



# Port Moody Soccer Club

## 2009-2010 Frequently Asked Questions

### Who runs the Port Moody Soccer Club?

The Port Moody Soccer Club is run almost entirely by volunteers; with the exception of one paid part-time Executive Director. Volunteers do everything from coaching, to hanging nets to running the concessions. **For this reason, all families are asked to volunteer in some capacity.** Individual teams need a Coach, Assistant Coach, and help with providing oranges, planning events, etc. Please step forward when your coach asks for help!

### When does the soccer season start?

The season runs from early September through to mid March with a one-month break during Christmas. Teams playing in the higher age categories may start practicing earlier and may play later in the year depending on how well they do in League Cup and Provincial Cup play.

### How old does my child have to be to play soccer?

Registration in the youth program is open to boys and girls aged 4 to 17. The U6 Boys (Micro Mini) and the U6 Girls age groups are for children aged 4 and 5 – these are the only divisions based on a 2-year age bracket. Children aged 6 and over play in 1-year age groups - referred to as U7 (Under 7) through U18 (Under 18). The cutoff for determining age is December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year in which the season starts. For example, a child born in 2001 will turn 8 sometime in 2009 and is therefore classified as U9 for the 2009-2010 playing season.

### Do I have to live in Port Moody for my child to join?

There is no restriction on residency for players in the U6-U10 divisions. For players in the U11-U18 divisions the one restriction is that each team can have a maximum of 3 players who reside outside of the playing district. Our Boys teams play in the Westminster District which includes Port Moody, Coquitlam and New Westminster. Our Girls teams play in the North District which includes Port Moody, Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, New Westminster, Burnaby, Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.

### What equipment does my child need to play soccer?

Players must provide their own properly fitting soccer boots and shin guards. These can be purchased at most sports stores, such as Soccer Express on Barnet Highway. For younger kids, good used equipment can be found at stores such as Sports Junkies or at swap meets. The registration fee includes a **new uniform** (jersey, shorts, and socks) **that is yours to keep** at the end of the season.

### Who will my child play with?

The club runs separate programs for boys and girls from U6 through U18. Girls may be placed on a Boys team at the request of the parent or guardian. This is usually limited to the U6-U10 age groups and is often due to scheduling as Boys teams play on Saturdays and Girls teams play on Sundays. However, **boys will be boys, and cannot play on a Girls team.** When registering a female player please make sure you select the correct program.

The U6 Boys (Micro Mini) and U6 Girls divisions are often the first foray into organized soccer for both the player and parents, and are therefore geared towards making soccer enjoyable with small teams. Where possible, teams are formed with children from the same neighbourhood. From U7 to U10 the player's skill level grows, however, soccer is still *non-competitive* in these age groups and consideration is given to both balanced teams as well as neighbourhood groupings. Please be sure to specify the desired neighbourhood on your registration form.

The U11 and U12 divisions are referred to as Super 8 divisions (8 players on the field per team). These are transitional divisions, with the first introduction to teams chosen based on skill level. At the discretion of the club, one or more teams may be chosen to play in the Select and/or Development level leagues. Additional teams will play in the house leagues.

From U13 to U18 team formation is based strictly on skill level. Teams are registered through BCSA at the Select/Metro, Development, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Red levels. Tryouts are held in April and May to evaluate each player's skill level for the advanced teams except for Boys Red teams and Girls Silver teams which are considered open teams. The number of teams formed will depend on the number of players registered at each skill level.

### When will I know what team my child is on?

Teams are formed after all player registrations, coaching applications and skill evaluations are completed. For the higher level teams this will be right after tryouts. For the house level teams this will be in late August or early September. In either case you will be contacted by the coach of the team your child is placed on before September 1<sup>st</sup>.

### What nights are practices?

House level teams practice once per week. Older teams may practice twice per week. The U6 Boys (Micro Mini) division will either practice on Monday nights from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm outdoors under the lights at our Heritage Woods Secondary artificial turf field or ½ hour before their game on Saturdays. The U6-U8 Girls and the U7-U8 Boys divisions practice indoors in school gyms between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm. The availability of individual gyms is not known until late in the year and practice times and locations cannot be guaranteed. The U9-U18 Boys and Girls divisions practice outdoors at Port Moody Town Centre, Heritage Woods Secondary or Inlet Park. The selection of a practice time is ultimately up to the coach, who is a volunteer and must obviously be available.

## Will my child have to play in bad weather?

**Soccer is an outdoor game!** Games are generally played rain or shine unless the weather conditions warrant closing the field for safety. In the case of a field closure, the coaching staff will call or email to inform you that the game is cancelled. While we encourage team commitment, forcing younger children to play often produces the opposite effect. Each parent must make their own decision, but please let the coaches know if you will not make it to a game or practice.

## When and where are the games played?

Teams generally play one game per week on the weekend. Games start at two 20 minutes halves for the youngest players and gradually increase to two 45 minute halves for the U17 and U18 divisions. Some schedules may include byes where a team has the weekend off.

The U6 (Micro Mini), U7 and U8 Boys programs are run *in house* with all games played at Inlet Park against other Port Moody Soccer Club teams. (An in-house program allows tighter schedules and does not involve travel to other fields.) The U6 to U8 Girls programs may be interlocked with the North Coquitlam United Soccer Club with games played at Inlet Park and Eagle Ridge Field.

The U9 to U18 programs are interlocked with other clubs and will involve travel to parks outside of Port Moody every other week.

The field allocations for the coming season are currently under review. **The following schedule is therefore based on last year and is tentative:**

Division	Home Park	Game Start Times	
		Boys Program	Girls Program
U6	Inlet Park	Saturday 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Sunday 11:30 am
U7	Inlet Park	Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 noon	Sunday 10:30 am
U8	Inlet Park	Saturday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Sunday 9:30 am
U9-U10	Heritage Woods Secondary Grass	Saturday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Sunday 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
U11-U12	Westhill Park, Heritage Woods Secondary Turf	Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
U13-U16	Heritage Mountain Elem., Heritage Woods Secondary, Aspenwood Elem., Port Moody Town Centre	Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Sunday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
U17-U18	Heritage Mountain Elem., Heritage Woods Secondary, Aspenwood Elem., Port Moody Town Centre	<b>Sunday</b> 9:00 am - 8:00 pm (note this switch to Sundays for the boys)	Sunday 9:00 am - 8:00 pm

## Are additional Development Programs offered?

The club offers a number of programs to help develop our players and coaches. In conjunction with Coerver Coaching BC we sponsor advanced training at the High Performance (U11-U18), Goalkeeping (U11-U18 and Academy (U9-U18) levels that is open to both boys and girls. The clinics are run in two sessions in the fall and winter under the direction of Joe Mathot and his Coerver Staff Coaches, including Bruce Twamley (former U20 National Team & Olympic Team Coach). See our website for more details.

## What if things do not work out?

A partial refund can be obtained by submitting a written request to the Port Moody Soccer Club, 119 - 255 Newport Drive, Port Moody BC, V3H 5H1. All refunds are subject to a \$15 administration charge. For refund requests received after a uniform has been issued, an additional \$35 charge is levied. After October 7<sup>th</sup> an additional \$20.00 fee is levied to cover League, District and BCSA fees. The remaining portion of the fee will be prorated based on the percentage of the season remaining. A full refund will be provided only if a player can not be placed on a team.

## Who should I call if I have a question?

For more information and contact numbers, visit our web site at [www.portmoodysoccer.com](http://www.portmoodysoccer.com). Please direct your questions (preferably via email) to the director or coordinator for your age group.

### Parent Code of Conduct

1. I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child.
2. I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
3. I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
4. I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
5. I will refrain from the use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol at all youth sports events.
6. I will remember that the game is for youth - not for adults.
7. I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
8. I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials, with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
9. I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.