



CLUB INFORMATION

Where is the PFC office located, and what are the club's administration hours?

The Pickering Football Club is in the Pickering Soccer Centre located at 1975 Clements Road in Pickering (*south of Bayly, between Brock Road and Church Street*) in the Region of Durham.

Our office hours are shown at the bottom of each page of this website.

Appointments are required outside of office hours.

How can I contact PFC?

You can reach us by visiting the Pickering Soccer Centre during office hours, calling the office, or by sending emails or faxes. A club directory can be found on our website at www.pickeringfc.ca by clicking [here](#).

Staff contact information is as follows: Phone: 905-831-9803 Fax: 905-239-0067

If the call is unanswered, you will be directed to a voice mailbox to leave a message.

Volunteering - How can I help PFC?

There are many areas where we need assistance. Everything from coaching recreational teams to assisting at specific club events relies upon dedicated volunteers. We also have a program to provide opportunities for Community Service hours to students! You can indicate your interest in volunteering via the registration process.

Can I sponsor my child's team?

As a non-profit community club, we rely on community financial sponsorship as well as volunteerism to help us provide the diverse quality programs we offer to our youth. To get more details on how to sponsor and the benefits of sponsorship for your business or family, please click [here](#).

Can I coach my child's team?

Absolutely! Stop by the club house or go online and fill in the paperwork. If you are approved, you will require a police check (*typically, the cost will be covered by the PFC*).

How can I become a coach? Do I need experience?

You do not need to have coached before. Understanding of the game of soccer is an asset, but with the resources available at PFC including coaching clinics, other coaches, club staff and directors, and online assistance, you will do fine! Please visit our Coach-Manager Help page [here](#) for more info.

REGISTRATION

How do I register?

Registration can be done online or in person at the clubhouse during office hours.

Appointments are required outside of office hours.

Please ensure that your contact information (*phone number and email address*) are always kept current with PFC. When registering, you can update this information as required. Email is the preferred method of communication with our families, by both the team coaches and the club itself.

When does Registration Open?

Registration generally opens for the Summer Outdoor programs (*both competitive and recreational*) in late January/early February.

Registration for the Indoor programs begins shortly after the Outdoor season concludes with the Year End tournaments.

Watch for announcements on the website, as well as the calendar of events for updates on registration dates.



What is the last day to register for the Recreational Outdoor Season?

Registration spots are available on a first-come first-served basis and are subject to space availability. Providing spots are available, mid-May is usually the cut-off date to register online for the Recreational Outdoor Season, and we often have waiting lists.

What are the playing nights for 2022 for Recreational Outdoor Soccer?

Watch for announcements on the website, and the calendar of events for updates on registration dates and program info.

Determine the player's division using the player's year of birth and gender (G=girl, B=boy), then consult the playing nights for that division displayed on the Recreational Outdoor page.

Is registration only for the Summer Outdoor program?

Online registration is available for almost all of our program offerings. Due to the diversity of our offerings, there are several different registration times in a calendar year. For example, registration for Summer Outdoor usually begins in January/February. Registration for Summer Camp takes place later in the spring, and registration for Winter Indoor usually starts in October, soon after the Summer Outdoor program concludes. Typically, you will see a notification that a program registration has begun on our home page.

How can I pay the registration fees?

Online registrations can be done using Visa or MasterCard. Registrations at the clubhouse may be done via cash, debit, money order, Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. *PLEASE NOTE: Personal cheques are NOT accepted!*

All Competitive registration fees must be done online.

When do the fees increase?

RECREATIONAL: We are pleased to offer "Early Bird" rates that will enable you to ensure a spot on a team at the lowest possible price of the season. However, don't delay, the Early Bird opportunity will expire at the end of March 2022!

Recreational programs NOT subject to increases: All Abilities / U18 / Co-Ed / Sunday Rec Women / DSL Women

NOTE: Prices go up at midnight on March 31st, and we may have extended office hours the regular business day prior to the increase.

What is the club's Refund Policy?

Recreational:

All refunds will be subject to:

- An administrative fee, as set by the program budget,
- Any non-refundable DRSA/OS/League registration fees applicable to the participant, and
- Pro-rated game/training fees where applicable.

To view the full Refund Policy in the PFC Policy Manual, please click [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: Game/Practice nights are subject to change.

Competitive:

All refunds must be requested through the office (admin-comp@pickeringfc.ca) and require approval of the appropriate Director and Coach. Submit competitive refunds via a "[Request to Modify a Registration](#)" form. Include an "[Ontario Soccer De-Registration](#)" form as well.

How does the multi-player (family) discount work?

Families with three (3) or more registered players (in either Recreational or Competitive) in a given season are eligible for a discount equal to a \$50.00 rebate per family.



The \$50 discount is NOT automated in the registration payment process for the Recreational division and is NOT deducted from your total. You must complete the Rebate Request Form on our website (The Club / Forms) after you have completed your registration to request your rebate.

Family discounts for Recreational programs registrations for ONLY a full season registration. Mini-seasons will not qualify for rebates.

Should the three family registrations include both Recreational and Competitive program participants, please contact memberservices@pickeringfc.ca.

NOTE: Summer Camp or All Star registrations are NOT eligible as additional program registrations.

The online registration doesn't look the same as before. How come?

Since 2019, PFC has been using Sports Engine as our registration software, and as such, all members are required to create a new account in order to register online. At the initial setup, you will create your new account with your specific information. Please record the email and password you have used for future logins.

If you forget your password at a future date, there is a "forgot password?" link. Click there and the information will be sent to you via email.

If you change your email address in the future, please remember to update your account prior to attempting a future registration.

When are registration receipts issued?

Receipts are issued (at the office or online) once payment has been received. Please retain receipts as they may be used for tax purposes. Re-prints are subjected to a \$10 fee per copy.

DURING THE SEASON

When does the Recreational Outdoor Season start and end?

At this point, the Recreational Outdoor Season is targeted to start around the long weekend in May and will run until approximately the second week of September.

What does each player receive once registered?

Each player receives a full uniform kit (jersey, shorts & socks), photo and a participation gift. Players aged U3-U12 also receive an individual soccer ball.

What equipment is mandatory?

It is mandatory that all soccer players (including goal keepers), regardless of age, gender, or ability, wear shin guards/pads. Proper soccer shoes (cleats) are not mandatory, but to avoid slipping, they are highly recommended.

The equipment rule specific to jewellery, that each player/parent must be aware of, is as follows:

NO JEWELLERY IS TO BE WORN WHILE PLAYING A GAME AND IS TO BE REMOVED PRIOR TO THE START OF THE GAME. COVERING JEWELLERY WITH TAPE IS NOT PERMITTED AT ALL. If a player has just recently had a piercing done, rest assured that removing the jewellery for 1-2 hours will not cause the holes to close up. If the jewellery cannot be removed, he/she MUST bring this to the attention of the referee who will make a decision with or without the assistance of the coaches who are present.

What should we bring to each game?

Wear your complete uniform. It is important that your player bring plenty of water (considered the best for children) to the game regardless of the weather.

Note: As the province recovers from the Covid-19 pandemic, we require all players to provide their own water bottles, and equipment. Bags/backpacks MUST be clearly labelled. Masks and hand sanitizer for each player should be provided by their family. PFC will adhere to all regional and provincial health mandates as it pertains to physical distancing and masking.



Pickering Football Club has instituted a healthy snack policy. Regardless of whether or not your child's coach or team parents supply a snack at practices, games or tournaments, please remember that it is in the best interest of your athlete to consume healthy snacks before, during, and after games.

At the younger age groups, players receive a training or practice soccer ball. Please ensure your child takes their soccer ball to each and every practice. It is not necessary to take their own ball to the games, but the coach counts on the players each having a ball at practice. To avoid losing the ball, please use a marker to note your child's initials (not full name) and/or number on their ball.

How are the teams made up?

The Pickering Football Club uses Sports Engine, a leading sports software, to build teams with the primary focus of keeping each age division balanced. The system takes into account player skill levels that are entered from player ratings provided by coaches from the previous seasons – both outdoors and indoors.

In order to provide ALL of our members with the best soccer experience, we discourage “play with” requests.

If you are willing to “pay it forward” in an effort to have a “play with” request accommodated and confirmed, you can:

- Coach a Team – coach your child plus get one additional “pick”, either a player or adult helper (and their child)
- Sponsor a Team – for \$500.00 place your child plus one “pick” on the team you sponsor, PLUS receive a tax receipt, marketing opportunities and be recognized as a community leader!

~~For an Administrative Fee of \$50—applicable to each player and with the consent of both parties—you may request your child and one friend play together. This request may not be combined with any other special request, and we will return the fee if we are unable to accommodate the request. We cannot guarantee any “play with” requests due to the size of the program and the balancing requirements.~~

Note – As we all recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, the Club wants to help parents encourage players to return to play by playing with a friend. In a good will gesture, the \$50 administrative “play with” fee is waived for 2022 Outdoor Season.

We live close to a soccer field. Can my child play their games/practices there?

No, unfortunately not. With close to 3,000 recreational players, schedules are not based on residency.

When will schedules be available?

Schedules will be available online approximately one week before the Recreational Outdoor Season is targeted to start.

When will players be notified as to what team they are assigned to?

Players will be notified by their assigned team coach roughly one week before the targeted start date.

I haven't received a call from my child's coach yet ... what should I do?

Not all coaches receive their roster information at the same time, nor do they have personal schedules that enables them to contact their players immediately upon receipt of the roster. Please be patient, and check the website while you are waiting to hear from someone! Also, make sure YOUR contact information is kept up to date so that you can be contacted.

Recreational schedules are posted on the site approximately one week prior to the season start. Please go [here](#) to see the schedules by age division.

For 2021, the club is making every effort to contact each family by email to indicate which team (by Sponsor Name and jersey colour) that your child has been assigned to. In the event that your child's coach has been unable to contact you (*email is the preferred method of contact so please ensure that we have your correct email address*), you will know what time and what location applies to your son's/daughter's team.

When is picture day?

Recreational teams will be having pictures taken on [date to be advised] at the Pickering Soccer Centre. A schedule will be provided once the season gets underway. Competitive teams will also be photographed on these dates, with details to be arranged on a team by team basis.



When are the Year-End Tournaments?

- Micro Fest for U3-U8 is typically scheduled for August 27, 2022.
- Senior Year End for U18 will take place September 10, 2022.
- Youth Year End for U9-U16 will be held September 10, 2022.
- Year End for Women's Rec will be held September 18, 2022.

How will we know when games are cancelled due to bad weather?

Field closures will be posted on the club website (www.pickeringfc.ca) on the Facilities page (accessed directly using a link on the home page). Decisions regarding closures will be posted by 4 p.m. daily at the latest. You may also receive a phone call or an email from your coach indicating that a game is cancelled, but it is each player's responsibility to check the website.

Rain alone does NOT constitute bad weather! Games could be cancelled due to lightning, field conditions – including extreme saturation, flooding, or extreme heat.

If at 4 p.m. fields are listed as OPEN but weather worsens, go to the assigned field and the Referees and Coaches will determine if games are cancelled. If the game is NOT cancelled and a team is short of players, the game will be forfeited.

What should I do if my son/daughter is injured playing soccer during the season?

Please ensure you advise your child's coach. The coach will complete a form and ensure that the club is aware of what happened and the condition of your child.

Serious injuries may require follow-up medical care; each PFC player is covered by Ontario Soccer Player insurance. For information on coverage and how to file a claim, click [here](#).

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Can players request to be placed on a specific team?

It is difficult for the Club to manage team requests based on the need to effectively balance teams, and as such, we cannot accept requests to be on a specific team.

At the same time, we understand that there can be issues getting children to/from their activities in today's busy society.

For a "play with" request to be accommodated and confirmed, you can:

- Coach a Team – coach your child plus get one additional "pick", either a player or adult helper (and their child)
- Sponsor a Team – for only \$500.00 place your child plus one "pick" on the team you sponsor, PLUS receive a tax receipt, marketing opportunities and be recognized as a community leader!

For an Administrative Fee of \$50 – applicable to each player and with the consent of both parties – you may request your child and one friend play together. ~~This will not be applicable to requests to play on a specific team.~~ This request may not be combined with any other special request, and we will return the fee if we are unable to accommodate the request. We cannot guarantee any "play with" requests due to the size of the program and the balancing requirements.

Note – As we all recover from the Covid-19 pandemic, the Club wants to help parents encourage players to return to play by playing with a friend. In a good will gesture, the \$50 administrative "play with" fee is waived for 2022 Outdoor Season.

I have 2 children very close in age. Can the younger child play on the same team with his/her brother/sister?

Pickering Football Club policy is that players should play with their own age group as much as possible. It would be unfair to turn away a player who legitimately belongs in an age group as a result of taking a younger player.

However, if there are reasons deemed legitimate for the "play up" request, the program administrator and/or the Director of Soccer Operations may elect to interview the player and parent and make a determination.

Occasionally, rather than leave players on waiting lists, we may move players up when a division is full and the next higher division needs additional players. This is only done at the club's discretion and parents must confirm approval via a waiver.

NOTE: A registration cannot be accepted that is dependent on this or any other condition.



I have a child with special needs. Can you accommodate us?

Pickering Football is very proud of our All Abilities program. Please click [here](#) for details on what we offer.

Can a child play soccer if they wear prescription eye glasses?

Yes. Please invest in an elastic strap to secure the eye glasses to the players' head. It is ultimately up to the discretion of the referee at each game to make a call on whether or not to allow the player to play, having made his/her decision on whether the non-sanctioned "equipment" poses a significant risk to those involved in the game.

Prescription eyeglasses will be allowed by the officials if they are deemed to be "safe", however, it is still up to the referee at the game to make a final decision. A referee may choose to "warn" a coach/player/parent of the inherent risks associated with wearing the glasses in this type of sport and then let the child play. Another referee may decide that it would be unsafe for the player and those around them. Most referees will allow players with eyeglasses, but some won't allow it.

Competitive level players will require sanctioned sport safety glasses.

Can a child play soccer while they are in a cast?

All casts - particularly hard casts - won't be allowed by a referee. It's not just about potentially hurting other players, it's also about the player in the cast getting hurt more in the event of a fall or collision.

Can a child play soccer using a knee brace?

Yes, but a hard knee brace must be covered by the proper sleeve. Soft knee braces are also allowed. As with any equipment outside of the standard kit, please remember, it is ultimately at the discretion of the referee.

VACATIONS

We are planning an extended vacation this summer. Should I still register my son/daughter?

We do not offer discounts to those players who will not be able to attend the entire program. We will however provide equal playing time to all those recreational players who are in attendance during the season. As with any team sport, a commitment to the team – consistent attendance at games and practices – is beneficial to the team as a whole.

Please ensure you advise your coach about absences from games and/or practices!

Our children are registered in other sports/activities over the summer that may conflict depending on their schedules. Should I still register my son/daughter?

You are making a commitment (on behalf of your child) to be at practices and games on a consistent basis (with the exception of vacation time). To aid with scheduling, we provide you with a schedule as early as possible in the season highlighting games, practices and other important dates. It is possible that changes to these schedules may be necessary once we know how many players have registered for each of the divisions. If you register and then later withdraw (before the deadline) you will be charged the administrative fee.

Please ensure you advise your coach about absences from games and/or practices!