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Biddeford Recreation Department Fall Youth Soccer Season Updates 2024

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Dear Biddeford Recreation Soccer Families:

Soccer programs start soon and we can't wait for fall sports season! We are sharing this informational update with some schedule changes and reminders to make sure everyone is prepared for the season and to ensure the best experience for your child!

Season Schedule Update – IMPORTANT! Due to staffing updates in our department, we are adjusting the season dates, postponing the start of soccer season by one week and extending it one additional week in October. Please see schedules below!

PreK and Kindergarten Division Schedule: meets Saturdays at St. Louis field at 9:00am.
Season Dates are **September 14th, 2024 through October 26th, 2024**. *No soccer on Saturday, October 12th.*

Grades 1-6 Practice Info: starts the first week in September, dates noted below. Teams must have a volunteer coach in place to start the season.

Practice schedules are as follows and are also available online under Team Info:

Girls Grades 1-6 division Info: *first practice will be Thursday, September 5th.*

- Girls Grades 1-4: Tuesday's and Thursday's 5:30-6:30PM, St. Louis Field
- Girls Grades 5-6: Tuesday's and Thursday's 5:30-6:45PM, Martel Field at Rotary Park

Boys Grades 1-6 division Info: *first practice will be Wednesday, September 4th.*

- Boys Grades 1-4: Monday's and Wednesday's 5:30-6:30PM, St. Louis Field
- Boys Grades 5-6: Monday's and Wednesday's 5:30-6:45PM, Martel Field at Rotary Park

Games for Grades 1-6 Divisions: games will be held on Saturdays starting September 14th. We will be adding those schedules to your child's team schedule under **Team Info** at www.biddefordrec.com (General Info-Team Info) over the next week.

Rosters for Grades 1-6 divisions: rosters are now available under **Team Info** at www.biddefordrec.com (General Info-Team Info). Many variables are considered when determining teams to keep them balanced, and we thank you in advance for understanding that

we are unable to take teammate requests or accommodate switching now that teams have been finalized.

Fall Sports Picture Day: all divisions will participate in Picture Day on **Saturday, September 28th**, at St. Louis Field. Players will have photos taken by Joe McKenney Photography, and will also participate in their practices or games. Please look for separate updates later in September about Picture Day with the team photo schedules and photo ordering information.

Equipment Needed:

- Shin Guards are required.
- Cleats are recommended for PreK-4th grade divisions and required for Grades 5&6 divisions.

Volunteer Coaches: Our youth sports programs rely on team volunteers. Please see the following info about soccer coaching opportunities:

- Teams in Grades 1-6 must have a coach in place to start the season. Some teams still need coaches.
- We are also looking for a Kinder Soccer coach.

If you did not initially sign up and would like to help as a coach or team volunteer, please contact Biddeford Recreation Sports Coordinator Mike Fecteau at sports@biddefordmaine.org. We will provide a coaches handbook and can supply practice plans. Thank you for supporting our programs!

Cancellations: practices and games may be impacted by weather throughout the season. Weekday practice cancellations are typically determined by 3:00PM and weekend cancellations are typically determined that morning. Updates are posted as an alert at www.biddefordrec.com. Whenever possible, we may also email or text schedule changes, so please make sure your contact information is current in your Biddeford Recreation household account online. **Facebook will not be used to post schedule updates this season.**

Questions? Please email sports@biddefordmaine.org

Thank you for taking the time to read through this! We look forward to a great soccer season and will see you all on the fields this fall!

Sincerely,

Biddeford Recreation Department