

## **KVJSA Recreational League FAQ – May, 2013**

**Q:** Who is eligible to participate in KVJSA's Recreational League?

**A:** Girls born between 8/1/99 and 7/31/08 & Boys born between 8/1/00 and 7/31/08 ...Below is a table showing the age category for which you will register.

Co-ed U-06 (Birthdates 8/1/07 to 7/31/08)  
Boys U-07 (Birthdates 8/1/06 to 7/31/07)  
Boys U-08 (Birthdates 8/1/05 to 7/31/06)  
Boys U-09 (Birthdates 8/1/04 to 7/31/05)  
Boys U-10 (Birthdates 8/1/03 to 7/31/04)  
Boys U-11 (Birthdates 8/1/02 to 7/31/03)  
Boys U-12 (Birthdates 8/1/01 to 7/31/02)  
Boys U-13 (Birthdates 8/1/00 to 7/31/01)  
Girls U-07 (Birthdates 8/1/06 to 7/31/07)  
Girls U-08 (Birthdates 8/1/05 to 7/31/06)  
Girls U-09 (Birthdates 8/1/04 to 7/31/05)  
Girls U-10 (Birthdates 8/1/03 to 7/31/04)  
Girls U-11 (Birthdates 8/1/02 to 7/31/03)  
Girls U-12 (Birthdates 8/1/01 to 7/31/02)  
Girls U-13 (Birthdates 8/1/00 to 7/31/01)  
Girls U-14 (Birthdates 8/1/99 to 7/31/00)

**Q:** How long is the soccer season?

**A:** 8 Weeks...games will begin the first Saturday after Labor Day and end the last Saturday in October.

**Q:** How many games are scheduled on a weekly basis?

**A:** 1 or 2 games per week. All age groups play on Saturday. The older age divisions play midweek games every week during the season. The younger the age group, the fewer weeks with mid-week games. Last year there were no mid-week games for U-6 & U-7. To reduce driving for Cle Elum teams, we moved most of their games to Saturdays last year, which resulted in a few Saturday double-headers for most teams in the older age groups. If possible, we will do the same thing this year.

**Q:** How are children divided into teams? by age? by grade? by gender? skill level?

**A:** The U-6 category plays co-ed. U-7 & older play in gender specific teams & leagues. Our registration numbers will dictate if a specific age category has enough children to form its own league or if two age categories must be combined for league play. When two age categories are combined, the teams are balanced so each team has a similar number of younger and older children. Additionally, the attempt is made to balance teams based upon skill level. Coaches are asked to turn in player ratings at the end of each season. These ratings help us to create the "fairest team possible on paper" for the following season. Players without a rating on file from the previous year or new players are randomly assigned to teams.

**Q:** Can my child play up in a higher age group or down in a lower age group?

**A:** We only allow this in two cases: 1) If a child is much bigger and stronger than his or her age-mates and it seems safer to have him/her play up an age level; 2) In order for a child to play with his or her classmates. Because of the age-group cut offs for youth soccer, children who are born in August often end up in an age group with children who are a grade below them in school. If your child is in one of these situations, put a comment in your registration in order to request that your child be put in a different age group.

**Q:** Does the KVJSA honor requests for team placement?

**A:** The only request that is honored for team placement is logistical (transportation) arrangements for those that may live in more remote locations around our valley (physical address is confirmed before granting this type of request). We do create teams based upon location (zip code) for ease of team practices if enough children reside in a specific zip code. Historically, children in the Upper County have been placed together, and some years have allowed separate teams in Thorp & Kittitas. REMEMBER, the focus for our recreational league is enjoyment of the game followed closely by skill development. With that in mind, fairness of team selection is very important to us. We do not honor team requests based upon the desire to play with friends.

**Q:** When will I receive team rosters?

**A:** Team Rosters and Game Schedules will be available in mid-August. Games begin the first Saturday after Labor Day.

**Q:** When are practices?

**A:** Practices are set by each individual coach...this includes the day, time, & location.

**Q:** How are coaches assigned?

**A:** Coaches volunteer and must register with KVJSA. A portion of the registration process for a coach is a background check conducted by the Washington Youth Soccer. Interested coaches with children participating are given the first opportunity to coach the team on which their child has been placed. The KVJSA is becoming increasingly proactive in providing education and training for its volunteer coaches.

**Q:** Aside from the league registration cost, are there other uniform or equipment costs of which participants need to be aware?

**A:** Team Uniforms are included with the registration fee for the league. Additional costs may stem from the following items:

1. Shin Guards & Soccer Socks...shin guards are required to be worn under socks at all games and practices. Soccer cleats are preferred, but not required
2. Snacks & Refreshments...You may be asked to bring snacks / refreshments to one or more of your child's games.
3. Team Photos...We have a team photo day, but no one is required to purchase either team or individual photos.

**Q:** Are there any scholarships available?

**A:** Sports scholarships are available through Hope Source. You can visit their office at 700 E. Mountain View Road, Suite 501 to apply if your child is eligible.

**Q:** If a child misses practice for vacation or family commitment, will the child lose game playing time?

**A:** Practices are an important component of an individual's skill development, but KVJSA is a recreational program. A child should not lose playing time for missing practice due to other family commitments. The key in this situation is for the parents to communicate in advance with the coach.

**Q:** My child was registered for the recreational league last year (Fall 2012) and many of our games were cancelled. Will we receive a discount this year?

**A:** Yes. If you register on time, you will receive a small discount. We cannot offer a larger discount because the majority of the registration money we collect is spent at the beginning of the season on uniforms, insurance and web site fees, field lining, etc. We did what we could last year to make up as many games as we could.