



NORTH SHORE UNITED



SOCCER CLUB



RECREATIONAL HANDBOOK

2023-2024

WELCOME TO OUR PROGRAM!



ABOUT NSU

North Shore United Soccer Club is a non-profit organization based in Ozaukee County. Founded in 1978, our club is an active member of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association. We sponsor Recreational Teams ranging from U8 to U14, Academy teams in levels U8, U9 and U10, Competitive (Select) Teams ranging from U11 to U19, and a Men's and Women's U23 team. Our program features over 1500 youth soccer players!

All the activities and facilities of the Club are overseen by the Executive Board and the Board of Directors, who, with the support of countless other volunteers, donate their time and energy "For The Good Of The Club."

The focus of North Shore United Soccer Club is to provide superior facilities and coaching to all of our teams, enabling all players to develop their soccer skills to their highest potential. We strive to instill qualities such as leadership, responsibility, and teamwork, both on and off the field, in all our athletes. Our Club is confident that the development of successful soccer players has a positive impact on the player, their families, and the communities in which we live.

ABOUT RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

North Shore United Soccer Recreational Soccer is, at heart, a community-based program with teams formed from 3 geographic locations—Cedarburg, Mequon, and Grafton.

Our mixed gender teams at U8, U10, U12, and U14 are led by volunteer parent coaches and play a Fall/Spring season within our in-house league. The program provides a wholesome and safe environment for players who are either new to soccer or looking to play in a non-competitive format.

NSU Rec is directed by Andrew Wiedabach. Raised in Mequon and having started at the recreational level, Andrew has enjoyed a soccer career at all levels of the game and also coaches teams for the NSU Select Program.

Our Recreational Program is devoted to the enjoyment of sport, and development of children, through the vehicle of soccer without the emphasis on travel or high-level competition. We aim to provide an opportunity for the participants to have fun, learn the game, and develop life skills in a pressure free environment!

CODE OF CONDUCT PARENTS

For your child to get the most out of their experience at North Shore United Soccer Club, it is important for you to show support and offer encouragement while maintaining a genuine interest in the team. With a supportive attitude and a fundamental understanding of the game, everyone will come away from their soccer experience with a positive feeling.

1. Do not force your child to participate in sports.
2. Applaud good plays; don't dwell on bad plays. Children play sports to have fun, make new friends, and learn new skills.
3. Children imitate their parents. If you are disruptive or act inappropriately, your child, and possibly others, will act in a similar fashion.
4. The sidelines are not a place to shout personal instructions. Encouraging from the sidelines is appreciated, coaching from the spectator sidelines is forbidden.
5. There is more to life than soccer. Encourage your child to participate in other activities.
6. Respect the coach's decision and abilities. Don't force your child to decide whether to listen to you or to the coach.
7. Stress fair and sensible play. Soccer is a contact sport, let the officials determine fair or foul play
8. Promote the long-term importance of practice over the short-term excitement of matches.
9. Promote the importance of teamwork.
10. Never lose sight of the fact that you are a role model.
11. The other team is the opponent, not the enemy. Treat all with respect.
12. Mistakes are a part of the learning process for everyone. Positive reinforcement goes a long way.

CODE OF CONDUCT COACHES

1. Understand that coaching is a position of trust.
2. Be a positive role model for their players and maintain their personal integrity and dignity at all times.
3. Create a player centered environment where players are free to make autonomous decisions.
4. Remember that players are involved for fun and enjoyment and you should strive to create a positive soccer environment that reflects why they play.
5. Understand that as a youth coach, the match is for the children, not the adults.
6. Consistently have a positive attitude and praise players for their efforts and playing fair regardless of the outcome of the match.
7. Never criticize or yell at any player on your team for making a mistake nor address an opposing player in a derogatory manner.
8. Understand that winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one.
9. Understand that being a coach means being, first and foremost, a role model.
10. Create a safe, fun and inclusive environment that provides opportunities for all of your players the capacity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem.
11. Create co-constructed team and individual goals. Know and understand the organizations playing time guidelines and give every player an opportunity to play as much as possible.
12. Inspect all equipment and fields on a regular basis to ensure the safety of players, paying special attention to the security of goal frames.

CODE OF CONDUCT PLAYERS

- 1 Respect the game of soccer and its laws, learn these laws, follow them, and play the game fairly.
2. Work for the good of the team and always give their best effort.
3. Never argue with or verbally abuse a referee.
4. Show good sportsmanship before, during, and after games. Each player understands that soccer is a game, and that the players on the other team are their opponents, not their enemies.
5. Arrive at practice and games within the time frame set by the coach.
6. Cooperate with their coach, manager, teammates, and opponents.
7. Be modest when they win, and gracious when they lose. Accept defeat with dignity, and remember, "Good losers earn more respect than bad winners".
8. Help their parents and fans understand the laws of the game so they can watch and enjoy the game better.
9. Control their temper and never retaliate, even if they disagree with a decision. Displays of temper will not be tolerated during games or training sessions.
10. Practice on their own, come prepared to learn, and give their coaches their complete attention.
11. Represent NSU with the highest degree of integrity, commitment and professionalism both on and off the soccer field.
12. Live the game! Be a student of the game, because the game is the best teacher!

COACHING PHILOSOPHY

PLEASURE & PARTICIPATION MODEL

A framework for an organizational structure emphasizing democratic leadership, inclusive participation, and the use of cooperation and competition with others to develop and test skills in a healthy and enjoyable context.



Democratic Leadership

Decision making structures in which relationships are characterized by cooperation and sharing power.



Inclusive Participation

All players welcome, regardless of skill set.



Cooperation & Competition

Group members interact positively with one another while working toward common goals in order to seek excellence together.

PLEASURE & PARTICIPATION MODEL

Use of the Pleasure & Participation model is most appropriate for recreational soccer because the model directly addresses the reasons why players play or quit by maximizing the reasons they play and minimizing the reasons they quit.

Success and excellence in recreational soccer is measured in player satisfaction and players retained. Recreational soccer is all about fun, recreation, and love of the game.

Winning is not a measure of success.

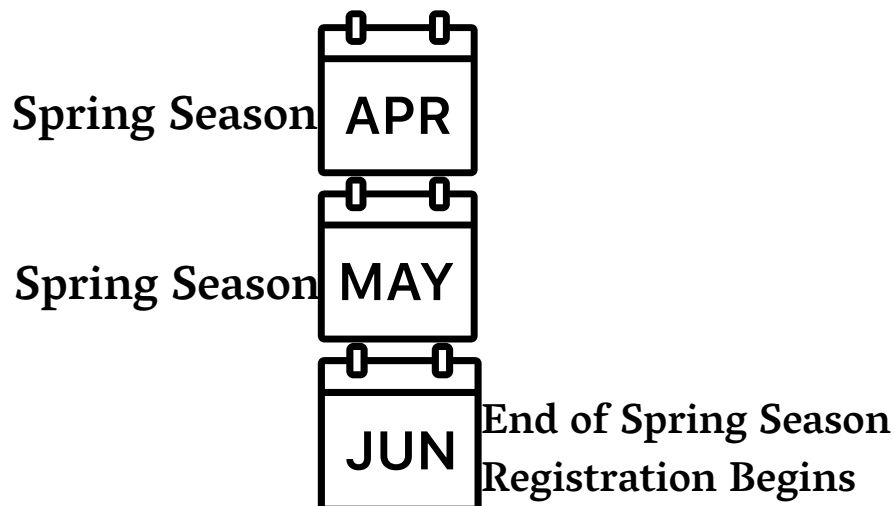
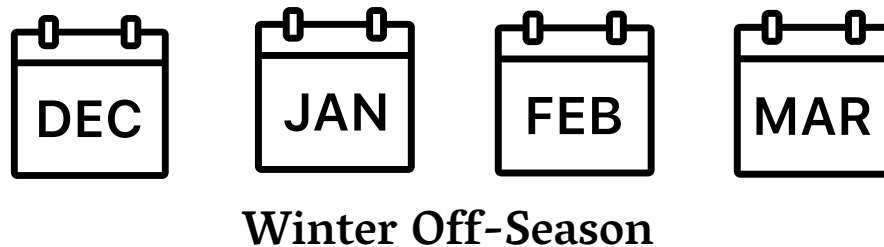
Why Children Play

- To have fun
- To be with their friends
- To make new friends
- To improve and learn
- To feel good
- To wear the stuff

Why Children Quit

- Criticism and yelling
- No playing time
- Emphasis on winning
- Poor communication
- Fear of making mistakes
- Boredom/not learning

SEASON TIMELINE



REGISTRATION PROCESS

Our recreational program features two separate registration windows:

1 Pre Season Registration

Registration for our full season (Fall & Spring) generally runs from the middle of May to the middle of August. Because early planning is vital to our program, we offer an "Early Bird" registration for a discounted price at the beginning of this registration period.

2 Spring Only Registration

After our fall season, we offer a "Spring Only" registration period from November-February. Players registering at this time will fill out any open spots on previously formed teams or form new teams. We do not currently offer a "Fall Only" option.

*Mid Season Registration

If you or someone you know missed these 2 registration windows and is interested in joining the program, please contact the Program Director. We cannot guarantee location preference but tend to always have a home for any interested players!

ROSTERING

When rostering for the season, our priority is to create viable and balanced teams while at the same time keeping groups/previous rosters together as much as possible.

Here are just a few factors being put into account:

Date of Birth

Location Preference

Gender

Previous Team

Coaching Staff

We understand that playing with friends is an integral part of the experience, but also stress the importance of making new friends and experiences. Friend requests will be accommodated if possible but are not guaranteed.

Roster Sizes

	Minimum	Maximum
U8	6	8
U10	9	12
U12	11	14
U14	13	18

VOLUNTEER PARENT COACHING STAFF

The success of our program depends primarily on the acceptance of our philosophy and the participation of countless volunteers. The best way to ensure that this program is a positive experience for your player is to get involved! Each team is led by a parent volunteer coaching staff:

Head Coach

Lead the team in practices and games using the selected methods and styles of coaching established by the DOC.

Assistant Coach

Work with Head Coach in practices and games, filling in as lead when needed.

Team Manager

Provide administrative and organization support to coaches.

While a soccer background is advantageous, no experience is necessary in these positions. Coaches are instructed on best practices, game rules, and supplied with premade practice plans. Parents can indicate interest through registration!

UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

Registration fee covers the cost of one uniform for your player. These will be handed out at one of your first practices, or before first game if necessary. Each uniform includes:

Jersey
Shorts
Socks

Uniforms are distributed in a range of sizes to fit the average players of each age group. If a player does not fit the largest size ordered, we will work to procure a uniform that fits.

Player Equipment

Soccer cleats are preferred for all athletes, but turf or running shoes are acceptable if necessary.

All players are required to wear shin guards to all practices and games.

All players should bring water to every practice and game.

Each player should bring their own ball to every practice and game.

General athletic attire should be worn at practice.

Ball sizes by age group

- U8: Size 3
- U10, U12: Size 4
- U14: Size 5

PRACTICE

Practice schedules are not pre-determined and will be established by the volunteer parent coaching staff after the roster is finalized.

U8: 1 practice per week, 60 minutes

U10: 1-2 practices per week, 60 minutes

U12: 1-2 practices per week, 60-90 minutes

U14: 2 practices per week, 60-90 minutes

Practice Locations

Cedarburg: Airport Fields

Mequon: Riverbarn & Lemke Park

Grafton: Centennial Park

Please see that your child understands their responsibility as a team member and attends the practices as well as games, and notify the team coach in advance when they cannot be in attendance.

If your player is placed on a team with a practice schedule that leads to conflicts, due to other commitments, we will look to switch them to a different team with more suitable schedule.

GAMES

Game schedule will be published 1-2 weeks prior to season start.

Games are played on:
Saturdays 9AM-12PM
Sundays 12PM-4PM

Game Locations

Cedarburg: PWSB Soccer Park
Mequon: Rotary Park
Grafton: Zaun Soccer Fields

Each team has a home field but will also play at the other 2 locations. Most teams will play only 1 game per weekend, with the occasional chance of 2 games scheduled. Depending on the number of teams in each age group, it is possible to have an "off weekend" with no game.

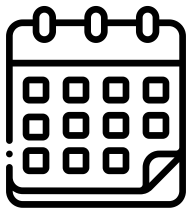
If games are cancelled due to weather, field conditions, or other reasons, the rescheduled game may be scheduled for an open weekend or practice day.

Our program's philosophy on playing time is that all players should receive equal playing time throughout the season. Ideally, 50% or more of each game. If a player does not receive 50% playing time in one game, which can happen for a variety of reasons, the coach will look to make up for this in the next game.



Our program utilizes TeamSnap, a sports management platform, for all scheduling and team communication purposes. When rosters are finalized, you will receive an email invitation to join the team. TeamSnap can be accessed on your computer as well as downloaded to your mobile phone.

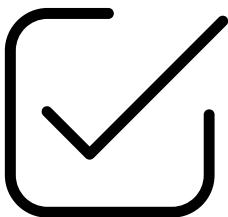
Here are a few important features:



Practice & Game Schedule



Receive & send messages



Mark player availability

CLUB WIDE VOLUNTEER POLICY

Volunteers are essential to the operation of North Shore United soccer club. With everyone volunteering just a few hours, we are able to provide a high quality environment for our players.

Each family is required to volunteer 4 hours per player.

Volunteer opportunities are posted in the DIBS system located on the NSU website. It is your responsibility to sign up using the online system and to complete your hours by June 30th.

You may "buy-out" of these hours at the time of player registration for \$125 per recreational player, \$150 for academy player, and \$250 for select player.

Families who do not meet the volunteer requirements will be invoiced in early July for \$150 per recreational player, \$200 per academy player, and \$300 per select player. Invoices must be paid before the start of next season in order to participate.

If a parent, outside of coaching staff, helps out in coaching a game or running a practice session- they can use this time towards their volunteer hours. Just notify Melissa Kunz.

Family Compliant Positions

The following positions are considered "family compliant" positions, meaning no matter how many NSU players you have in your family, your hours are covered with these positions:

-Recreational Head or Assistant Coach

-Board Positions

-Auction Committee

-Tournament Committee

-Select Program Team Manager or Treasurer

CONTACT LIST

Position	Name	Email
Club President	David Clark	davidc@northshoreunited.org
Club Director of Coaching	Joe Hammes	joeh@northshoreunited.org
Club Administrator	Melissa Kunz	melissak@northshoreunited.org
Recreational Director	Andrew Wiedabach	andrew@northshoreunited.org
U11-U14 Select Director	Shannon Smyth	shannons@northshoreunited.org
Academy Director	Mick Collins	mickc@northshoreunited.org
U6/Micro Director	Abdul Oke	okefox10@gmail.com
Spirit Wear	Sue Blizzard	sueblizzard@gmail.com
Referees	Kyle Trimble	kyle@wisref.org

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO
ENJOYING THE BEAUTIFUL
GAME WITH YOU!**

