

EAA & EWSC

RECREATIONAL PLUS PROGRAM – 2012

A New Program Offering for the Eight Year Old Soccer Player.

Players could participate in U9 games

U8 Birth Year Guideline for Summer 2012: 08/01/03 – 07/31/04

Partnership between EAA and EWSC

- Eagan Wave Soccer Club (EWSC) is affiliated with the Eagan Athletic Association (EAA).
- EAA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development of the community's young people through athletics.
- EWSC participates in leagues sponsored and governed by the Minnesota Youth Soccer Association (MYSA).

Focus and Direction

- Our curriculum stresses basic skills, encourages team play, sportsmanship, and strives for fair playing time.
- EAA and Eagan Wave Soccer Club programs exist to serve the needs and interests of its present and future soccer players by providing multiple levels of competition for boys and girls in the Eagan area.
- Our club strives to provide a positive experience for players on all Eagan teams.
- We offer qualified coaching, and multiple levels of training for players, teams, coaches, and referees.
- Most importantly, we provide an environment that promotes fun, teamwork, dedication, and sportsmanship.

Recreational Plus Soccer

- The Recreational Plus Program offers a great starting point for children new to soccer.
- The program creates an excellent bridge between players currently in an in-house program (recreational play) considering a transition into the U9 traveling soccer program in fall of 2012/spring of 2013.
- The Recreational Plus team will be assigned a professional coach. The coach will conduct training sessions and recommend players for play-up opportunities with a U9 travelling team.
- Recreational Plus Competitions
 - Eagan Rec Plus/In-house: 8-10 games
 - Friendly games (scrimmages) against the other Rec Plus teams: 2 – 4 games
- The Recreational Plus players will receive 6-7 training sessions offered by a professional trainer.
- Teams will train and participate in games once or twice a week during the months of May – June.
- The 2012 Rec Plus season begins in April with indoor training and leads into the May, 2012 Eagan Wave Soccer Tournament (Future Stars), followed by May – July games and training sessions. The program session ends with the Kohl's American Cup Recreational Festival Tournament on July 7, 2012.
- U8 players may also have the opportunity to guest play on Eagan Wave Soccer's U9 traveling teams when space is available.

Philosophy

- Eagan Soccer's Recreational Plus program philosophy rests in granting all eight year-old players equal opportunities and benefits within their level of play in the sport of soccer.
- Recreational Plus soccer is an intermediate program for those children who want to play for fun and learn the technical 'Footskills' aspect of the game to be better prepared for Traveling Soccer.

Development and Participation

- Unlike Travelling Soccer, Recreational Plus does not practice the use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to roster players selectively to any recreational plus team on the basis of talent or ability.
- Recreational Plus encourages participation so every player should play at least 75% of every game.
- Recreational Plus provides an exciting soccer experience for players to develop their technical skills and mental maturity.
- U8 players are encouraged to join Recreational Plus Soccer for the fun of playing soccer and to gain the positive experiences of being involved in a team sport.

Foundations for Success

- U8 participants will play at a higher level of competition than the regular recreational league, but it is still considered recreational and it is to be played for “FUN”.
- Good sportsmanship from players, coaches and parents is expected at all times.
- Create opportunities for success, regardless of ability.
- This program is designed to expand the skills, knowledge, ability and love of the game of soccer for player’s who are committed to putting in the extra effort required.



Registration Process

- Players born between (08/01/03 - 07/31/04) interested in playing U8 Recreational Plus will register directly through the EAA Website in Feb-Mar, 2012.
- Recreational Plus players will be aligned to a team in March, 2012. Players will be assigned according to their registration entry time. Players will be placed on a waiting list if a team becomes full.
- Registration is based on first-come, first-served as space is limited.
 - Girls: 4-5 teams, 9 players/team
 - Boys: 2-3 teams, 9 players/team
- Players not assigned to a team may register for Recreational 'in-house' Soccer.

\$200 / Player Program Fee Includes the following:

EAA Registration (includes 2 jerseys, shorts, and socks)
Eagan Fields
Professional Trainer
Eagan Future Stars and Kohl's Tournaments
6-7 one-hour training sessions
Dome Time
Rec Plus Player Pass

Teams are responsible for parent assistant coaches and assigning a team parent to manage the team calendar, finances, and other miscellaneous duties

Kohl's American Cup and Eagan Future Stars



The Kohl's American Cup event is the largest recreational youth soccer festival in the United States. This 4 v 4 event is designed for Rec and Rec Plus teams. Teams are guaranteed three games within a four-hour time block with participation gifts going to all players. Consider making this tournament a part of your recreational schedules.

Kohl's American Cup Saturday, July 7, 2012

Location: Spring Creek Soccer Complex (Northfield, Minn.)

Kohl's, Northfield Soccer Association and MYSA are hosting the *Kohl's US Youth Soccer American Cup* for all MYSA and non-MYSA registered Rec and Rec Plus players. Each team is guaranteed three (3) small-sided games, to be scheduled in a four-hour time slot, with participation gifts for all players. Teams are being accepted in the U6-U15 age levels and will need at least one MYSA registered adult responsible for each team as a coach or manager.

This event is \$25.00 for all MYSA-registered Rec & Rec Plus teams. For non-MYSA affiliated teams ages U6-U10 the fee is \$85.00 and for ages U11-U15 the fee is \$115.00.

Fees are non-refundable.

Event Overview:

- 30 minute games (14 minute halves)
- Four field players and no goalkeeper (U6-U8)
- Three field players and a goalkeeper (U9-U15)
- Maximum roster is eight players, minimum is four



Three games against local U9 traveling teams.

Small Sided Game (SSG) Format 6v6

SMALL SIDED GAME BENEFITS TO PLAYERS

Small sided games are any game played with less than eleven-a-side teams

- The ability to repeatedly contact the ball and the ability to repeatedly experience basic tactical problems.
- In terms of player development, this ability to actively participate is directly related to fun and enjoyment and to the issues surrounding quality of play and the retention of players.
- Makes it difficult for players to “hide” in SSG, all players must attack and defend in order for their team to succeed (mobility).
- *More space + fewer numbers = less bunching. Enhanced tactical awareness (positioning). The game is less complicated and easier to understand.*
- Players under twelve are routinely structured into formal positions at ages when their spatial awareness and technical range do not lend themselves to a practical understanding of large group tactics.
- More “fun” and personal enjoyment; due to small fields and simplified rules.

Small Sided Game Benefits to Players

- More playing time, which encourages maximum individual participation.
- More individual involvement improves fitness.
- More responsibility, every child has greater opportunities to score or stop the opponents from scoring, this builds their self-esteem and self-confidence.
- More child-centered not coach controlled.
- More experience in all phases of the game. There is no hiding or dominant player hogging the ball. Every child has to participate in all facets of the game, attack and defend. The emphasis is on PLAYER DEVELOPMENT.

STAGES OF PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

(Eight Year Olds)

All ages can play “Small Sided Games,” but it has a definite developmental impact on our younger soccer players. This has to do with the stages of development that all children go through. As children progress through these stages, their intellect grows, they mature physically and they get emotionally stronger.

- They need time and the appropriate environment to continue their technical development and begin simple tactical development (simple combinations with their teammates).
- Fewer players on the field provide ample opportunity to make quality decisions more often, reinforcing the tactical basics.
- They enjoy being part of a team because it's a FUN environment!
- Children like to compete with each other.
- Skills need to be developed in playful environment.
- Players can't learn when game demands skills or tactics they haven't yet learned.
- Complicated rules, such as offsides, detract from the ability to learn fundamentals.
- Commonly accepted now that ages 8 to 12 are ideal for developing technique and coordination. In spite of this many coaches continue to implement adult rules and strategies, which hinder this development.

Number of Players, Duration of the Match and Soccer Ball

- Maximum: 12 players on roster
- Maximum: 6 players on the field, including the goalkeeper
- Minimum: 4 players on the field, one of whom must be the goalkeeper

- Two 25-minute halves

- Size 3
- The home team is responsible for providing an acceptable game ball.
- In the event the home team does not have a satisfactory ball, the referee may select a game ball from the visiting team.

MYSA Recreational Plus Program

The General policies for Recreational Plus

Eagan Wave Soccer Club is a member of MYSA and play according to their rules. MYSA is the governing soccer body for Recreational Plus and Traveling Youth Soccer.

- Affiliate Members may organize Recreation Plus Leagues for Intra-Affiliate Member or Inter-Affiliate Member play; provided such leagues do not otherwise meet the definition of Recreational Play or Competitive League.
- The MYSA Recreation-Recreation Plus Director oversees the Recreation Plus program.
- Recreation Plus is an intermediate program designed to allow the recreation player an opportunity to participate in sanctioned activities such as games involving teams outside their Affiliate Member, including participation in invitational tournaments to play competitive teams.
- Recreation Plus teams may not play as a team in MYSA competitive league play, district and state tournaments, and State Cup competition.
- Recreation Plus players may only be registered on one recreation plus team at a time; however, a recreation plus player may simultaneously be a member of a recreational team within his/her Affiliate Member. Recreation Plus players may play up on a competitive team subject to the restrictions contained in the *MYSA Policies & Rules Manual*.
- Recreation and Recreation Plus players may play up on competitive teams sponsored by their Affiliate Member by obtaining a member pass.

MYSA Recreational Plus Program

The General policies for Recreational Plus

- The use of tryouts, invitations, recruiting or any like process to register players selectively to any team on the basis of talent or ability is prohibited.
- All matches between MYSA/USSF sanctioned teams must be officiated by USSF Registered referees and comply with all relevant MYSA Modifications to the Laws of the Game as found in the *MYSA Policies & Rules Manual*.
- Recreation Plus teams may play Recreation Plus games, invitational tournaments, festivals or “friendly” games.
- Recreation Plus Leagues may maintain a list of game results.
- Recreation Plus Leagues may have an end of season playoff.
- Teams must have at least 8 and no more than 12 players registered.

MYSA Recreational Plus Program General Schedule

- April: Training sessions begin...1 hour/week
- May
 - 2 practices/training sessions/games per week
 - Eagan Future Stars Tournament, May 11th – 13th
- June: Season continues with 2 nights of soccer/week.
- July
 - 2 practices in week 1
 - Kohl's Rec Plus Tournament, July (on a Saturday)