

HADDONFIELD SOCCER CLUB, INC.
PLAYER/COACH DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING COMMITTEE
TOWN & SQUIRT SOCCER
PROGRAM, PHILOSOPHY, COMMITMENT & PARTICIPATION RULES
Updated: April 2009

Please read this memo very carefully as it states and outlines the Club's program, philosophy and rules for participation in Town and Squirt Soccer.

HSC Mission Statement

The Haddonfield Soccer Club (HSC) is a private, non-profit organization serving the community of Haddonfield. The HSC provides an introduction to soccer for children ages 5-7 in the fun, recreational setting of "Squirt Soccer." For older players (ages 8-17), the club offers both a competitive travel soccer program, as well as a less-competitive recreational program. Both programs focus on age-appropriate soccer development and strive to emphasize sportsmanship, team play and individual growth through competition.

Program

The Haddonfield Soccer Club administers recreational soccer programs for children from ages five through thirteen. The Club is a member organization of the New Jersey Youth Soccer Association and the United States Youth Soccer Association.

Participants in Town and Squirt Soccer Programs are children who live in the Borough of Haddonfield.

Location of programs is highly dependent on field availability.

Occasionally, the Club has permitted players from surrounding communities to participate in these programs when asked by the community's soccer club. The Haddonfield Soccer Club's Board of Trustees reviews these requests and evaluates the potential impact on participation of the Borough's children in its decision making process.

Philosophy

Over the last few years, the Haddonfield Soccer Club has modified the focus of the Town and Squirt Soccer Programs to increase each player's exposure to proper technique and fundamentals, to instruct age appropriate skills and to provide a good, fun experience for all participants (players and volunteers). The major changes include the following:

- * Provide Club-controlled player development starting with the youngest participants.
- * Create a fun, low pressure, recreational program that generates a great experience for all participants.
- * Limit team roster sizes and reduce match play to increase each player's "touches on the ball".
- * Improve player instruction and development through use of a professional trainer for approximately one hour per week.
- * Increase adult volunteer participation through assistance provided by a professional trainer and by Club-provided and approved instructions and lesson plans.

Rules for Participation

1. A player must be registered (parent completes registration form and makes payment of appropriate fee) with Club to participate in any Club-sponsored or sanctioned program.

- * Receipt of payment after the close of registration does not guarantee participation or placement on any team in any program. Some programs have a maximum number of participants.
- * Any player participating without payment of proper fees will be suspended until Club receives payment of all fees and charges. It is possible that the placement may be lost in this situation.

2. A player must participate in his or her age group determined by a combination of his/her age and school grade level to be attended on September 1st of calendar year. The Club does not permit a player to play in the next higher age group.
3. Special player placement can be requested but may not be honored.

Squirts Soccer Program – Kindergarten and 1st Grade

1. Team rosters comprised of a maximum of twelve players with no more than twenty-four teams. Participation is mixed among boys and girls in this program. Ideally team rosters will be set around 10 players, with the makeup of the teams determined by the club's squirt's program representative.
2. Maximum match play of 6 vs. 6 without goalkeepers on downsized field (approximately 30 yards by 30 yards).
3. Introduction of age appropriate skill development through use of Club-approved and provided trainer. Whenever possible, the Club will try to have a second trainer available to assist the lead squirt trainer.
4. Each participant is expected to attend two one-hour sessions on a Monday-Wednesday or Tuesday-Thursday combination.
5. Parents are encouraged to become coaches and/or volunteers to provide assistance. Club provides training sessions to develop coaches as they have greatest impact on participants in this program. HSC provides a Coaches Packet containing tips for first time coaches, ground rules for parents and players, examples of a full time training session, "Do's and Don'ts" and suggested drills and warm-up activities.
6. Program offered in Fall and Spring at Crows Woods with times subject to field availability (coordinated among all Club-sponsored programs) and to availability of trainer.

2nd Graders

1. Ideally, team rosters will be set around 10 players, with the makeup of the teams determined by the club's program representative. There will be a separate boys' division and a separate girls' division.
2. Maximum match play of 6 vs. 6 with goalkeepers on downsized field.
3. Continuation of age appropriate skill development through use of Club-approved and provided trainer for one hour per week.
4. Each participant is expected to attend two one-hour sessions during the week (Monday-Friday) with game played on Saturday morning.
5. Participation by travel players is optional.
6. Parents are encouraged to become coaches and/or volunteers to provide assistance. Club provides training sessions to develop coaches as they have greatest impact on participants in this program.

7. Program offered in Fall (Crows Woods) and Spring (Green Acres/Crows Woods) with times subject to field availability (coordinated among all Club-sponsored programs) and to availability of trainer.

8. Effective in Spring 2010, Spring 2nd grade soccer will expand to add a 2nd weekly session, on one of the club's small-sided fields. This session will be run by designated club volunteers and will consist of both skill work and small-sided game play to begin to teach some key rules of the game in preparation for U9 travel play. The intent is to focus on skills and basic game play in a fun, low-key and educational setting. Each session will be roughly 75 minutes long. Boys and girls will continue to train separately.

9. The spring sessions will likely occur on one weekday and one weekend time slot depending on field and trainer availability.

10. There are no rostered teams or a formal game schedule in the spring. The participants all train together with their age group in their designated sessions.

Rec I – 3rd and 4th Graders

1. Team rosters comprised of a maximum of ten players with no more than twelve teams. There will be a separate boys' division and a separate girls' division.

2. Maximum match play of 6 vs. 6 with goalkeepers on downsized fields (approximately 40 yards by 30 yards).

3. Continuation of age appropriate skill development through use of Club-approved and provided trainer for one hour per week. HSC will also incorporate stretching and speed/agility training into these training sessions.

4. Each participant is expected to attend two one-hour sessions during the week (Monday-Friday) with game for boys played on Saturday mornings and game for girls played Friday nights.

5. Participation by travel players is optional.

6. Parents are encouraged to become coaches and/or volunteers to provide assistance. Club provides training sessions to develop coaches.

7. Program offered in Fall with times subject to field availability (coordinated among all Club-sponsored programs) and to availability of trainer.

Rec II – 5th, 6th and 7th Graders

1. Team rosters comprised of a maximum of ten players with no more than twelve teams. If there is sufficient participation, there will be separate divisions for boys and girls.

2. Maximum match play of 6 vs. 6 with goalkeepers on downsized fields (approximately 50 yards by 40 yards).

3. Continuation of age appropriate skill development through use of Club-approved and provided trainer for one hour per week. HSC will also incorporate stretching and speed/agility training into these training sessions.

4. Each participant is expected to attend two one-hour sessions during the week (Monday-Friday) with game for boys played on Saturday mornings and game for girls played Friday nights.
5. Participation by travel players is optional.
6. Parents are encouraged to become coaches and/or volunteers to provide assistance. Club provides training sessions to develop coaches.
7. Program offered in Fall with times subject to field availability (coordinated among all Club-sponsored programs) and to availability of trainer. Depending on the number of participants in this age group and mix of ages, the Haddonfield Soccer Club reserves the right to split this program to provide safe and proper participation.

Hours and Locations of Programs

As the Haddonfield Soccer Club does not own and control the fields allocated for use (by the Borough of Haddonfield), the Club makes every effort to maximize the use of available fields and to coordinate the times of training, practice and match play.

In the Fall, the Haddonfield Soccer Club must coordinate field usage with the Haddonfield High School and Middle School athletic events. The Club's programs and activities are secondary in nature to the School district's teams.

In the Spring, the Haddonfield Soccer Club must also coordinate field usage with the Haddonfield School District High School and Middle School athletic events as well borough activities such as baseball and softball.

The Haddonfield Soccer Club installed lights on Crows Woods Fields #1, #2 & #3 to expand usage of fields. The Club intends to limit the use of the lights on this field to Monday-Friday evenings and to turn off the lights no later than 9:00 p.m.

Summary

The Player/Coach Development & Training Committee believes this coordinated and controlled approach will provide a great experience for all participants. The Committee hopes participation in Squirt and Town soccer programs grows while players develop in a recreational environment. If you have any questions, please e-mail the VP of Player/Coach Development. Thanks!