

Frequently Asked Questions

Basic Information

Prairie Cities Soccer League (PCSL) is a noncompetitive league offering soccer to children ages 5 to 16. The League is a member of the American Youth Soccer Organization, a national organization for noncompetitive soccer where “everyone plays”. The PCSL policies are based upon the AYSO model and philosophies. Click on the AYSO logo on our home page for more information.

A season consists of 6 games in the fall and 6 games in the spring. The fall session starts approximately 1 week after school begins in August and continues for 7 weeks until mid October. It then starts up again in early April and goes for 7 weeks.

PCSL is a not-for-profit organization that relies primarily on volunteers. All of the coaches, Board Members and registration helpers are volunteers. The League requests that every participating family volunteer a few hours a year in support of the players.

Where

All games are played at the Prairie Cities Soccer League Complex located at the intersection of Ireland Grove Road and Towanda Barnes. The Complex has 20 soccer fields to accommodate the over 1800 players and their families and is maintained by league volunteers. The coach determines the practice location, frequency and times. Generally it takes place in your neighborhood park or school grounds and is in the early evening hours. The younger age divisions may practice once a week while the older players may practice twice a week.

When

Games are played on Saturday’s between 8 – 4 pm and some are on Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm. Practices times and location are up to the discretion of the coach. Generally they are once or twice per week, lasting 45 to 75 minutes depending on the player’s age group. They generally take place in the public parks or green space near your neighborhood.

Cost

The registration fee is \$85.00 per player for the 2010/2011 season. Late registration will cost an additional \$20.00 per player. The fee to register for the “Spring Only” or “Fall Only” season is \$55.00. In addition, on game days each player is required to be in uniform at a cost of approximately \$35.00. Scholarships for low-income families are available, just ask.

Uniforms

Uniforms include blue shorts, 1 yellow shirt and socks, and 1 blue shirt and socks. Uniforms can be purchased at Read’s Sporting Goods (812 IAA Dr.,

Bloomington, IL, 309-663-0355). Shin guards are required while soccer shoes are optional (football and/or baseball cleats are not allowed). The required uniform costs approximately \$35. It is recommended that each player bring the correct size soccer ball and water bottle to each practice.

<u>Age Division</u>	<u>Soccer Ball Size</u>
U6 – U8	3
U9 –U12	4
U14	5

Age requirements and Divisions

PCSL starts players in the Under 6 boys or girls age division (commonly referred to as the U6B or U6G division). Following are the age divisions that PCSL, under the AYSO guidelines, offer:

2010 – 2011 PCSL AGE DIVISIONS

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>BIRTHDATE</u>
UNDER 6 BOYS/GIRLS	K	08-01-04 TO 08-31-05
UNDER 7 BOYS/GIRLS	1	08-01-03 TO 07-31-04
UNDER 8 BOYS/GIRLS	2	08-01-02 TO 07-31-03
UNDER 9 BOYS/GIRLS	3	08-01-01 TO 07-31-02
UNDER 10 BOYS/GIRLS	4	08-01-00 TO 07-31-01
UNDER 12 BOYS/GIRLS	5/6	08-01-98 TO 07-31-00
UNDER 16/HIGH SCHOOL BOYS/GIRLS	7/HS	08-01-93 TO 07-31-98

Can my child play up or down an age division?

PCSL, under the guidelines of AYSO, base the age cut off similar to the schools. Children are placed on teams according to their birth date and not their grade level in school. A player is allowed to *play up* one age division. They may not play up more than one age division.

No child can *play down* to the next age division. The player's birth date is the sole determining factor with the stated exceptions:

1. A written request from a doctor indicating that your child has a medical reason necessitating them to play down an age group. The request should be submitted with the players registration form.
2. If your child was *born in the month of August they can play up or down a division. As a matter of fact, when you register your August child be sure to indicate what grade they are in school and what division you want them to play in.*

Team Formation

PCSL forms teams, to the extent possible, based on the neighborhood or area the player lives in. Additional factors determining a player's placement are the closest available volunteer coach, the school a child attends and when the player registered. If you register your child on time they are guaranteed a spot on a team as close to your home as possible. If you register late there are no guarantees that there will be space for your child or that your team assignment will be in your neighborhood.

Can I request a certain team or coach?

There is no designated spot on the registration form to accommodate special request because teams are not formed based upon requests. Only negative requests will be considered in team placement. That requires a written request submitted with your child's application citing the reasons why you do not want your child placed on a certain team. These requests are handled confidentially and should be delivered directly to the PCSL office. Inconvenient practice times, carpooling issues, school and player preferences or coach requests are not the criteria for which teams are formed.

Volunteering

PCSL is a not-for-profit organization that relies primarily on volunteers. All of the coaches, Board Members and registration helpers are volunteers. The League requests that every participating family volunteer a few hours a year in support of the players.

PCSL families are in the unique position of having a soccer complex that was created for recreational soccer. Your volunteer hours are what keep the Leagues fees at an affordable level. To continue the maintenance and growth of

the complex and service the families, volunteers are a critical part of our success. Volunteering is rewarding and fun!

Coach Training

PCSL has access to professional coach training through cooperation with Illinois Fusion Soccer and AYSO. For the fall 2010/spring 2011 season age- based training for all of the coaches will be offered. AYSO Safe Haven training is an AYSO requirement for all coaches. Coaches are given age appropriate training supplies including coaching manuals, balls and pennies. Coaches also have access to the Director of Coaching and Assistant Directors of Coaching with Illinois Fusion to assist them when needed. In addition, coaches will be able to check out visual and written training material in the Rodger Molano Library, a library in honor of the late Rodger Molano, a PCSL coach, who was a positive influence in many players' lives.

Mailing List & Solicitation

Prairie Cities Soccer League is bound by AYSO policy with respect to the privacy of the names and addresses of our participating families. PCSL does not sell or distribute the names, addresses or emails of our families and players. The use of names and addresses by PCSL in association with external organizations can only be approved by the PCSL Board on a case-by-case basis and should never be construed as any form of continuing authorization to reuse or transfer PCSL mailing list information.

If your family receives any promotional material in the mail that does not have an AYSO or PCSL return address and we are the only soccer organization you have registered with, please contact the office. No literature may be distributed, no advertisement placed and no solicitation may take place at the PCSL complex or it's entrance without prior Board approval.

Questions?

If you have further inquiries please contact us at: pcslsoccer@verizon.net or call 309-451-GOAL.