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# **Caddo Bossier Soccer Association/ Shreveport United Soccer Club**

Recreational Parent/Player Handbook 2025-2026

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# Dear Players and Parents:

Thank you for your interest in the CABOSA/SU Soccer Club. We are proud of our program and feel that we have much to offer to you and to the game of soccer.

This booklet contains information about the Club that you will want to read.

- Cost and financial assistance information
- Player and Parent Code of Conduct
- Other useful information

Please read everything carefully before you commit to registering. If you have any questions, please contact our club staff.

Sincerely,

Gary McCormick Executive Director CABOSA/Shreveport United

# **Mission Statement**

The mission of Caddo Bossier Soccer Association and the Shreveport United Soccer Club is to provide every child that desires, the opportunity to play soccer regardless of skill level; foster an enduring love for soccer in our players, long after they have left youth sports; teach fair play, self-confidence, leadership, good citizenship and skills in a team environment; and to develop individual and team skills of players through high quality training and coaching.

# **Core Values**

# COMMITMENT



100% All In Set Goals and be Relentless Embrace the Process and Own Your Development

# CHARACTER



This is Who You Are Be Kind, Honest, and Loyal while Developing Grit, Resilience, and Self Discipline.

# INTEGRITY



Your Code of Ethics Play Hard and Play to Win While Honoring the Rules and the Spirit of the Game

# sportsmanship



Show Consideration for Others Be a Good Example and Project a Positive Attitude in Both Victory and Defeat

# RESPECT



It Starts With You, Be Accountable, Be Coachable, Be a Good Teammate Appreciate Your Opportunities Value your Opponents and Officials

#### The Organization

## CADDO BOSSIER SOCCER ASSOCIATION AND

SHREVEPORT UNITED SOCCER is a nonprofit, youth sports organization having the primary objective of teaching sportsmanship, discipline, leadership, teamwork and physical conditioning through the playing and promotion of soccer. The Club provides facilities, training, administration and support to more than 3,000 youth participants ranging from ages 4U to 19U years old, from Shreveport, Bossier and surrounding areas. CABOSA/SU programs meet the needs of youth athletes at both the recreational and competitive levels. We offer play based upon interest and ability for anyone who enjoys soccer.

CABOSA/SU, along with its players and teams are approved and accredited members of the Louisiana Soccer Association (LSA). LSA and its member associations are affiliated with the United States Youth Soccer Associations (USYS).

CABOSA/SU Recreational program for players 4U through 19U, Center of Excellence for 6U-12U, Academy program for 8U, 9U and 10U, and Classic programs for players 11U to 19U, along Adult Leagues 18U+ and our Men's and Women's GCPL Teams (amateur/semi-pro soccer).

## The Community

The Club recognizes that youth sports touch the largest number of people in our community. We believe it is crucial that we provide the facilities and the level of training to help our children realize their potential as players, students, and contributing member of their community.

# **CABOSA/SU Board of Directors:**

Check our website for the latest contact information for our <u>Board of Directors</u>.

# Club Directors & Administrative Staff:

Executive Director: Gary McCormick 318-861-5920;

GaryMcCormick@cabosa.org

Recreational Director: Alexis Hobbs 318-861-5920

AlexisHobbs@cabosa.org

Recreational Administrator/Communications Coordinator: Tabatha

Matlock 318-861-5920; TabathaMatlock@cabosa.org

# **Communications**

#### Club Wide:

- Website <u>www.cabosa.org</u> please visit this site. It will have up-to-date information about all club activities.
- "Club Message" Club emails during the season through Gotsport. Updated Email Addresses Required.
- Facebook page: CABOSA/Shreveport United.
- Correspondence from team coach and/or manager.

Communication channels: Use the following contacts to properly direct your communication:

- Specific team/player-related administrative issues: Tabatha Matlock.
- All soccer issues/Schedules (training, coaching, etc.) Alexis Hobbs

# **Contact Information**

Alexis Hobbs - Alexis Hobbs @cabosa.org

Tabatha Matlock - tabathamatlock@cabosa.org

Office: 318-861-5920 Office fax: 318-861-5922

Office location: 3837 Gilbert Drive, 71104

Shreveport, LA.

#### **GENERAL**

#### **Uniforms:**

A new club uniform is generally selected every other year, as manufacturer changes in uniform designs make it difficult for the club to keep uniform style longer than 2 years. CABOSA allows the use of previous season CABOSA jerseys as long as they are BLUE and WHITE. New jerseys must be purchased through our current vendor, Score sports, from <a href="https://scoresports.com/estore/cabosa/">https://scoresports.com/estore/cabosa/</a>

CABOSA recommends black shorts and black socks to complete the CABOSA official uniform.

## **Poor Weather Games Policy:**

Every effort is made to hold games as scheduled; in the event of inclement weather the following procedures will be used:

CABOSA/SU will update our parents and players about possible cancellations via one of the following two methods (email & schedule). A decision to close the Cargill Park soccer fields will be made by 3pm daily (midweek games); weather at 3pm may not be the same at 5pm or 8pm, sometimes resulting in a later notification. Check the schedule for updates accordingly. For weekend games a decision to close the Cargill Park soccer fields will be between 6am-7am. For Field Status check emails and <a href="http://www.cabosa.org">http://www.cabosa.org</a>.

CABOSA/SU will update field status as each operating facility determines availability. Louisiana weather is unpredictable and may change rapidly which may result in late notification and/or on field decisions by the DOC's.

CABOSA/SU will provide a safe playing environment based on current and/or forecasted weather conditions. Lightning and proximity of storms will be a contributing factor to not play games, along with flooded and saturated fields. if a game is cancelled or postponed due to lightning, all players and parents must go to their cars immediately and wait for CABOSA/SU notification.

All CABOSA games are played at Cargill Soccer Complex in Shreveport. Games are played on Saturday starting at 9:00am a.m. games may be also scheduled for a Sunday after 1:30 p.m. Make-up games may be scheduled during the week after 5:30 p.m. Monday through Fridays.

# **Recreational Programs**

Guest Club Playing & Play-Up Policy: All Recreational Play ups will be at the discretion of the Recreational Director of Coaching "DOC". All Players wishing to guest play or train with other clubs/teams in other events/teams must have written approval (via email) from the club's DOC. CABOSA/SU registered players are not permitted to train/play with any other local clubs/Team. Any violation of these policies may result in removal from CABOSA/SU Program with no refunds.

Again, this league is designed for players that do not wish to play on a competitive travel team. Any Recreational Players or CABOSA/SU Teams wishing to participate in any other soccer activities (Tournaments, Other Leagues, etc.) other than CABOSA/SU recreational soccer must have written permission from CABOSA/SU DOC.

4U-14U Recreational (includes Middle School teams)

Teams are formed within age groups by birthdate, cut off July 31st. Players with August and September birthdays may request to play up with their school grade. This request must be noted when you register. Team placement is by prior season returning player guarantee, registration date, and school/neighborhood/zip code/parish. Any Recreational Players or Teams wishing to participate in any other soccer activities (Tournaments, Other Leagues, etc.) other than CABOSA/SU recreational soccer must have written permission from CABOSA/SU.

Late registration is on a space available basis only. Due to the *No Heading Rule all game formats of 4v4, 7v7 and 9v9 will not be permitted to head the ball.* 

#### 15U-19U Recreational High School League

This league is designed for players that do not wish to play on a competitive travel team but want to continue to develop their skills. Get your friends and teammates together from your high school teams and register for the recreational soccer season. We would like to have a team from every school!

## Recreational Adult League

The Adult League runs during the Fall, Spring and Summer seasons. Game format is 7v7 on a 50x80 field. Team Captain request an individual and we will place you on a team. Contact <a href="mailto:alexishobbs@cabosa.org">alexishobbs@cabosa.org</a> for more details.

# 7U-18U Youth Summer League

Games will be played June -July. Competitive and recreational players can play together on the same team. All games will be played at Cargill Park. We will try and play games during the week and avoid weekends when possible. Game times will be 6pm, 7pm, and 8pm so the weather will be cooler.

8U-10U, 7v7 with goalkeepers on fields. Two 25-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.

11U-19U, 7v7 with goalkeepers on fields. Two 30-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime.

If on a summer league team roster, this does not affect your roster position for the two main soccer seasons of fall and spring, if registered for fall/spring previous ending season.

# **Registration**

Use the age of your child before July 31, if you have any questions regarding your child's appropriate age group, see the Age Matrix under the 'Recreational Tab' on <a href="https://www.cabosa.org">www.cabosa.org</a>

Registration Fees: Fall 2025, 135.00 & Spring 2026 \$135.00

• U4-U19: \$135.00 (3% Debit/Credit Card Fee)

#### **DEADLINE:**

August 7th, 2025 (Fall Season)

January (TBA), 2025 (Spring Season)

Late Registration: \*\*space available basis only

All registrations are now submitted online!

**REFUND POLICY:** After Registering in the CABOSA/SU Recreational Program, all fees due or paid are non-refundable regardless of the reason for the player ceasing to participate.

There are two exceptions to this refund policy:

- 1. If a player provides documented proof of an injury that prevents them from playing for a full season.
- 2. A parent job relocation with a completed LSA Player Release form.

#### Force Majeure

By enrolling in the CABOSA/SU Recreational program, the parties agree that the Club shall not be liable for any failure or delay in the performance of its duties or obligations under the Recreational agreement to the extent such failure or delay is caused by a force majeure or an event beyond the Club's reasonable control. This includes, but is not limited to a fire, flood, Act of God, war, government action, act of terrorism, epidemic, pandemic, natural disaster or other major upheaval which renders performance of the Recreational contract impractical, illegal, impossible or otherwise inadvisable. In such an event, the Club's duties and obligations under the Recreational

contract shall be suspended until such time as the Club, in its sole discretion, determines that it may safely and ably resume performance. The Club shall provide notification of such a suspension by a reasonable time and method. During such a suspension the club may elect to operate on a distance-learning basis, may choose to alter the length of the Recreational year and may adopt an alternative schedule to complete the program goals.

Although our policy specifically states no refunds for pandemics, due to the recent events surrounding COVID-19 if there is a government shutdown due to Covid-19 for the Fall Season of 2024 the club will honor the schedule below regarding refunds -

- a) Play Suspended prior to <u>September 13<sup>th</sup></u>, <u>2025</u>, 70% Refund of the amount paid minus credit card fees charged: (30% Non-Refundable Amount Includes: Player Insurance, Background Checks, Field Maintenance, Administrative Costs).
- b) Play Suspended <u>September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, through September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025</u>: All Payment Accounts will be suspended and refunds will be prorated based on a method determined by the club.
- c) Play Suspended September 21st, 2025, or later No Refunds.

GOOD NEWS! You must only submit a birth certificate one more time! After your player is registered in *Gotsport* and has uploaded the player's birth certificate, we will no longer need it each season!!

#### TO REGISTER:

On the CABOSA/SU website, click on the appropriate program link. Example: Click Programs - Recreational, create an individual account. Note: If you pay online by credit card or debit card, there is an additional fee. Please upload a copy of your child's birth certificate as soon as you submit the online registration. Please ensure you click submit button on last page of registration.

Even after you register online, registration IS NOT COMPLETE until we receive payment AND a copy of your child's birth certificate has been uploaded in your child's *Gotsoccer* account by the registration deadline!

Financial assistance will be available. Regular attendance and effort at practices and games are required to continue to

receive financial assistance after the initial award. Financial assistance forms are available through the CABOSA/SU website.

**Teams are formed by the club**. Players can request to return to the same team during regular registration. Once late registration begins, we cannot guarantee placement. Generally, teams are formed by birth date (cut off is July 31st) and then by school/neighborhood/zip code/parish. CABOSA/SU reserves the right to adjust teams for balance when necessary.

**Training sites are determined by each coach.** Training is in various areas of Shreveport/Bossier close to players, neighborhoods or schools. 4U-6U teams can practice only once a week for one hour. 7U and older teams generally train once or twice per week, for an hour to an hour and a half.

**Volunteer coaches are always needed!** The foundation of the club is our volunteer coaches. They are the first, and often most lasting, impression kids have of our great game. CABOSA/SU offers several training opportunities, training tips, and licensing courses for coaches.

**Risk Management**- All individuals associated with a Recreational team must submit a background check, CDC and Safe Sport protocols by federal/state law annually. This includes Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, and all others participating in team administration, practices, and/or games. All CABOSA/SU Teams cannot be coached by coaches/organizations outside of CABOSA/SU without a background check, CDC and Safe Sport protocols by federal/state law and written permission of CABOSA/SU. By violating these provided guidelines, a disciplinary procedure will be implemented with regards to the applicable situation.

Once a background check has been submitted and approved, team officials can be added to the team and view the roster.

Any team official found in violation is subject to disciplinary action ranging from a two-game suspension to removal from the league.

We encourage coaching volunteerism, and we will support the coaches and help make that experience great for coaches; which in turn will make the experience great for the kids – our main priority!

Finally, as coaches we are always striving to provide the best possible coaching we can for the players. CABOSA/SU currently provides a detailed coaching curriculum for our recreational. It will identify key areas such as passing, dribbling, shooting and control. The main focus will be addressing the technical aspects of soccer.

Additional player training and playing opportunities are available:

*6U-14U Center of Excellence*:

Technical training by professional staff coaches, intended as a supplement to the training offered by our volunteer staff. Teams may use this session as one of the team's regular training sessions, if desired.

*8U-10U Academy*:

This program provides training from our professional coaching staff. The Academy is intended for the players and families who desire "more" than Recreational experience. This is a program which prepares players for Competitive play.

Private Training:

Please contact the CABOSA/SU office for details.

Camps/clinics:

Spring/Summer/Thanksgiving camps are great ways for kids to have fun and keep sharp during the break. CABOSA offers camps for ages 7 to 18. See website for details.

## **Coach Code of Conduct**

Set out below is the CABOSA/SU Code of Conduct which reflects the standards expected by the club. This code will form the benchmark for all involved in coaching.

- 1. Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of each person and treat each equally within the context of the sport.
- 2. I will always embrace and embody the club's cores values.
- 3. Coaches must place the wellbeing and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.
- 4. Coaches must adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies.
- 5. Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect.
- 6. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward.
- 7. Coaches must encourage and guide players to accept responsibility for their own behavior and performance.
- 8. Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of players.
- 9. Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with the players and where appropriate parents exactly what is expected of them and what they, as players, are entitled to expect from their coach.
- 10. Coaches must cooperate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sports scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the player.
- 11. Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (e.g. fair play), and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behavior contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or condone the use of prohibited substances or techniques.

- 12. Coaches must consistently display high standards of behavior and appearance.
- 13. Never use or tolerate inappropriate language.
- 14. Attend every practice and game reasonably possible and notify those involved when not able to attend. Only Risk Management certified coaches can coach/cover coach.
- 15. Provide a perspective on competition by stressing humble winning and graceful losing.
- 16. Provide each player a chance to play 50% of each game.

## **Player Code of Ethics**

While I am playing for a team in the CABOSA/Shreveport United Soccer Club, I will do the following:

- 1. I will do the best I can for my teammates and myself.
- 2. I will embrace and embody the club's cores values at all times.
- 3. I will remember that the game is supposed to be fun, and I will tell my coach and parents when it is not fun for me any longer.
- 4. I will be a good sport.
- 5. I will play by the rules.
- 6. I will ask my parents to help my coach when asked.
- 7. I will listen and learn from my coaches.
- 8. I will not lie to my coaches or officials.
- 9. I will be at every practice and game that I can and tell my coach when I cannot.
- 10. I will be responsible for my own actions.
- 11. I will not swear or use bad language.
- 12. I will try to do my very best at school.
- 13. I will be humble when we win and graceful if we lose.

## **Parent Code of Ethics**

CABOSA/SU has a zero-tolerance policy regarding negative parent behavior towards players, coaches, officials, and other parents. If we find a parent has been found using threatening and/or abusive words or actions we have the right to remove the related player(s) from our program, with no refund. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone.

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in the CABOSA/Shreveport United Soccer Club by following this Code of Ethics:

- 1. I will support the mission of the CABOSA/Shreveport United Soccer Club.
- 2. I will embrace and embody the club's cores values at all times.
- 3. I will remember good sportsmanship is not just for players and I will demonstrate a positive attitude toward all players, coaches, and officials.
- 4. I will encourage my child to always play by the rules.
- 5. I will remember the game is for my child and not for me.
- 6. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to participate.
- 7. I will try to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by being a respectful fan, providing transportation, or doing whatever else I am able to do.
- 8. I will not interfere with the coach's directions to my child's team.
- 9. I will notify the coach of my child's team about any family activities or disciplinary actions at home that would affect the team.
- 10. I will support the coach's efforts to provide a perspective on competition by stressing humble winning and graceful losing.
- 11. I understand that CABOSA/Shreveport United Soccer Club is a volunteer-based organization.

#### CABOSA/Shreveport United Soccer Sidelines & Field Code of Conduct

Purpose – The purpose of this Sidelines & Field Code of Conduct is to provide information, guidance, and an expectation to implement a safe, fun, and mutually respectful environment when interacting with all individuals involved on the soccer field. The goal is to support an enjoyable playing experience within CABOSA/Shreveport United (CABOSA/SU).

It shall be a violation of this Sidelines & Field Code of Conduct for any CABOSA/SU Soccer parents, family members, or spectators associated with teams at any soccer game or practice (before, during, or after) to do any of the following:

- 1. Verbally abuse, swear, use threatening gestures, intimidate, or make physical contact with or towards a referee, parent, player, coach, or spectator.
- 2. Entice or contribute to a sideline environment that violates this Code of Conduct.
- 3. Enter the field of play during a game, unless authorized by the referee.
- 4. Make inappropriate contact with a minor, including through the use of phone calls, email, and social media communication.
- 5. Create or contribute to an environment deemed unsafe for youth sports.
- 6. Use or have alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco at any CABOSA/SU event. This includes being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs at any CABOSA/SU event.

7.

The CABOSA/SU Soccer process to determine if violation has been committed is as follows:

Upon notification of a violation, the CABOSA/SU discipline committee will review all circumstances to determine if violation was committed. Committee members may communicate either by email, phone or in person any next steps and any level of discipline, if needed. Such review may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1. Referee reports
- 2. Coach interviews
- 3. Parent interviews
- 4. CABOSA/SU Staff interviews
- 5. Prior history of discipline or behavior
- 6. Video support & Written support

I understand what is prohibited as a parent, the process for review and that a failure to adhere to the CABOSA/SU Soccer Sidelines Code of Conduct Policy may result in my suspension or my child's removal from CABOSA/SU Soccer Club. By online registration you are accepting this agreement.

	_	
Print Name		Signature

#### Other Information of Interest.

<u>CABOSA/SU has a zero-tolerance policy</u> for negative parent behavior towards players, coaches, officials, and other parents. If you have been found using threatening and/or abusive words or actions we have the right to remove you from our program, with no refund. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone.

# **CABOSA/SU Home Tournament Policy:**

CABOSA/SU Teams may be accepted/invited based on prior results/records. Team placement in divisions and brackets is based on rankings and seeding as determined by the Tournament Director and the Tournament Committee. Specific Division applications are not accepted. Withdrawal due to disagreement with the placement will not entitle the team to any refund. Adjacent age groups may be grouped in the same division.

The Tournament Committee has the final say on the acceptance or denial of all team applications submitted for the event.

## **Communications Policy:**

<u>CABOSA/SU has a zero-tolerance policy</u> on negative parent communication towards any club management, players, coaches, officials, or other parents. If you have been found using threatening and/or abusive words through any communication platforms, verbal or otherwise (social media, Texts, Team-Snap, Group-Me, Emails etc.) we have the right to remove you from our program, with no refund. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone.

By registering online through *Gotsport*, you are agreeing/accepting CABOSA/Shreveport United rules and policies as stated above and have read the Recreational Handbook. We reserve the right to refuse service to anyone. By violating these provided guidelines, a disciplinary procedure will be implemented with regards to the applicable situation.