



Finally!

The fields are no longer covered with snow and soccer season is here!

Read on to learn about important upcoming dates, opportunities for your soccer player and ways you can help keep soccer alive and strong in Northfield.

Calling all parents: 6 Northfield Soccer Association (NSA) board member positions will be available in August. Please consider volunteering, we could really use your help. No soccer experience is required, all that's needed is some of your time and a desire to keep soccer alive and strong in Northfield. Current board members are documenting their duties to make it easier for incoming members. Thank you for your consideration!

Board Positions Available:

- President
- Vice President
- Registration Coordinator
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- In-house coordinator

Email info@northfieldsoccer.org to learn more.

ARE YOU GETTING OUR EMAILS?

If you are not getting emails, check your SportsEngine account settings:

- Login at www.northfieldsoccer.org
- In the upper left corner of the screen, click the drop-down to the right of your user name and select "Account Settings"
- Scroll down to check your notification settings. Ensure the box is checked to receive emails from the soccer association and the correct e-mail address is noted. You can add or change addresses.
- Also check that the profile of your child(ren) registered includes the email address that should receive notifications.

Come to a Board Meeting!

Come here more about the NSA and how you can help. Board meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at Northfield United Methodist Church. Upcoming meetings:

- May 3, 7:00 PM
- Jun 7, 7:00 PM
- Jul date: TBD
- Aug 2, 7:00 PM
- Sep 6, 7:00 PM

NORTHFIELD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1401 S. Maple St., Northfield, MN 55057



Join us Saturday, May 5 from 12 - 4 at Imminent Brewing!

A portion of beer sales from 12 PM – 4PM will benefit the Northfield Soccer Association. Come watch MN United FC take on Vancouver at 1 PM and stay to celebrate Cinco de Mayo! A salsa band starts at 6 PM.

Save the Date:

- May 1: In-house registration due
- May 3: Board meeting
- May 5: Fundraiser at Imminent Brewing
- Mid-Apr through mid-Jul: Summer Travel (U11 - U19) and Academy (U9 - U10)
- Jun 5 – Jul 19: In-house Program (U4 - U8)
- Jun 7: Board Meeting
- Sat, Jun 9: Jesse James Soccer Jamboree (U9 - U12)
- July Board Meeting: TBD
- Jul 30 – Jul 31 (Aug 1 for rain date): Travel try-outs for Fall 2018 and Summer 2019
- Aug 2: Board Meeting
- Fall Travel Registration Date: TBD
- Sep 6: Board Meeting
- Sep - Oct: Fall Travel (U11 – U14) and Academy (U9 - U10) programs

In-house News

by Blake Kane

- We will again be running on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for all age groups, U-4 - U-8. The season will start on Tuesday, June 5th and conclude Thursday, July 19th, with no soccer July 3rd and 5th.

Registration closes May 1st.

- We have a continued need for coaches! We would like to have smaller teams for increased playing time, however we are limited by the number of volunteers we receive. If you are interested in being a coach, please contact: inhouse@northfieldsoccer.org.
- Starting in September, the NSA in-house coordinator position will be open. This position also includes a seat on the board of directors. For questions on the role or responsibilities, please contact: inhouse@northfieldsoccer.org.

Sign up to volunteer with Dibs!



In addition to considering board member opportunities, other ways you can help are listed on our website at www.northfieldsoccer.org.

Sign up to volunteer by selecting the Dibs tab at the far right of the screen, or access it directly here: https://www.northfieldsoccer.org/dib_sessions.

Examples of current volunteer needs posted on Dibs:

- In-house coaches
- Jesse James Shootout Jamboree: field set-up, registration, concessions, t-shirt sales, traffic, etc.

Contact us with any questions at: info@northfieldsoccer.org.

Have you hugged a referee lately?

by Brent Kivell

With a brand-new season of games set to begin shortly, I wanted to take a couple paragraphs to talk about sideline etiquette. To be fully honest, Northfield parents have a very mixed reputation when it comes to sideline behavior. In reality, the old adage of a few bad apples spoiling the bunch probably applies best in this instance.

The games where we love to watch our children play could not happen without the referees who work the games. That is a simple fact. Another fact is that in Minnesota, roughly 50% of first year referees do not return for a second year. Of course, the #1 reason they do not is because of verbal abuse from either coaches or parents. For this season, as with all seasons, I can promise you two

things with regards to the referees you will encounter this year, both at home and away games:

- 1) The referees are not going to be perfect. They will miss some calls. Until roborefs are invented, you are going to have to put up with humans and the failing that they bring.
 - 2) The referees do NOT, I promise, have a personal vendetta against your child or your child's team.
- I am not really asking you to hug a referee, but I am pleading with you to keep your comments to yourself. If you need to vent about it, do it on the car ride home. I will add a third promise to the ones mentioned above:
- 3) If you think a referee is doing a poor job, the best way to make them not want to continue as a referee is to yell at them and tell them how many calls they

are missing. You will almost certainly succeed in getting them to quit. If you do that, however, just know that they will be replaced the next year by another first-time referee who hasn't yet learned from their mistakes and the cycle will continue.



Let's give our referees every chance to learn, succeed and get better. If they come back, they will be better, and our game will be all the better for it!

SUMMER SOCCER CAMPS!

Soccer camps can be a great opportunity for players enthusiastic about improving their skills. Best of all, it can be a lot of fun too! There are several organizations that offer day and / or sleepover camps, for example: Coerver Coaching, Shattuck-St. Mary's and Northfield Community Services. **Coerver Coaching is offering Northfield Soccer Association players a \$30 discount with code 74215. Visit www.coerverminnesota.com to learn more about Coerver's camps.**