

Twinsburg AYSO

Fall 2019 / Indoor 2020 Soccer

FAQs

Registration

How do I register my child to play?

There are two ways to register.

1. **Online.** Through internet access to the eAYSO registration process. Access our website twinsburgsoccer.com. The site contains a link to the AYSO online registration. The online process has been developed and directly supported by Blue Sombrero.

All registration is through the online system this year. All online registrations need to be paid online also.

2. **In person (online).** Members of the Twinsburg AYSO Board will be at the Twinsburg Fitness Center from 9:30 to 1:00 pm on May 18 and June 8. Registration will be done online at this time but there will be Board members present to answer your questions. We will also have uniform samples for sizing.

What's the cost?

Cost is \$95.00 per player. After June 16, the cost is \$100.00.

There is a maximum fee of \$300 per family. If your family qualifies for the maximum \$300 family fee, contact us at info@twinsburgsoccer.com for the discount code.

Wasn't the cost lower last year?

Yes. The fee went up \$5. AYSO National increased the player fee and also instituted a \$25 background check for volunteers. We, Twinsburg AYSO, are eating the volunteer fee. We will NOT be passing that on to the coaches or other volunteers.

When is registration?

Registration for fall starts in May and runs through June. After June 16 the registration fee is \$100. Registration for indoor starts in mid October and runs through December.

Why is the fee more after June 16?

We want to encourage people to register early (or discourage them from registering at the last minute). Logistically, it's much more difficult for us to process the registrants, match them up with any requests and form teams when we get a large influx of forms in the last two week.

I still have some questions regarding registration. Who should I contact?

Email us at info@twinsburgsoccer.com. Or call 330.405.0678. Leave a message. We'll call you back.

Eligibility

Who can play?

Basically anyone. The child must be born on or before July 31, 2015. The child will then be 4 by the start of the season – August 1. AYSO insurance requires the child to be at least 4 to be covered. There are no residency requirements.

Do you have to be a resident of Twinsburg or in the Twinsburg school system to be eligible to play?

No. Anyone from any city can play. Although the city of Twinsburg provides support and field maintenance, the program is run completely by volunteers not employed by the city. The registration fee is the same regardless of where you live.

How do I know in which division my child will play?

The age / division breakdown is listed below.

Division	age	Eligible birth dates
u5	4	8.01.2014 thru 7.31.2015
u6	5	8.01.2013 thru 7.31.2014
u7	6	8.01.2012 thru 7.31.2013
u8	7	8.01.2011 thru 7.31.2012
u10	8-9	8.01.2009 thru 7.31.2011
u12	10-11	8.01.2007 thru 7.31.2009
u14	12-13	8.01.2005 thru 7.31.2007
HS	14-17	8.01.2002 thru 7.31.2005 – freshmen thru seniors

My child seems to like soccer but is physically challenged. Can they play in the league?

Yes. AYSO nationally (and ourselves locally) have a VIP (Very Important Person) program for individuals challenged physically or mentally. The program is designed to help players who would not be able to successfully participate on a mainstream team. VIP players are assigned “buddies” from mainstream teams who would provide prompts and guidance on the field. For more information contact Scottie Rorabaugh – 330.688.9593.

Volunteers / Coaching

I'd like to help, but don't really want to spend all my time doing soccer stuff. What can I do to help?

Step 4 of the online registration process allows you to volunteer for coach, assistant coach or a variety of other positions.

We're always looking for more people to help out. You don't have to be fanatical about soccer to help; just be willing to lend a hand. Whatever you can do to help would be appreciated.

Here are some areas in which we need help.

- Pre game field setup (put the goals on the fields, place the corner flags)
- Assist the Equipment Manager
- Awards distribution / supplies / logistics
- Tournament help
- Photo day “crowd” control

If interested, complete the volunteer form, call the hotline 330.405.0678 or email info@twinsburgsoccer.com.

I want to be a coach. How do I sign up?

Step 4 of the online registration process allows you to volunteer for coach, assistant coach or a variety of other positions. If you have any questions about the volunteer tasks, email us at info@twinsburgsoccer.com.

But I never coached soccer before. I don't know the rules.

Soccer is a pretty simple game. The rules are relatively minimal. Offsides is the most challenging to learn and that is only applied to u12 and higher divisions. Besides, even offsides pales in comparison to the complexity of explaining baseball's infield fly rule.

If I coach, I'm still concerned that I would be starting from ground zero relative to coaching.

Chad Cummings (coach administrator) and Jen Parker (assistant coach administrator) have put together training materials and practice plans for new and veteran coaches.

Is the training just all "book" stuff?

No. Chad and Jen conduct an outdoors training session too. It's a few weeks before the season and lasts about three hours. It is not mandatory, but it is recommended. We've had great feedback on it.

Can my son or daughter be my assistant coach?

Yes, as long as your child is at least 12 years old as of 7.31.2019. The one caveat is there always has to be an adult present at practices or games. Thus, your child can assist in however you wish except being the lone coach for the team.

Teams

When will we be notified about what team our child is on?

Fall

You should hear from your child's coach by the first or second week of August. If you haven't heard from a coach by Aug 1st, you can call 330.405.0678 or email us at info@twinsburgsoccer.com. Leave a message with your child's name and age. We'll get back to you with the connections for the coach.

Indoor (Winter)

You should hear from your child's coach by the first or second week of January. If you haven't heard from a coach by mid January, you can call 330.405.0678 or email us at info@twinsburgsoccer.com. Leave a message with your child's name and age. We'll get back to you with the connections for the coach.

What if I decide to pull my child from the program?

You may pull your child from the program at anytime if you wish. Once the uniform has been ordered or the player has practiced, only a partial refund will be given. After the start of the season, partial refunds will be given only for unusual circumstances.

When must the league be notified our child is not playing?

Earlier is better than later, but barring unusual circumstances, we must be notified prior to the start of the season. Notify us thru email at info@twinsburgsoccer.com. In addition to enabling us to process a refund, advising of your child not playing enables us to let someone on the waiting list play.

What if my child plays both AYSO and another soccer program?

If it's ok with you, it's fine with us. AYSO games are on Saturdays with a few on Friday nights. However, state school rules prohibit a child from playing in a recreational league and on a school team. This only affects the older players.

Can I request for my child to be on the same team as one of her friends?

Yes, in step 2 (question 6) you can request specific teammates. However, we can't promise the request will always be honored. We try to keep friends together whenever possible, but the overriding factor is keeping the teams balanced. If one team has a bunch of friends that want to play together and they all are above average players, there's a strong likelihood that some of the requests won't be honored.

My 5 year old is quite athletic. Can she play "up" in the u7 division?

No. We don't honor any requests to have 4 or 5 year olds playing in the u7 division.

Will the divisions be single gender?

If we have the numbers, yes. As a general rule, u5 thru u10 is single gender. U12, u14 and the high school division have been coed. *However*, if we don't have the numbers, any division could be coed.

Why not have single age divisions all the way through?

We would if we had the numbers, but we don't. We generally have single age divisions for u5, 6, 7, u8, and u10.

Practice

When is practice and how often is it?

Fall

The coach sets practice days and times – usually what fits best into his / her work schedule.

Practices generally start the first week of August with a few teams starting practice the second week of August. Almost all teams only practice once per week. Some teams may conduct an additional practice on a Saturday before the season starts.

Indoor (Winter)

There generally is one week of practice and six weeks of games. Ideally, we'd like to have more practice time indoors, but, unlike outdoors, there's a fee for using the facility.

Where will the practices be held?

Fall

You will be notified of the exact location (within the Twinsburg area) and time by the coach.

No team can practice on the varsity field at Chamberlin or the Chamberlin practice field (behind the stadium).

Indoor (Winter)

Indoor practices are held at Pinnacle Sports Complex. Same place as the games.

My child has other commitments on Tuesdays. Can we request that she be placed on a team that doesn't practice on Tuesdays?

No. The practice day is determined by the coach; what day works best for him or her. The only way to absolutely guarantee there's no conflict with other activities is to volunteer to coach. Then you get to choose the practice date.

Games

How long is the season?

Fall

The season starts mid August and goes through mid October. The season is nine weeks long. This is our tentative plan.

Indoor (Winter)

The season is generally seven weeks long; one week of practice and six weeks of games. We intend to have practice sessions for indoor at the Reminderville Rec center in 2020.

Why did you go to a futsal format for u5 through u10 for indoor?

Two reasons :

- 1) Playing all the games on the turf at The Edge became too expensive. While we are not out to make a profit, we can't afford to go thousands in the red each indoor season.
- 2) Futsal provides the players a better opportunity to improve their footskills. As a Board, we had discussed moving to a futsal format indoors for a number of years. The financials pushed us to make the decision we were on board with anyway.

Are games on Sundays?

Fall

No.

Indoor (Winter)

Some are, in the afternoon at The Edge.

When time should we show up for the games?

Your coach will inform you, but generally show up 15-20 minutes before a game. All games need to start on time. If your game starts late, it will be shortened to keep the league on schedule.

What if it rains (or snows)? How do we know if the games are still being played?

In the event of bad weather, please show up for your game. The decision to play will be decided by the referee or league officials once you get there. If the games are cancelled early, we will call the coaches. In the absence of a call, the games are on.

Is a phone call the only way we would be notified of cancellations?

No. We will also get the message out via our website, our Facebook page, and our Twitter account.

Where and when can I get the game schedule?

Fall

It will be posted on the website by mid August. Schedules will also be provided to the coaches for distribution.

Indoor (Winter)

Indoor schedules are generally posted one to two weeks prior to the start of the season.

When watching the games does it matter where I sit?

Yes. Parents and other fans are to sit on the side opposite the players. Only the coaches and players are to be on "their" side of the field.

Also, we ask you do not sit in the area behind or near the goals. If the ref asks you to move, please do so.

Why is there a line outside of the sidelines?

we ask that you sit behind this line. The space between the field line and the "fan" line provides space for throw ins and pursuit of the ball.

Will the teams be traveling to other communities?

As of May, 2018, we do not know if other communities will participate in the Twinsburg AYSO program.

Are there tournaments?

Yes. We conduct tournaments for the u10, u12, u14 and High School divisions. These tournaments may involve neighboring communities such as Macedonia and Hudson.

Where are the tournaments held?

We endeavor to host all the tournaments. However, logistically sometimes that is not possible. We have had some tournament games in Hudson in the past.

Older teams - u14 / HS

My son intends to try out for the school team. Can he still play in AYSO?

No. If he makes the school team, he cannot play in AYSO or for any other team. This is a state rule. However, if he doesn't make the team, he can definitely play in AYSO. Because school tryouts are not held until August, we recommend registering your son or daughter in AYSO. If he makes the team, we'll refund the money. If he doesn't make the team, he'll be registered with us and uniforms will have been ordered and a team assigned.

If my daughter makes the school team and I already registered her for AYSO, am I out the AYSO registration fee?

No. Assuming you advise us in a timely manner (within the week of knowing she made the team); we'll give you a full refund.

Mark on the registration form that your child is trying out for the school team. This will enable us to place the potential school players on different teams so no one team is decimated if the players all make the school team.

Why can't the high school division be split into multiple divisions?

So far, we've not had the numbers that would allow us to do this.

How many teams are there usually in the high school division?

For the past two years we fielded 4 teams playing in a 11 vs. 11 format.

Is it mostly boys playing in the high school division?

The split has been running about 60/40 boys to girls.

Equipment

What size soccer ball should I get for my child?

U6 and u8 teams use a size 3 ball. U10 and u12 use a size 4 ball. U14 and older use a size 5 ball.

Do I have to get soccer shoes for my child to play?

Soccer shoes are not mandatory. If you do buy soccer shoes, they cannot have a toe cleat. (Baseball shoes have a toe cleat.) Generally speaking, as the players get older, the probability is higher that their teammates will have soccer shoes.

Why no shoes with toe cleats?

Because of possible injury. The toe cleat can either get caught in the turf causing an injury or it could injure another player. In baseball or football the toe cleat serves the purpose of getting a better start whether from the base or the line of scrimmage.

What must they have to play?

All players *must* wear shin guards to play or practice. Any extra article of clothing must be worn under the uniform.

Is it ok to wear earrings for the game?

No. Jewelry of any kind (necklaces, watches, bracelets, earrings) cannot be worn during practice or games. If your child wants to get their ears pierced and you're concerned about the piercing closing up during the game, we suggest postponing the ear piercing until after the season.

But, why?

Playing while wearing earrings exposes the player to the risk of injury. The earring shaft can either be caught on another player's uniform and tear from the ear or can be driven into the neck upon impact. Is it likely? No. Neither is it likely that someone will get hit by lightning but it unfortunately happens every year somewhere.

My daughter just had her ears pierced. Can she play if I cover them up with band aids?

No. We even double checked with our National office on this one. The rationale is that as long as the earrings are in, there's the chance that they could get caught on something and cause a significant injury.

Must the players wear eyeglass straps?

No. We think it's a good idea, but it is not mandatory.

What about mouth guards? Are they needed?

No. They are not mandatory but are a good idea.

Can the players wear clips or other things in their hair?

As a general rule, no. Refs usually allow a soft, cloth hair band. Anything else, including hair beads, is not permitted. The judgment of the ref is always final.

Any restrictions on socks?

Yes. They should be the team's sock color. Socks are provided as part of the uniform. Also, the socks must cover the shinguard. Being of the same color as the uniform makes it much easier for the ref to determine who kicked the ball out of play. Covering the shinguard with the sock eliminates the possibility of the otherwise exposed shinguard from catching on another player.

Safety

There's been a lot of press about concussions. How is AYSO handling this?

Every coach and referee must go through a training session every three years to familiarize themselves with the symptoms and hazards of concussions. Additionally, each parent and player must signoff on the concussion awareness form as part of registration.

What if my child gets injured during the game or practice?

After the injury has been treated, contact Patty Mold at 330.487.1063. Patty is our Child Protection Advocate. She'll let you know what insurance forms need to be completed and processes followed.

What is the policy regarding thunderstorms?

We NEVER play when there is lightning in the area. The game is almost always cancelled as waiting 30 minutes to resume playing would completely throw off the day's schedule. The only exception to cancellation would be if the game was the last of the day. Cancelled games are not rescheduled.

Referees

My child would like to be a ref? How do we go about this?

Fall

The age requirement is 12 years old as of August 1st. Email our website (info@twinsburgsoccer.com) or mail in a volunteer form found on our website. The training is usually scheduled for the first two Saturdays in August. Refs need only attend one session.

Indoor (Winter)

Same age requirements as in the fall. You can ref for indoors even if you didn't ref outdoors. We conduct training classes for indoors as well as outdoors.

When is the training?

Fall

Training is scheduled to be at Liberty fields usually on the last Saturday of July and the second Saturday of August. (Twinsday weekend is in between those dates.)

Indoor (Winter)

TBD

Are there any other requirements besides the training?

Yes. All volunteers (coaches, referees, and others) must take the Safe Haven and Concussion Awareness training. Both courses are available off our twinsburgsoccer.com website.

Does the online training need to be taken every year?

No. The Safe Haven training only needs to be taken once –ever. The Concussion Awareness training needs to be taken every three years.

Uniforms

When will we get the uniforms?

The uniforms are expected to arrive at least one week prior to the start of the season. The coach will distribute them.

Can I order different size shirt and shorts?

No. We found it considerably more difficult to administer when the uniform sizes are mixed and matched. You'll need to decide what size fits best overall.

What do we get with the uniform?

Your child is supplied with a full uniform consisting of shirt, shorts, and socks. These are yours to keep even after the season ends.

What if my child's uniform doesn't fit?

If your uniform doesn't fit, please try and trade it with someone else on your team. If that doesn't work, contact Carol Harney (330.425.2799) for a new uniform. There is a \$25 fee for new uniforms.

What else can I do particularly for my child's team?

Your coach is a volunteer so anything you can do to help him/her will be appreciated. Volunteering can be done in a variety of ways; no matter how small or large, just ask your child's coach what you can do to help. Remember you are also helping your child.

Photos

Will there be photos and if so when?

Fall

Yes. Photo day is September 7, 2019.

Indoor (Winter)

No. We don't do photos for indoor.

League Officials

Brett Harney	Regional Commissioner	.....	330.425.2799
Tim Adams	Referee Administrator	.....	330.425.4614
John Beck	Treasurer	.....	330.963.1061
Chad Cummings	Coach Administrator	.....	330.618.9519
Gary Fiedtkou	Equipment Manager	.....	330.998.1956
Carol Harney	Uniform Coordinator	.....	330.425.2799
Bob Heise	Board Member	.....	330.963.5828
Bruce Kormanec	Field Operations	.....	330.963.6055
Joe Koudelka	Registrar	.....	330.425.8003
Jen Koudelka-Dietz	Graphic Designer	.....	216.544.1177
Jon May	Webmaster	.....	330.405.6664
Patty Mold	Child Volunteer Protection Advocate (CVPA)		330.487.1063
Jen Parker	Asst Coach Administrator	.....	216.246.0564