

## SMURF SOCCER SPRING 2024

- The games will be played on two side-by-side fields.
  - U4's will play 4 v 4 with four 8-minute quarters.
  - U5's will play 5 v 5 with four 8-minute quarters.
  - U6 girls will play 4 v 4 with four 10-minute quarters.
  - U6 boys will play 5 v 5 with four 10-minute quarters.
  - All age groups will have a 5-minute halftime.
- The U4 and U5 age group will use the "NEW BALL" concept for restarts. For all throw-ins, corner kicks and goal kicks, either a coach or ref will restart the ball by gently rolling it out to the appropriate team's player. This system is used to get more players involved in the game and quicker restarts have been shown to increase the overall number of touches on the ball. Please give the player receiving the ball at least 10 feet of space to get the ball going.
- U6 will use throw-ins, and modified goal kicks for restarts. The opposing team must give 10 feet plus to allow for a fair restart.
- There are NO GOALIES! Please encourage players to go to the ball to defend and win the ball, rather than sit in front of the goals and obstruct the net.
- No score will be kept.
- All players must play equally
- Rainouts will be posted in TeamSnap and the website 1 hour before game time. We DO play in the rain and even chilly conditions. Players may wear hats, gloves, and layered clothing to be comfortable, just place jersey as last layer, so it is clear which team the player is on.
- Field maps are on the [www.strongsvillesoccer.com](http://www.strongsvillesoccer.com) website. Please know what field you are playing on, there will be 8 fields of games going on simultaneously, so it may be confusing! Games will be played in the Prandi Park area of Foltz for the 4's and 5's, and U6 girls, U6 boys will be playing in the main Foltz complex with fields TBD.

### A FEW ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

- A HUGE thank you to Tiffany Eichenberger who will be helping us out this season. Tiffany is a great resource and will be up at the fields on game days with the U6 girls group.
- Players will need a size 3 ball for practice.
- Shin guards are mandatory, cleats are optional.
- Jewelry needs to be removed (newly pierced ears will need band aids or medical tape over them).
- As the coach, you select your practice night, location, and time. A Smurf practice should last roughly 45 minutes.
- Practicing at Foltz is via SignUp Genius, no practicing at Prandi Park or Post Office fields. All other practices should be held at the elementary schools (not Kinsner) or at the Board of Education building, Fair Rd baseball field area, Bonnie Park, site where the old Allen elementary used to be or, if YOUR neighborhood has a green space available for its residents. If you are having difficulties, just let me know and I can assist.
- Uniform pick-up dates/location will be out shortly. Handle all uniform issues directly with John.
  - John Redella 440-503-6115
  - 21310 Castlewood Dr. 44149
- Schedules will be posted 1 week before games start and will be available to everyone through Team Snap.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR COACHING! WISHING FOR A FUN (WARM AND DRY) SPRING SEASON!

