

**U8 Program** is for 6–7-year-old children and begins to transition them into a larger field that builds off of the fun/excitement of the In-House U6 Program, and works to prepares them for the 7v7 format that they will experience as they step into County Level play. In addition to having fun, the goal of the session is to build off the fundamentals of U6 play, and teach more advanced techniques and tactics of play, such as:

- Use of goal keepers
- Defined Offense and Defense
- Ball Possession
- Execution of Set-Plays (corner kicks, d/id free kicks)
- 1v1 moves/skills
- Other advanced techniques (change of direction, first touch)

The first 2 weeks of the season are practice sessions. At week 3, games begin. Scheduled rotation of games/practices TBD based on number of teams. Each team will play ~7-8 games, depending upon allowable time in season. Additional practices may be held at the coach's discretion. Teams will be comprised of ~10 children (co-ed) per team

Rules are as follows:

- The format is 7v7 (including goalie)
- Two 25-minute halves; 5-10 minute halftime
- Ball Size: 4
- Each child receives equitable playing time (substitute every ~10 minutes)
- Substitutions occur on your own throw-in, goal kicks, after a goal, for injuries and at half-time.
- Start of play, opponents must be outside of circle on own half of field.
- Play stop with ball out-of-bounds. Restarts on a throw-in.
- Free kicks awarded at point of pushing, kicking, or hand-ball fouls (fouls should be explained when they occur) using 8-yrd stand-off.
- Penalty kicks are discouraged and should only be awarded for flagrant fouls inside the box, only upon consensus by both coaches.
- Goal kicks take place at "18-yd" box
- Overtime games to be decided by an extra 5-minute period of play, and then penalty kicks.
- Heading not allowed
- Field is 60x40 yards

End-of-the-season Tournament: The last week of the season will be used to play a mini-tournament for all teams. Tournament games will be played on regular fields and consist of one 20-minute game (no half time). Teams will be sorted into "brackets" and play first round of games on Monday. Pending results, a second round of games will be scheduled for Wednesday accordingly. Additional days may be necessary to accommodate the number of teams.

Registration fees include an In-House uniform (t-shirt). Players need to come prepared with shin guards, socks, and sturdy shoes (leather soccer shoe and/or cleats).