

BFC KICKS

Brookings Futbol Club

BFC Competitive Registration

For the U8 - U12 age groups registration is right around the corner. Not a lot has changed in the way we will be running our BFC competitive program. This year teams will be formed by "Birth Year" in accordance with our National Governing Body. There will be a lot of information on www.brookingfc.com including the on-line registration.

One major change is the NEW UNIFORMS. All players will have to purchase a new uniform this year. Our old uniforms are not produced any longer so we had to make a change. Hopefully you will be excited about the changes we have made. The Board worked hard to keep the cost reasonable and we are excited to see our NEW look on the courts and fields soon!



Select Registration is now OPEN!

Players born between 1998-2004 can now register for the Select program!

Please complete the **registration** form and mail to either location listed on the form. Ideally, if you live in or around Brookings, you will mail your form and payment to the Brookings office. Likewise, if you live in or around the Watertown community, you will mail your form and payment to the Watertown office.

Volunteer Points Season coming to an end

Competitive families remember that the VPS contract comes to an end November 30th. There are still some concessions slots to fill and there will be 2 Board Meetings that points can be earned. We don't have the details yet, but we will probably be adding a Fishback "Clean-Up" to earn some points as well. An updated list of points needed is listed on our web site www.brookingsfc.com. Checks will be cashed for un-worked points. If you have questions please contact pointsdirector@brookingsfc.com

Goals are still available

BFC recently purchased new U8 soccer goals. With the additional inventory of goals we are selling our old ones. We still have a few left. We are asking \$50 per goal. These are great for backyard training and games. They are heavy duty and can sit out in the weather if you are worried about storage. They measure approximately 4' X 6' and you will need a truck or trailer if you purchase one. Please contact Darin Weber @ dwebbfc@hotmail.com if you are interested.

After the deadline we will know how many players are registered and the specific age groups and then we will be able to send additional information on the following:

- Parent/Player meeting
- Practice schedule
- Assigned coaches
- Uniforms
- Events

If you have any questions, please reach out to any one of the below emails:

Teresa Conrad – vpcompetitive@brookingsfc.com

Sheri Heinz – administrator@brookingsfc.com

Kelly Roby – director@watertownsoccer.com

Brock Thompson –

technicaldirector@brookingsfc.com

Jason Bartels – arrowssoccer@gmail.com

SELECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Are we still partnering with Watertown/Brookings?

A: Yes. Both organizations support the philosophy of Select. As individual clubs, we do not have the numbers to support teams within the appropriate age groups. Collectively, we are able to do this, providing players with an experience that allows them to develop within their appropriate age group.

Q: Are there tryouts?

A: No. We will build training pools based on registrations (most likely every 2 age groups). How teams are determined will depend on number of players registered.

Q: Is Select the only option for players born between 1998 – 2004?

A: For competitive soccer, yes Select is the only option.

BFC and WYSA will each offer league options in their community for those that do not wish to travel.

Q: Will my son/daughter play with their teammates from last year?

A: Yes and no. In the past, the age matrix was from August to July. US Youth Soccer has changed the age matrix to birth year. We will be following the new guidelines and grouping teams by birth year first.

Q: Do I have to pay the entire Select fee if I only want to play in the winter?

A: Yes.

Q: Do I have to pay the entire Select fee if I just want to play in the spring and summer?

A: Yes.

Q: Where are the trainings held?

A: There will be two practices per week; one in Watertown and one in Brookings. Date and time to be determined.

Q: Do I have to attend every practice?

A: It is not required that a player attends every practice, however, it only hinders player development by not attending. It is understood that conflicts will arise; open communication with coaching staff prior to missing training is requested.

Q: Is this for more Elite players?

A: This is for players who want to focus on a higher level of training and be exposed to events of a higher caliber.

Q: How much playing time will each player receive?

A: All players will receive meaningful playing time. Playing time above and beyond is based on effort put forth in training and games.

Q: My son/daughter wants to participate in Select but also wants to play 'X' sport (X= basketball, gymnastics, baseball, track, etc.); can they do both?

A: We support and encourage multi-sport athletes, so yes playing both soccer and 'X' sport would work. We hope that your child would make soccer practices and training sessions when available. All we ask is that your child communicates his/her conflicts and attends when they are able to.

Q: Is the uniform fee included in the training fee?

A: No.

Q: What is the uniform cost?

A: \$75 – uniform kit will include 2 jerseys (white and black), white short, 2 socks (white and black). Uniform information will be distributed after registration is closed.

Q: If my player has a uniform from the previous year, can they still wear it this year?

A: Yes.

Q: Can I pass down a uniform to a younger player?

A: Jerseys (shirts) may not be passed down to due to small change in uniform crest and potential number conflict. Shorts and socks can be passed down.

Q: How are the events offered?

A: Events– events will be identified and rostered in one of three ways.

1. Selectionbasedevents–thetopkidsfromthetrainingpoolwillbechosen or invited. Or in the case of indoor, everyone may be placed on a team but the teams will be tiered.
2. Balanced–teamswillbebalancedbasedonability.
3. Communitybased–teamswillberosteredbykeepingplayersfromthe home community together.

Q: What are the events?

A: The events will be distributed soon. We will try and offer one event per month.

Q: When will we have a parent meeting?

A: The parent night will be held after registration is closed. Time and Date TBD. The purpose of this meeting is for coaches to cover player expectations, parent expectations, review events and collect payments.



FALL LEAGUE

Over 350 kids are participating in our Fall League program out at the Fishback Soccer Park. It's a flurry of activity throughout the week for our league participants, many who are new to soccer. We can't thank our sponsors, coaches, referees, or our BFC staff enough for the hard work that goes into running our leagues throughout the year.

Below you will find an article that I always think is appropriate as we enter into "Playing" season. These tips are great for new families but also are a good reminder for experienced fans of all ages. Please remember that BFC is an organization that tries to focus on player, coaching and referee development. Nobody wins when there is negative comments or negative cheering - and always remember "LITTLE EARS" are listening. Let's have a great Fall League - good luck, and have FUN!

Parent Tips: Sideline Etiquette

Sideline etiquette: 6 tips to make youth soccer better for parents and players

When playing in a game, youth soccer players' minds are focused on making split-second decisions as they maneuver around and survey the field.

Every once in a while, however, a player's attention may be drawn to his or her hyper parent yelling instructions or making a scene from the sideline. While parents' actions may simply be the result of wanting the best for their child, their behavior can have a negative effect on their young athlete's enjoyment of the game.

US Youth Soccer spoke to Dave Carton, the director of coaching for Discoveries SC in Rock Hill, S.C., to hear his opinion on some areas in which many parents could improve their sideline etiquette. Carton is no stranger to addressing adults on how to act while at games, and a letter he sent to parents of his club that cited their improper behavior was featured on the US Youth Soccer Coaches Blog.

1. Avoid 'coaching' from the sideline while watching your child's game

A common problem in youth soccer is the impulse parents have to shout instructions to their young player from the sideline. It's especially difficult for a child because he or she has a tendency to refer to what a parent says, which often conflicts with the instruction from the coach. Carton said parents should imagine being in a room and having multiple people yelling instructions at them in order to see the confusion it could cause a child.

"Another thing about yelling instructions is that the tone a parent yells with is typically a lot more aggressive than the coach," Carton said. "The coach is instructing with a teaching mentality. 'This is what we have to do to improve. This is part of the process to get better and improve your level of play.'"

"The instructions that the parents are yelling have an immediacy to it. They want it done now because they want the gratification of the instant result. It's conflicting with what the coach is trying to do."

2. Do not criticize the referee

Carton said this is an epidemic, and spectators should realize that referees are people and will make mistakes — even those officiating at the highest levels of play. When parents go after a referee for what they perceive as a mistake, it begins to make the game about the adults rather than the kids.

“A referee is ideally going to make an objective decision on what he or she sees. A parent is going to interpret that same situation through the prism of the team that their child plays on,” Carton said. “If it’s a decision that goes against their team, they’re automatically going to have a subjective view on it.

“The problem comes when there is an aggression to how the parents react to that. The bigger problem is when the child sees that, the child thinks it’s accepted. Parents need to remember they always need to be a model for their child.”

3. Focus on the benefits of the game rather than the score

Far too often parents worry about the numbers formed by illuminated lights on a scoreboard rather than the experience their child has while playing youth sports. Carton said parents are naturally from an older generation in which there was a larger focus on the result of a game. While it’s natural for everyone to want to win, he said parents need to keep focus on the larger picture.

“It’s natural instinct to want to win. The key thing is to keep things in perspective,” Carton said. “If we didn’t win, how can we go into the next game to improve on what we did wrong? Coaches talk about the development process, and losing is part of that process. If your team always wins, their mentality won’t be able to handle setbacks. It’s a big part of a child’s development.”

He went on to talk about a hypothetical 1-0 loss.

“Very few of the parents are asking their child if they had fun today. The child will take the parent’s reaction to the result of the game as the norm. They’ll then relate their experience to the result of the game, which is really counterproductive.

4. Think when interacting with opposing fans

“This is one that should be common sense. Grown adults should be able to go and enjoy their child’s experience without having any confrontation,” Carton said. “We get that at our club, too. We always say, ‘Don’t forget, you’re not just representing the club, you’re representing your child. The way you’re acting right now — if you could see yourself through the eyes of your child, what would you think of yourself? Why are you making a public spectacle over a U-11 girl’s soccer game? Are you proud of what you’re doing right now? Would you allow your child to act like this?’”

5. Don’t stress out over the game

Do you find yourself pacing up and down the sideline — anxiously following the action as it unfolds on the field? Stop it. Breathe.

“Just calm down. Enjoy it. Stop being so attached to it. It’s not your game,” Carton said. “Don’t base your enjoyment or happiness on what is going on out there.

“Look at your child. Is he having fun? Is he active? Is he enjoying the social nature of the game? Is he getting as much out of this experience as he can? Don’t worry about the rest of it. Some parents just give themselves aneurysms pacing up and down the line. Keep perspective. There are more important things.”

6. Save issues with the coach for the next day

Maybe you don't agree with how much your child played in a game or another decision the coach made during the match. It's important to take some time to think about it rather than confronting the coach in front of your child and the team.

"Directly after the game, the parents should not approach the coach. It's an emotionally charged conversation and very little good can come from that," Carton said. "At that time, there's very little a coach can say that will make the parent feel any better. Go home. Talk to your family. Sleep on it. Get in touch the next day, whether it be by phone, email, or even going for a cup of coffee with the coach and asking for feedback.

"If the coach communicates well enough, the expectation should be there and the parent should understand the situation. If that's not the case, the parent is totally in his or her right to bridge that communication gap."

BROOKINGS FC

