

# ROSEVILLE YOUTH SOCCER CLUB 2013 PARENT GUIDE



Welcome to the Roseville Youth Soccer Club! This guide is intended to provide the parents of our players with important information about our club and how things work.

The Club's website is located [www.rosevillesoccer.com](http://www.rosevillesoccer.com). All official club documents are posted on this site, and we use the site as a medium to communicate with our players and their families. You should visit the site often as we frequently add new content of interest to our membership.

The Club is managed by a volunteer board of directors. Each director has a specific area of responsibility. A list of our directors and their contact information can be found on our website. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the appropriate board member. We hold board meetings on the second Tuesday of every month and the public is welcome to attend. Check the Club calendar for the time and location.



Families new to Roseville Soccer frequently have lots of questions about "how things work." In this guide, we'll ask and answer many of the questions we frequently receive.

## **How is Youth Soccer Organized?**

The Roseville Youth Soccer Club is a member of the U.S. Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) and the California North League (Cal North). The Club is also a member of the Placer Youth Soccer League (PYSL), along with the clubs from Rocklin, Lincoln, Loomis, and Granite Bay (known as Eureka).

Children playing in the Under 6 and Under 8 age groups will only play against other Roseville teams. When they graduate to the Under 10 age group (and up to Under 14s), they will play other Roseville teams as well as teams from the other PYSL clubs. In Under 16s and Under 19s, the teams compete in the Community Playing League against clubs from all over the greater Sacramento area.

We are not affiliated with the City of Roseville.

## **What's The Difference Between Recreational and Competitive Soccer?**

There are two levels of youth soccer in this area: (a) recreational, (b) competitive.

The majority of our players play recreational soccer. Our recreational program covers players from the Under 6 through Under 19 age groups. Recreational teams typically play a 10 game season from early September to mid November. Preseason practice begins in early August.

Competitive soccer is the most competitive level of youth soccer. There are several competitive programs in the area, including Placer Blues, Placer Alliance, and Placer United Soccer Club. Competitive teams have paid coaches and often travel long distances for tournament play. The cost to participate in competitive soccer is significantly higher than recreational soccer.



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### **How Much Playing Time Should My Child Get?**

In both recreational and select soccer, each player must play at least one half of every game unless they are sick, injured or subject to discipline.

### **How Are The Teams Formed?**

Children are assigned to teams based on their age and gender. In forming teams, we generally pick players based on the school they attend (although this is not guaranteed). In addition, we also try to place the children on the same team from year to year.

If you want your child to play on a particular team, for a particular coach, or with a friend, you should complete a "Special Request" form at registration. We do our best to accommodate special requests, but special requests are not guaranteed (for example, if you request to be placed on a team that has a full roster, we will not be able to fulfill your request).

### **How Do I Know Which Age Group My Child Plays In?**

Each year CAL NORTH publishes an age matrix that dictates the age group your child is eligible to play in. To see the complete age matrix, go to our website and look for the Registration area.

### **Can My Child Play In A Different Age Group?**

At the request of a parent, a player may be moved up one age group. When considering moving a player up, make sure you consider your child's size and level of maturity. Players may not be moved to a younger age group than they are eligible for.

### **When Do We Find Out Which Team We're On?**

Teams are formed between the close of registration and late July. The coaches are given their rosters at the Annual Coaches Meeting (usually held the last week of July). The coaches are responsible for contacting the players on their team. They are encouraged to call their players within five days of the coaches meeting, but some coaches may be on vacation during this time.

If you have questions regarding the registration and team formation process, you should contact our Registrar at [registrar@rosevillesoccer.com](mailto:registrar@rosevillesoccer.com)

### **Who Are The Coaches?**

Most of our 300+ coaches are mothers or fathers of a player on the team. They are also unpaid volunteers. The Club appoints coaches based on (a) the willingness of individuals to serve, and (2) our need for coaches in a particular age group.

All coaches are required to submit to fingerprinting and Department of Justice background checks. Coaches also are required to attend formal coach training as required by CAL NORTH.

The Club gives wide latitude to the coaches to operate their team as they see fit. The coaches decide where, when and how long to practice. We encourage coaches to adhere to a consistent practice schedule. We require coaches to hold practice at specific parks, where other teams of a similar age are also practicing.

The Club supports the coaches by making coaching videos available (through the Roseville Library), by hosting coaching clinics, sponsoring a coach mentor program, and by moderating an online coaching forum. The Club also provides the coaches with some basic soccer equipment. The Club also subscribes to CAL NORTH's coach licensing program and we make CAL NORTH's programs available to our coaches at no cost.





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### **What Do Team Managers Do?**

Team Managers are responsible for “off the field” activities, such as helping the coach with team communication, creating rosters and phone lists, arranging the team party, ordering team banners and trophies, and the like. We encourage parents to volunteer to serve as Team Manager.

### **Why Isn't There An Opening Day Ceremony?**

With 4,400 kids and more than 300 teams, there's no place in Roseville big enough to accommodate such a large group.

### **What Kind Of General Team Rules Are There?**

Every coach has his/her own team rules. Coaches typically want their players to be at all games and practices on time, they want advance notice if you have to miss practices or games, they want the players to be respectful of their time, pay attention and play hard. If your child is sick, it's best to leave them home so they don't infect the other players. Coaches want the parents to be supportive and good spectators on game day. Coaches will communicate their rules at their first team meeting.

### **Where Are The Fields?**

Our fields are located all over Roseville. Directions to the fields can be found on the Club's website.

The fields we use are assigned to us by the City of Roseville. The Club assigns different parks to different age groups for safety reasons. The coaches are supplied with a field permit and a list of parks designated for their age group. Teams are not permitted to practice in areas where we do not have a permit or at parks designated for other age groups. The City has a park patrol that randomly checks parks to ensure that teams are practicing in appropriate areas.

### **When Do We Play?**

The games begin the Saturday after Labor Day. They extend into the middle of November. We play five games, then have a weekend off, then we play five more games. We host a recreational tournament over the break weekend for U10 to U19 teams.

### **How Does The Schedule Work?**

Under 6 to Under 14: For these age groups our schedules are created on [www.placerysl.com](http://www.placerysl.com). The schedules for all five of the PYSL clubs are prepared using this system. The schedules are usually published one week before the season starts, and the coach is notified by email when it is ready. Your coach will send you the schedule by email. In addition, we will post an announcement on the Club's website. ***The scheduling process is a very complicated, time-consuming process involving nearly 500 PYSL teams. If there is a delay in publishing the schedules, be assured we are working hard behind the scenes to get them done. You should watch the Club website for announcements regarding the schedules.***

Initially we will publish only the first half of the schedule (5 games). During the week of the mid-season break, the Club may re-rank some of the teams then publish the second half schedule.

Under 16 and Under 19: These age groups play in the Community Playing League (or CPL). The CPL schedules are published at <http://www.d6soccer.org>. The Club has does not participate in the creation of the CPL schedule. Coaches are notified when the CPL schedules are ready for viewing.



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### **What Do The Uniforms Look Like And Where Do We Get Them?**

The Club-approved uniform consists of a green or white reversible (two-sided) jersey for recreational play for U6 and U8 age groups. For the U10-U19 ages, uniform consists of two jerseys, one white, and one green. Solid black shorts and solid black socks complete the uniform. The Club requires that every player purchase a club-approved uniform. The uniforms are available for purchase at Kombat Soccer, 1093 Roseville Square, Roseville, CA 95678, (916) 391-3788.

### **How Do We Figure Out When To Wear Green And When To Wear White?**

The CAL NORTH rule for home and visitor uniforms is a source of confusion every year.

**Under 6 & Under 8 Teams:** The home team wears white and the visiting team wears green.

**Under 10s & Older Teams:** The visiting team gets to pick their jersey color, and the home team must adjust in the event of a color conflict. We encourage the coaches to communicate the week of the game to find out what color the visiting team intends to wear so the home team can adjust accordingly.

The referee determines if a color conflict exists. If the referee determines that the two teams are wearing colors that are too similar, then the home team must reverse (or change) their jerseys. If both teams show up for a match wearing a dark jersey, the coach should ask the center referee for an early determination if there is a color conflict so there is plenty of time for the home team to switch colors.

### **Are Jewelry And Pierced Ears Permitted?**

With only two exceptions, jewelry is not permitted while participating in practices or games. The only exceptions are medical alert and religious items. If those items are present, they must be taped down so that they do not endanger any participant. The referees will check each player for jewelry before the start of a match.

You should not pierce your children's ears during the soccer season. If they cannot remove the earrings, they cannot play. Covering earrings with tape or band-aids is not sufficient.

### **What's The Appropriate Sideline Behavior?**

The Club expects a friendly atmosphere and good sportsmanship at all games. Spectators should limit their comments to positive cheers and compliments. Negative comments toward the referee or opposing players are not appropriate under any circumstances.

The coach of your team is responsible for his or her behavior as well as the behavior of his players, AND their families. Yelling at the referees, the opposing coach, or opposing players is not acceptable behavior, and the referee can penalize you and/or your coach for this behavior. The referees have authority to eject any coach or spectator who, after being warned, does not stop. Any coach or spectator who is ejected from a match is subject to further disciplinary action by the Club. Please remember that this is children's soccer and govern your comments and behavior appropriately.

No one is permitted on the field of play during a match except the players and the referees. Coaches and parents may not enter the field unless they have permission from the center



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referee. In the event of an injury, the coach must wait for permission to enter the field, and you should wait on the sideline unless you are signaled onto the field.

### Is Soccer Considered A Contact Sport?

Absolutely. While soccer isn't in the same category as American football, kids will get knocked over, bumped, pushed and kicked during the course of a soccer game.

### Who Are The Referees?

The majority of our referees are parents and teenagers, particularly in our recreational program. Each referee has taken a USSF certification course and passed a rigorous exam.

Despite the extensive training, some referees are better than others. We do our best to monitor our referees, and coaches are encouraged to submit feedback to our referee director. We remind you that the refereeing is harder than it looks, and snap decisions must be made. The referees are doing the best they can, and you should not yell at or criticize the referees if they miss a call. Correct or not, all calls made by the referees on the field are final.



### How Do I Communicate With The Referees?

No parent should attempt to communicate with the referees before, during or after a match. All communications with the referees should be made by the head coach. The center referee is the "crew chief" and the coach will channel all communications to that person. The Club will only consider complaints about referees that are submitted by head coaches. We have a specific procedure for them to follow if they feel a complaint needs to be lodged.

Complaining or yelling at the referee during a match distracts the referee's attention from calling the game, and usually makes things worse. The referee's decisions in a match are final. There are no appeals of any decision made by a referee on the field.

### Where Can I Find The Rules?

The rules are called the Laws of the Game. There is a link on our website to FIFA's website, where the rules can be downloaded at no cost, or you can go to this address:  
<http://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/lawsofthegame.html>

Some of the rules are adapted to accommodate youth play. Visit the referee section of our website and look for the PYSA Modified Rules. The PYSL Modified Rules dictate the length of games, how many kids are on the field, when substitutions can be made, the size, the goal and the field, etc. We supply this information to our coaches, so if you have questions about the length of your games, talk to your coach.

### OK, I Totally Don't Understand That Offside Rule. Where Can I Find Help?

Visit <http://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/lawsofthegame.html> and look the link to "Interactive Guide To Offside Law 11" or watch *Bend It Like Beckham*.

### Hey, Why Didn't The Referee Call A Foul On That Play?

Law 5 gives the referee the discretion to *ignore* a foul under certain circumstances. This is called the "Advantage Rule" and it gives the referee some leeway to NOT call a foul if calling the foul takes away the advantage from the team being fouled.



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For example, a player on your team is on a breakaway down the sideline. A defender shoves the attacking player. The attacking player stumbles but retains possession of the ball; the attacker passes to a teammate and a goal is scored. Since the attacking player maintained possession of the ball, calling the foul would have rewarded the defender. Allowing play to continue allowed the pass and shot to occur.

This is the reason that referees are sometimes slow to blow their whistle – they are watching to see if the fouled team maintains their advantage. If in the example above the fouled player fell down and lost possession of the ball to a defending player, the referee would have called a foul and placed the ball back where the original shove occurred.

### **How Can I Become A Referee?**

If you or your child (over the age of 14) are interested in serving as a paid referee, we hold USSF referee courses and clinics in the late spring and early summer. Watch [www.rosevillesoccer.com](http://www.rosevillesoccer.com) for details or contact our Director of Referees.

### **What Are The Rules In The Parks?**

We have to follow all City laws and ordinances at all facilities. In addition, we ask that you adhere to the following:

**Be Good Neighbors.** The parks we use are for the enjoyment of all. Please be considerate of others using the facilities and of those who live nearby. Do not climb fences to retrieve balls, do not use fences or buildings as back-stops, pick up your garbage, and do not block neighboring residential driveways with your vehicle.

**Follow The Posted Rules.** Dogs and other animals are not permitted in Roseville Parks (except seeing eye dogs, or at designed dog parks). Smoking and alcoholic beverages are not permitted in any Roseville park.

**Toilet Facilities.** Some of parks and schools we use do not have restroom facilities (or they are not open on the weekend). The Club rents portable toilets when we are permitted to do so; however, some schools do not allow placement of porta-potties on school grounds. If you are playing at one of these schools, please do not “use the bushes.” Visit a nearby gas station or restaurant.

**Adventure Club Facilities.** Several of our practice areas are adjacent to Adventure Club sites. These are after-school care sites operated out of some Roseville schools). Please stay away from the Adventure Club sites – to the people who operate the sites, you are strangers, and they do not want strangers milling around the door of their facility.

### **How Do Rainouts Work?**

The City of Roseville determines whether or not fields should be closed due to rain or other adverse weather conditions. If we get sufficient notice from the City, field closures are posted on [www.rosevillesoccer.com](http://www.rosevillesoccer.com). The City sometimes sends out employees to close the fields when it rains. If they ask you to vacate the field, please do so.

If rain starts during a match, the referee is responsible for determining if play should continue.

Please note that the other PYSL clubs have different rainout policies, so if you are playing in Lincoln, Rocklin, Loomis or Eureka, your coach should call the opposing coach to see if your



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match will be played, and then communicate with the team. If you don't hear anything, assume the game is being played and show up at the field.

### **What About Spare The Air Days?**

Coaches are required to cancel practice on days when the Air Quality Index is in the unhealthy range and/or when temperatures exceed 100 degrees. On marginal days, we encourage coaches to reduce the amount of running they assign their players and to work on set plays and other activities that do not involve excessive exertion.

As parents, it is your responsibility to make the decision of whether or not your child will practice on poor air quality days if your coach decides to hold practice anyway. Should you decide not to have your child participate in practice for these reasons please notify your coach.

### **How Can I Help Out?**

If you are interested, there are numerous opportunities to volunteer, either with your team or with the Club.

Your coach will appreciate whatever help you can offer. Help at practice, or shag balls during pre-game warm-ups, volunteer to serve as the team manager, or if you have the skill, set up a team website. Take pictures and share them with your team.

The Club has numerous opportunities for volunteers: we need help at registration, with stuffing envelopes, or with help running our tournaments. You can even take a referee course and serve as a referee.

### **What If I Have A Complaint?**

If you have a complaint, try working it out at the team level first. If that doesn't work, determine which of our board members would be the best person to discuss it with (for example, if you have a complaint about a field, contact our Director of Fields). The Club has a dispute resolution process if you feel your complaint is not resolved fairly.

### **Do We Need A Soccer Ball? What Size?**

We recommend that you buy your child their own soccer ball. Put your name and phone number on the ball using a permanent marker. Your child should bring their ball to every practice, and they should practice with it at home. Bringing your own ball to practice is a great way to reduce the load of things the coach needs to carry.

Under 6 and 8 players use a size 3 ball. Under 10 and 12 players use a size 4 ball, and Under 14 and older players use a size 5 ball.

### **What Other Equipment Is Needed?**

Soccer specific cleats are strongly recommended. Soccer cleats can be purchased at any sporting goods store. Softball or baseball cleats are not permitted.

Shin guards are mandatory and can be purchased at any sporting good store. They should be appropriately sized, and must be covered by socks at all times.

### **What Are The Positions?**

There are four main positions, goalkeeper, defender, midfielder and forward (or attacker).



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The goalkeeper is the only player who can use their hands on the field. Their job is to prevent the opposing team from kicking the ball into the goal.

The defenders defend the goal from the attack of the opposite team.

The midfielders bridge the gap between the defenders and the forwards. Their job is to transition the ball from the defense to the forwards.

The forwards are the players who attempt to score the goals.

Soccer is a very dynamic sport. Players may interchange positions during a match according to the flow of the game either to create imbalance or to correct an imbalance favoring the opposing team.

### **Is There Insurance Coverage?**

All players who register with the Club are covered by a CAL NORTH Excess Accident Medical Insurance Policy that covers all registered players in a CAL NORTH sanctioned soccer game or practice. The policy has a \$250 deductible. For more information, see [www.CalNorthnorth.org/insurance/insurance.htm](http://www.CalNorthnorth.org/insurance/insurance.htm).

### **Code of Conduct**

The Roseville Youth Soccer Club published a new Code of Conduct for 2011. A copy is attached. The Code of Conduct applies to all participants in our club: the players, their parents, the coaches and the referees. Please review the Code of Conduct and discuss it with your children.



**W**e thank our players and their families for doing their part to make Roseville Soccer the best game in town. We hope you and your children enjoy the soccer season!