Open House
Saturday, August 17	Game Schedule Released
Saturday, August 17	Contact Your Team
Saturday, August 24 & Sunday, August 25	Coach Clinics
Week of August 26	First NYS Practice
Tuesday, September 3	All Coaches Final
Saturday, September 7	First NYS Game
Saturday, October 19	Last NYS Game and Equipment Bag Return
Saturday, October 26	Rainout Date
Wednesday, November 6	Priority Registration Information Emailed for Spring 2025 Season
Wednesday, November 13	Priority Registration Opens at Noon
Wednesday, November 20	Priority Registration Closes at 11:59 pm

NYS LEAGUE STAFF

Stephanie Ainslie, NYS Program Manager
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Rachel Dickinson, NYS Academy and Boys Pre-K Coordinator
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Mary Kate Watkins, Boys 1st – 2nd Grade Coordinator
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Joanna Healy, Boys 3rd – 6th Grade Coordinator
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Susan Wasson, Girls Pre-K and Kindergarten Coordinator
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