

Fall 2008



Clark Park Youth Soccer League

Dear Soccer Player and Parent/Guardian:

Clark Park Youth Soccer League's Fall 2008 season begins on Saturday, September 27th and ends on Saturday, November 22nd.

As in the past, we try to assure that all Clark Park Youth Soccer League (CPYSL) Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 players whose pre-registration forms are mailed and postmarked by the deadline of September 15th will be assigned a place on a team in their age group. Youth soccer in the U.S. uses the child's age on August 1st as the playing age for the season; therefore CPYSL players **must be at least 5 years old but no older than 12 years by August 1.**

Fees: Your total owed depends on how many children you register and whether your Friends of Clark Park (FOCP) dues are up-to-date. All children registered together must live in the same household. The CPYSL Fee must be paid every season: \$15 for the first child and \$5 for each additional child. The Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Association (EPYSA) Fee of \$7 is required for each child and is an annual fee. If you paid in Spring 2008, you do not have to pay again in the fall. But you must fill out an EPYSA form each season. FOCP Dues are required for every family and are good for 12 months. If you send us a bad check, it will void your registration and you will have to pay our credit union's bad-check fee. Please note CPYSL will help with up to half of the fees if you need a scholarship.

Instructions for advance registration:

- Complete one two-sided CPYSL Player Registration form for your household and include all children who will be playing. **We may contact you via e-mail for confirmation and or parent meetings, so please write your e-mail address clearly in the space provided.** Don't forget to **sign both sides** of the form.
- Complete a separate EPYSA form for each player in your household. (If you need additional forms, make a copy of the form, download one from the website or fill out one at registration on September 27.)
- Enclose payment (check or money order made payable to "Friends of Clark Park") and mail with forms to P.O. Box 31908, Philadelphia, PA 19104 **by 9/15/08** (Don't hand-deliver them, we use the postmark.)

Players will receive confirmation of pre-registration and a check-in time for registration by September 20th. If you haven't been contacted by mail, phone or e-mail by September 22nd, e-mail clarkparksoccer@yahoo.com. Forms post-marked after September 15th will be processed on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Forms received with no payment will not be processed.

Friends of Clark Park: Because CPYSL is sponsored by Friends of Clark Park (FOCP), families of all CPYSL players must be current FOCP members. FOCP dues pay for park improvements, trees and additional park maintenance. Families with one child playing soccer pay dues of just \$20/year. For families with two or more soccer children, dues are \$25 per year. Please consider subscribing at the Patron level for \$50 per year.

E:mail: clarkparksoccer@yahoo.com **Website:** www.clarkpark.info

Mailing address: P.O. Box 31908, Philadelphia, PA 19104 **Voice-mail:** 215-552-8186

Volunteer: Stay in touch for opportunities to volunteer to help maintain and build the program. Registration, field prep, photo day, season planning, coaching, fundraising, the picnic, trophies, and programming are areas that need volunteers. Our best source for volunteers and coaches has always been the parents of our players. CPYSL is **entirely volunteer-run**. Coaching can be very satisfying and enjoyable--please consider it. Soccer-playing experience is helpful but not required. CPYSL will provide training at no cost to coaches. All that we require is patience, a desire to have fun, willingness to work with children and a commitment to attend at least six of nine sessions. For more information, e-mail us at clarkparksoccer@yahoo.com.

Attendance: CPYSL is becoming so popular that we frequently have to turn away families who want to play. There is usually a waiting list for the fall season. Please don't register your children if you know that you can't make six of the nine sessions. Let us know your planned absences with your registration packet. If your place is confirmed before September 20th and you miss the first two sessions without telling us, you will be removed from the roster and replaced by a player from the wait list.

Shin-Guards & T-Shirts Shin guards must be worn and may be purchased at Modells or elsewhere. This season we will NOT be selling shin guards on registration day, so please plan accordingly. The CPYSL fee includes a team T-shirt that will be distributed at registration check in.

Parent Help (very important) CPYSL is volunteer-run and charges very low fees. For each child registered, a parent / guardian must help on one Saturday during the season. You must either bring a snack for the child's team or come ½ hour early to prepare the field (or for afternoon players, stay after to help put equipment away). Sign up on September 27th at registration check-in for your parent-help date and task. There will be a sign-up form for your child's team. Make sure to do your task on your date. Forget to bring snack and your child's team will be very disappointed. Forget to do field preparation and the field won't be safe for our children's play. The children and coaches need your help to have a fun and safe playing experience.

To all Players and Parents: Our "Philosophy" and Rules: Soccer at CPYSL is fun and exciting. Players should come ready to learn from their coaches, to participate in practices and games, and to cooperate with their fellow players, not just to "clown around". We expect all players to play fairly. Soccer can be a little rough, and players should expect to be hit by the ball and kicked in the shin from time to time. However, this is not ice hockey or American football. Players are not allowed to push, trip, shove, hit or deliberately kick each other. "He/she did it to me first" is not an excuse. Cursing and verbal abuse are not allowed. If a player (or parent) breaks a rule, he or she and perhaps his / her team may be penalized. If a player (or parent) breaks rules or disrupts sessions repeatedly, he or she may be told to sit out or even to leave the field early that day. We may insist that a player's parent closely attend sessions to supervise a child. If the problem continues, the player may have to leave the program.

We look forward to another great season of youth soccer in Clark Park, and we hope you will join us!

CPYSL is a program of Friends of Clark Park, a non-profit corporation dedicated to improving Clark Park.

CPYSL receives some financial support from a number of local and other Sponsors.

We invite your company or group to sponsor a team, too – e-mail us for information.

E:mail: clarkparksoccer@yahoo.com **Website:** www.clarkpark.info

Mailing address: P.O. Box 31908, Philadelphia, PA 19104 Voice-mail: 215-552-8186