

Hello U8 Families

I hope your Spring season is going well, even with the field and weather challenges! I'm writing to let you know what to expect this coming Fall. If your child continues to play soccer in Somerville (and of course I hope they do) they will move up to a U10 team. At that level Somerville is a part of a larger league, Mass Youth Soccer League, or MYSL for short.

The players will have some of the same teammates and some new ones, likely a new coach but maybe a familiar one. Practices will be twice a week and the Saturday games will be home at Capuano Field or away. The away games will be in towns like Chelmsford or Medford and any number of towns in between and beyond.

Carpooling is always an option so don't get anxious about driving. They will need a new uniform, buy it a little large and they can get a few years out of it.

Games are 7 vs 7 with goalies, larger nets, off sides and throw-ins. They take on a more serious tone for players. Positional play becomes the norm and wins and losses matter. In the Spring season the top teams in each division go to the Commissioners Cup, the league wide tournament.

The players are placed onto U10 teams by skill level. This is determined in two different ways. First is the coach's evaluation. Your current coaches will rate and rank all the players on your team. Skill level and maturity are all taken into account. Second your player will be rated at the Jamboree on Saturday June 11th. The boys will run 9:30am-10:30am and the girls follow from 10:30am-11:30am. Please be at Argenziano at least a half hour early to check in.

They will get a number and pinny, play many small-sided games, and coaches from U8 and U10 teams will evaluate the players. The two evaluations are compared and teams of similarly skilled players are formed. All players who are interested in playing are placed on a team. There are many divisions and skill levels so no player is turned away.

Please remember that during the field evaluations the players should just have fun. This means parental interaction, shouting directions, and cheering from the sidelines are not needed nor are they appropriate. Encourage them to do their best and remember, ultimately the league is all about kids learning the game soccer while making friends along the way.

If you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

Best,
Brandee Hall
U8 Coordinator