

# **WELCOME TO THE TTCC YOUTH SOCCER PROGRAM!**

## **PARENT MANUAL**

*Before you ask any questions, please check out this manual...*

*Hopefully all of your questions will be covered and more.*

*If you still require more information, please do not hesitate to contact the TTCC  
Office at 603-744-2713.*



### **Enclosed you will find:**

- ✓ TTCC Youth Soccer Program PHILOSOPHY
- ✓ LEAGUE DESCRIPTIONS
- ✓ GENERAL RULES
- ✓ PLAYING RULES
- ✓ SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES
- ✓ PLAYER'S CODE & PLAYER'S RIGHTS
- ✓ PARENT'S ROLE & GUIDELINES TO SOCCER PARENTHOOD
- ✓ SOCCER: The Sport
- ✓ Coaches & Parents: Role Models for Life

***\*Season Schedule & Picture Day Schedule should be distributed on 9/14/24 –  
teams should get uniforms prior to their first games!***

**MEETING TIMES & PLACES – From 9/13/25 – 10/25/25**

**K & 1: Kelley Park (soccer side), Saturdays mornings 10-11am**

**2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>: Kelley Park (field hockey side), Saturdays mornings 8:30-9:45am  
w/ optional skill nights TBD**

**4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>: BHVS, on Saturdays, times vary w/ weeknight games & team  
practices TBD**

**\*Schedules vary & are subject to change!**

# **Tapply-Thompson Community Center**

## *Youth Soccer Program*

### *Rules & Regulations*

#### **PHILOSOPHY:**

- The TTCC Recreational Soccer Program is a developmental soccer program for all youth players. The league accepts as participants any eligible youths, without regard to skill level.
- The use of tryouts or player recruiting in order to roster players to any recreational team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited. Recreational players may not be “cut” from the team.
- The TTCC uses a “Skills Assessment Day” for rostering players to teams to establish a fair and balanced distribution of playing talent among all teams participating in each division.
- To further enhance the Recreational Program, the TTCC supports USYSA’s teaching philosophy with respect to small-sided soccer in K-6. This philosophy allows the game to be the teacher by maximizing each player’s touches on the ball and encourages all the players to develop their skills in all positions. Further, the philosophy discourages intense competition until the older age groups.

#### **LEAGUE DESCRIPTIONS:**

##### **Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Graders (K/1):**

- Ball size: #3
- Teams will consist of no less than 6, and no more than 12 registered players
- Game play will consist of 3 vs. 3 up to 6 vs. 6, with no goalkeepers (ideal is 4 vs. 4 with 2 offense & 2 defense)
- Field size (in yards) will be approximately 30X20 (LXW)
- Goal size will be approximately 4x6 feet
- Game time will consist of four 5 minute quarters, with a 5-minute half-time period

##### **2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders (2/3):**

- Ball size: #4
- Teams will consist of no less than 6, and no more than 12 registered players
- Game play will consist of 4 vs. 4 up to 8 vs. 8, with no goalkeepers (ideal is 6 vs. 6 with 2 offense, 2 defense & 2 midfielders)
- Field size will be approximately 50X30
- Goal size will be approximately 6X8 feet
- Game time will consist of four 8 minute quarters, with a 5-minute half-time period

##### **4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Graders (4-6):**

- Ball size: #4 or 5
- Teams will consist of no less than 8, and no more than 15 registered players
- Game play will consist of 8 vs. 8 up to 11 vs. 11, including a goalkeeper
- Modified field & goals will be used closer to regulation size at this level
- Game time will consist of two 25 minute halves, with a 5-minute half-time period
- Rules may vary depending on what town we play in – home field rules will apply

***Please see schedules for specific practice and game times.***

***Schedules are subject to change.***

## **Tapply-Thompson Community Center**

### ***Youth Soccer Program Rules & Regulations***

Games will be played in accordance with FIFA (FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION) rules with exceptions stated herein. Rules adapted from US Youth Soccer. Visit [www.usyouthsoccer.org](http://www.usyouthsoccer.org) for detailed FIFA laws of the game.

#### **GENERAL RULES:**

- **Registration:** All players must be registered through the TTCC office before they will be assigned to a team.
- **Coaches:** All coaches are volunteers. If you are interested in helping with the soccer program in any way, please contact the TTCC office.
- **Referees:** The recreational leagues (K/1, 2/3 & 4-6) will not use referees during their small-sided games. Coaches and/or parents may referee for instructional purposes.
- **Equipment:** Teams will receive uniform shirts for their players that must be worn during every game. **Shinguards are REQUIRED and cleats are highly recommended (especially for the older groups). Coaches will have soccer balls available for each player on the team!**
- **Practices & Games:** K/1 will practice/scrimmage weekly on Saturday mornings for one hour and may have an optional “skill night” during the week. 2/3 is also weekly on Saturday mornings for an hour and a half and may also have an optional “skill night” during the week. 4-6 is weekly on Saturday mornings for two hours and coaches are highly encouraged to offer at least one additional practice during the week. **There may be a few weeknight games on the 2/3 & 4-6 schedule which may include travel.**
- **Rain Policy:** A message will be posted on TTCC website (ttccrec.org), Facebook page & voicemail (603-744-2713) by 7:00am on Saturday mornings and 4pm on weeknights if soccer is canceled due to inclement weather. Feel free to contact TTCC or coach for latest info.
- **Please refrain from bringing dogs to the soccer games / practices.**
- **No smoking is allowed on school grounds or at Kelley Park.**

#### **PLAYING RULES:**

- **Playing time:** Equal play time is the goal, unless the player is unwilling or unable.
- **Substitutions:** It is suggested that coaches substitute players at the same times during the game – 1) In the middle of the first half of play, 2) In the middle of the second half of play, 3) At half time and 4) In case of an injured player substitution.
- **Headers:** No heading the ball at any level, headers will result in an indirect kick.
- **Slide-tackling:** No slide-tackling at any level, slide tackling will result in an indirect kick.
- **Off-side:** There is no offside rule for K/1 & 2/3. Off sides will be enforced at 4-6.
- **Penalty Kick:** There are no penalty kicks for K/1 & 2/3. Penalty kicks will be used at 4-6.
- **Free Kick:** For K/1 & 2/3 – All fouls shall result in an indirect free kick with opponents 3 yards away for K/1, 6 yards away for 2/3. No kicks should be taken by the attacking team within 3 yards of the defender’s goal for K/1 and within 6 yards for 2/3.
  - **Free Kicks (4-6 Only)** – In order to better prepare our players for the transition to the middle school and/or travel teams. Free Kicks at the Grades 4-6 level will be direct and indirect depending on the type of infraction that occurred during the game of play. The simple difference between the two is this: On a direct kick, you can score by kicking the ball directly into the goal. On an indirect kick you cannot score. An

indirect kick must be touched by another player before it can go into the goal – that is the kicker and a second person.

- A direct kick is awarded when there is a handball or fouls that include physical contact including, but not limited to pushing, tripping, kicking, etc...
  - An indirect kick is awarded for obstruction, offsides, dangerous plays (playing the ball while on the ground), dissent towards a player, coach, or official, and handling of a ball by a goalkeeper that was intentionally played with the foot to them by their own team. Other situations may also result in an indirect kick as warranted by the laws of the game.
- Goal Kick: The kick may be taken within 3 yards from the goal line and the opponents must be 3 yards away for K/1 and 6 yards away for 2/3. 4-6 take goal kicks from anywhere within the goal area and opponents must stay outside the penalty area.
- Corner Kick: Opponents must be 3 yards away from the ball for K/1, 6 yards away for 2/3 and 10 yards for 4-6.
- Throw in: A second throw-in should be allowed if the player makes an improper throw-in on the initial attempt for younger levels. Coaches should explain and demonstrate the proper method.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP:**

- All un-sportsmanlike behavior is particularly and expressly condemned.
- All persons in authority will conduct themselves in a manner that will not contribute to the delinquency of minors.
- TTCC encourages moral and social responsibility.
- Any player, coach, or parent guilty of such violations will be subject to disciplinary action by the TTCC.
- Rules of conduct to be adhered to by participants at all Youth Soccer events are:
  - Offensive, insulting, and abusive language will not be tolerated, either on field of play or in field's general area.
  - Un-sportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.
  - Respect for referee, either on field or in field's general area, must be shown by all.
  - Punctuality by both teams and referee must be practiced out of courtesy for others.
  - Dangerous play must not be taught or encouraged. All players must be taught to "play the ball" and not the "man".
  - Proper respect for opposing teams and spectators must be exhibited by all.
  - Alcoholic beverages will not be permitted in the general area of the field.
  - Drug and/or Tobacco use will not be permitted in the general area of the field.
  - No dogs will be permitted in the general area of the field.

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, officials and spectators.

Physical violence, foul and abusive language, harassment of players or referees WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

### **PLAYERS CODE:**

- Play the game for the game's sake.
- Be generous when you win
- Be graceful when you lose.
- Be fair always, no matter what the cost.
- Obey the laws of the game.
- Work for the good of your team.
- Accept the decisions of the officials with good grace.
- Believe in the honesty of your opponents.
- Conduct yourself with honor and dignity.

### **PLAYER'S RIGHTS:**

1. The right to decide when to participate in soccer.
2. The right to play in every game. At younger ages, every child should have an opportunity to play at least 50% of every game. No child should have to stand and watch at practice.
3. The right to participate at a level that corresponds to each child's maturity and ability.
4. The right to be taught the fundamentals of soccer.
5. The right to participate in a safe and healthy environment.
6. The right to play as a child and enjoy participation in the sport.

### **PARENT'S ROLE:**

1. Provide transportation to and from all practices and games ensuring that the player is prompt not only in arriving but also in departure.
2. Stay and watch practices as well as games and lend the young players your support in a positive manner. Do not point out their mistakes, leave that up to the coach, and be sure to compliment on their accomplishments as well as their effort.
3. If unable to attend the practice or game, encourage your child not to talk with or leave practices or games with strangers.
4. Ensure that your child brings equipment to and from all soccer games / practices when appropriate.
5. Be available to kick the ball around with your child when you are invited to do so.
6. Avoid material awards. Build an attitude of "the rewards lie in the fun of being able to play."
7. Be a good listener. Make them feel important and let them know that they are contributing to a team effort.
8. Be positive. Never criticize. Suggest an alternate way if they are not performing correctly..."Hey, that is pretty good, but why don't you try it this way."
9. ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO BE A CHILD.

### **GUIDELINES TO SOCCER PARENTHOOD:**

1. In competition someone always loses. If you win do it gracefully, not boastfully. If you lose, do not allow your child to become negative.
2. Too much competition, too soon, can slow down a child's progress in skill development.
3. Make fun and technique development your first priority.
4. Your child's coach will need all the support and help you can offer. Please make yourself available and volunteer all the time you can spare.
5. Disagreements with the coach or officials do not belong on the public soccer field. Questions, input and positive suggestions should be voiced to the coach and/or the club in an adult atmosphere. (The youth player should not be present.)
6. The overall purpose is to enjoy the game and the opportunity to be with your child on the field of play.

## **SOCCER: The Sport**

**The purpose is to score goals.**

How: Two teams face each other and try to put the ball in the opponent's net.

Where: The game is played on a level field similar to a football field, with goals at each end.

The size of the field should be appropriated for the younger player.

The team: Only 11 players per team may be on the field at a time. Smaller sized teams are recommended for the younger age groups.

**Each team is comprised of: goalkeeper, defender, midfielder, and forward**

- Goalkeeper: is unique in that this player may use his/her hands to defend the goal area and to stop the other team from scoring. It is not recommended to have a goal keeper at the younger age levels.
- Defenders: their secondary role is to close down the space and the attack of the opposing team. Their primary role is to take the ball away and start the attack in their team's favor.
- Midfielders: play the most complete game in that they must be offensive and defensive players at all time. The midfielder is where the attack begins.
- Forwards: they finish (score) the attack: They must be willing to come back and aid at midfield to start the attack.

*All players must develop offensive and defensive skills and every player has the potential to be a scorer. There is no such thing as a fixed space or position in soccer. Players may interchange positions according to the flow of the game. Coaches are encouraged to move players around the field as often as possible to allow them to experience all different positions.*

Infractions: the referee/coach watches play and when a foul occurs s/he stops play and awards the ball to the team that didn't commit the foul. Fouls and misconduct can and will occur even at this level. Fouls shall result in a free kick, with opponents at least 3 yards away. Fouls consist of:

- Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent
- Trips or attempts to trip an opponent
- Jumps at an opponent
- Charges an opponent
- Strikes or attempts to strike an opponent
- Pushes an opponent
- Tackles an opponent to gain possession of the ball
- Making contact with the opponent before touching the ball
- Holds an opponent
- Spits at an opponent
- Handles the ball deliberately (hand ball)
- Plays in a dangerous manner
- Impedes the progress of an opponent (obstruction).