

Prairie Cities Soccer League

Basic Information

Prairie Cities Soccer League (PCSL) is a noncompetitive league offering soccer to children ages 4 to 18.

A season for U6 – HS consists of 6 games in the fall and 6 games in the spring. A season for U5 consists of 6 Fridays in the fall and 6 Fridays 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.

Games

All games are played at the **PCSL Complex** which is located at the intersection of Ireland Grove Road and Towanda Barnes at 3808 Ireland Rd, Blm. The Complex has 20 soccer fields to accommodate the over 1800 players. The U5 program meets on Friday nights at the PCSL Complex. U6 - HS games are played on Saturday's between 8 – 4 pm and some are on Tuesday nights at 5:30 pm.

Practices

The coach determines the practice location, frequency and times. Generally practices take place close to your location and is in the early evening hours. They are held once or twice per week, lasting 45 to 75 minutes depending on the player's age group.

Cost

The registration fee is \$95.00 per player and U5 is \$50 per player for the Fall/Spring season. Late Registration will cost an additional \$20.00 per player. The fee to register for the "Spring Only" or "Fall Only" season is \$60.00.

Reduced registration fees are available to those who fall within income guidelines. Contact the office for additional information.

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 \$40.

It is recommended that each player bring the correct size soccer ball and water bottle to each practice.

Age Division Soccer Ball Size

U6 – U8	3
U9 – U12	4
U14-High School	5

Age requirements and Divisions

Please see PCSL Age Division Chart for the current season at <http://www.pcslsoccer.org/registration/>

Can my child play up or down an age division?

PCSL age divisions are based 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. 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 location 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 once the team formation process has begun, there are no guarantees that there will be space for your child or that your team assignment will be in your location.

Can I request a certain team or coach?

Teams are not formed based upon requests. **We do not take requests for specific coach, team or teammate.** 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.

PCSL Refund Policy

The PCSL refund policy for the current season can be found at <http://www.pcslsoccer.org/registration>

No refunds are issued under any circumstances after August 1 when teams are formed.

The PCSL Board and staff take great care in organizing teams, but cannot guarantee:

- The specific coach, team or teammates desired or with previously'
- Practices scheduled on days that don't interfere with other activities

Refund requests following these guidelines should be made in writing to League@pcslsoccer.org. Please allow up to 30 days for processing.

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 League's 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 and Education

- **Coaches Meeting**. This is a pre-season meeting held every year in early August. Here you will receive information for the upcoming season including league policies, changes in rules, and discussion of pertinent coaching topics. It's at this meeting that you'll pick up your team roster and get your team's equipment.
- **Coach and Player Clinics and Classes**. These opportunities are offered throughout the year covering a range of topics for coach and player development. The topics and dates will be announced at the coaches meeting.
- **Practice Plans**. All coaches are encouraged to use the practice plans provided by the PCSL on the website. These plans are easy to use, and are developed by professional coaches. An investment of 10-15 minutes prior to every practice will be time well spent to prepare and implement fun and effective sessions!
- **Articles**. From time to time, pertinent articles will be provided on the PCSL web Page. These will include topics in youth development, psychology, athletic development, nutrition, fitness/conditioning, and topics of interest to parents.

Mailing List & Solicitation

Prairie Cities Soccer League will respect 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 a 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: office@pcslsoccer.org or call 309-451-GOAL(4625).