Important Registration Information

Please Note Key Dates and Keep For Reference

Register Early: This provides us with more time to organize the teams and lets you avoid the wait list. Players who register after April 22, **may not** be placed on teams by Orientation night and may have to be assigned after that date. If you require **additional forms**, you can copy the included form or obtain more from the website or the Club office.

Volunteer! We need your help. We provide training and support for coaches and other volunteers.

Referees Needed: New male and female refs from 12 years old to adult are needed. See page 3.

1. How to Submit Your Registration

- **Drop the form** at the club office at Mount Joy (mail slots on inside & outside doors), 6140 Sixteenth Avenue just east of Highway #48. Our office is located inside the indoor soccer field behind the east goal area. – **OR –**
- **Mail the form:** Markham Soccer Club, Box 476, Markham, Ont. L3P 3R1 – **OR –**
- **Submit Online:** An online registration option is available on the club website.
- **Confirm your registration** through the Club Website.

2. Open Registration

If you need further information not provided in this package: use our website or come to one of the Open Registration sessions shown below.

Saturday, Jan. 30 – 10am to 1 pm - Club Office (Mt. Joy C.C.)
Saturday, Feb. 27 – 10am to 1 pm - Club Office (Mt. Joy C.C.)

3. Orientation

When and where does it start?

Parents/players need to come to the Orientation Night in order to:

- Find out the status of the Division (e.g. coaches or convenor still needed).
- Pick up equipment and/or uniforms (Under-4 to Under-7 only).
- Obtain the initial schedule (initial teams, dates, times and fields for pre-season).
- Meet your coach (Under-4 to Under-7 only).

Parents/players will not be called prior to the Orientation Night, except Under 3s:

- Please check the schedule below and come out on the assigned night.
- Group/Night assignments for U4 & U5 players can be found on the website. If you cannot find it, just show up at any time on the Orientation Night for the age group.
- Information on team assignments and schedules will remain posted at Mount Joy for several days. Some information will also be available on the Club website.

**** We cannot provide any of this information by phone. ****

4. Orientation Schedule

Mount Joy Community Centre
(indoor field)

Division	Birth Year	Orientation Night Details		
		Date	Any time between 6:15 – 7:00 pm	Any time between 7:15 – 8:00 pm
Under 3	2007	May 15 U3s will be called individually about Orientation.		
Under 4	2006	Thurs May 13	Tuesday group	Thursday group
Under 5	2005	Wed May 12	Monday group	Wednesday group
Under 6	2004	Tue May 11	Boys	Girls
Under 7	2003	Mon May 10	Boys	Girls
U8 – U18	1992-2002	Wed April 28		All players

Club Office: Mount Joy Community Centre
6140 16th Avenue (just east of Hwy 48)
www.markhamsoccer.org

Youth Leagues and Teams - Information About the Outdoor Season

GENERAL		
What is required	All players must wear shin pads at all times on the field. Soccer shoes are recommended, but running shoes are acceptable.	
What is provided	Shorts, socks and shirt. A full-season program. A team photograph. A starter kit for U3 & U4.	
Locations	Locations are generally fixed for each division. Game and practice fields may be different.	Most fields are in the Markham Village area east of McCowan (or nearby).
Nights and times	Practices and games for house league teams are currently only scheduled between Monday and Thursday. For the internal house league groups (U8-U18) there are usually two 1-hour or	1½-hour time slots per night (e.g., 6:30-7:30 and 7:30-8:30). Teams rotate through these two times (they don't have a fixed time). See tentative schedule on Page 3.
The Season	Most groups start their pre-season about the 2nd week of May and finish the 1st or 2nd week of September. For age divisions from U8 and up (players born in 2001 and older) there is a regular	season and a playoff round. Photos will be taken shortly after the season begins. The season concludes with Closing Day festivities.
The Divisions	There are separate divisions for boys and girls (except for Under-3). From Under-8 and up we	offer both a recreational ("house league") and a competitive ("rep") program.

RECREATIONAL DIVISIONS (age groupings could be changed based on actual registrations)		
Players Born in	**League and Division Information**	
2007 (U3 Program)	An instructor-led Saturday AM package. This is intended to be a fun introduction to soccer for these young players.	Complete "starter kit" provided (a ball, shin-pads and a water bottle) in addition to the full uniform.
2006 (U4 – Micro Soccer) **2005** (U5 – Micro Soccer)	One session per week from the start of June until the end of August. Separate boys and girls teams. The focus is on development.	There are scrimmages but no formal games. Full uniform (including team shirt, shorts and socks) is provided. U4s are also provided a ball, shin-pads and a water bottle.
2004 (U6 – Micro Soccer) **2003** (U7 – Micro Soccer)	Two 1-hour sessions per week from the start of June to the end of August. The U6 age group use 4-a-side play, while the U7s use 5-a-side.	The focus is on development (scrimmages but no formal games).
2002 (U8 – Mini Soccer) **2001** (U9 – Mini Soccer) **2000** (U10 – Mini Soccer)	A 1-hour practice and a 1-hour game per week. Teams use 7 players on the field at one time. The games have referees and standings are kept.	Trophies provided for league and playoff winners and runners-up in these divisions and all higher age divisions.
1998-99 (U12 –Junior field) **1996-97** (U14 – Full Field)	A 1-hour practice and a 1-hour game per week. U12 division use 9 players on the field at one time	These are multi-age-group divisions. U14 division use 11 players on the field at one time.
1992-95 (U18 – Full Field)	A 1-or 1½-hour practice and a 1½-hour game per week. Teams use 11 players on the field at one time.	These are multi-age-group divisions.

RECREATIONAL "ALL-STAR" TEAMS		
Overview	Teams formed to provide additional development and competition for the best house league players. Teams may enter into "All-Star" tournaments. The players play on such a team in addition to their regular house league team.	Where there is sufficient interest, the club will conduct open try-outs and appoint a coach. All-Star coaches and teams must be club-approved. An additional fee applies to cover the extra costs of operating an All-Star team.

COMPETITIVE TEAMS		
The opportunity	The club has a strong competitive (or "rep") team program for both boys and girls. These teams provide the opportunity for our players to increase their skills and abilities through training from	certified coaches and by playing with and against other strong players. They have the opportunity to represent Markham on good, successful teams.
The commitment	Competitive teams generally practise twice per week (versus once for a recreational team). The amount of travel depends in part on the age group and the level of the team.	Competitive teams also generally enter a few weekend tournaments. Most of them operate year round and play in both indoor and outdoor leagues.
The cost	The basic registration fee plus a competitive player fee. The extra fee is necessary because of	the higher cost of registration, uniforms, fields and referees for competitive teams.
The age groups	U8 (born in 2002) and up for boys & girls.	
Where do they play?	U8 - U11 teams play in the York Region League (which encompasses York Region and Huronia). The majority of the other age groups play in	Central Region Leagues (which include York Region, The City of Toronto, Durham & Huronia).
How to get started	Spring and fall tryouts are advertised in the Economist and Sun and on the Club website.	For more details for a given team, contact the team coach (contact info on website).

TENTATIVE 2010 Youth House League Schedule
Markham Soccer Club

Division	Gender	Year of Birth	Practice/ Game Nights	Sessions/ week
Under-3	Boys & Girls	2007	Sat morning	1
Under-4	Boys	2006	Tue or Thu	1
Under-4	Girls	2006	Tue or Thu	1
Under-5	Boys	2005	Mon or Wed	1
Under-5	Girls	2005	Mon or Wed	1
Under-6	Boys	2004	Tue & Thu	2
Under-6	Girls	2004	Mon & Wed	2
Under-7	Boys	2003	Tue & Thu	2
Under-7	Girls	2003	Mon & Wed	2
Under-8	Boys	2002	Tue & Thu	2
Under-8	Girls	2002	Mon & Wed	2

Division	Gender	Year of Birth	Practice/ Game Nights	Sessions/ week
Under-9	Boys	2001	Mon & Wed	2
Under-9	Girls	2001	Tue & Thu	2
Under-10	Boys	2000	Tue & Thu	2
Under-10	Girls	2000	Mon & Wed	2
Under-12	Boys	1998-99	Mon & Wed	2
Under-12	Girls	1998-99	Tue & Thu	2
Under-14	Boys	1996-97	Tue & Thu	2
Under-14	Girls	1996-97	Mon & Wed	2
Under-18	Boys	1992-95	Mon & Wed	2
Under-18	Girls	1992-95	Tue & Thu	2

Practice and game nights are subject to change without notice until the final schedules are prepared in May.

Volunteers Needed

This is a volunteer organization and we can always use more help. If you can help us by coaching, convening or managing a team, that's great. We also need help behind the scenes on committees. Please check the volunteer box on the registration form, call us, email us or come and talk to us at an Open Registration night.

Adult Outdoor Soccer

The Club fields a number of women's and men's open age teams that play in York Region / Durham Recreational Leagues. A women's house league runs on Friday evenings. A men's house league runs on Sunday evenings. If you are born in 1991 or before and wish to play or coach, please see our website for more information.

Referee Training for Boys, Girls and Adults

We need additional referees for the summer 2010 season. This year, there are two categories for referees and we will be running two separate training programs:

- **Mini-Soccer Referees:** those who are 12 or 13 years old as of Apr 1, 2009. The course starts on Mar 3. The OSA certification course is on March 27, 2010.
- **Class 4 Referees:** This is for teens (minimum age 14 as of April 1) and adults. The course starts on Mar 10. The OSA Certification course is on April 24 and 25, 2010.

All new referees must complete the in-house training as well as the OSA Referee Certification course. New referees will be assigned House League games as a Referee or as an Assistant (and they are paid to do this). Registration for the courses is limited so **please act now**. Coaches and other adults who just want to become more familiar with the rules may also sign-up for the in-house training. They will be accepted based on the availability of space in the program. For more information, please go to the Club website at:

www.markhamsoccer.org

Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Can I make a Special Request (e.g. to have my child play with a friend)?**
   The club does not accept special requests. For house league teams, a primary objective is to develop balanced teams. Special requests can severely complicate this process and can result in some teams being "stacked". Thus we have adopted a firm "no special requests" policy. This is not as big an issue as some may think. Children can make new friends on the team and car-pooling can often be arranged with other parents on the team.

2. **I have two boys/girls who are quite close in age. Can the younger one play on the team with his/her older brother/sister?**
   We believe that players should play with their own age group as much as possible. We do not move players up to higher divisions for the sake of convenience. It would also be unfair to turn away a player who legitimately belongs in that age group as a result of taking a younger player. Rather than leave players on waiting lists however, we do occasionally move stronger players up when a division is full and the next higher division needs additional players. This is only done at the club's discretion. A registration cannot be accepted that is dependant on this or any other condition.

3. **We are planning to take an extended vacation this coming summer. Should I still register my son/daughter?**
   The club allows a player to miss a maximum of 3 games and/or practices in addition to a maximum of 3 weeks vacation during the summer season. If a player misses more than this number of games, he/she can be removed from the team. There are two main reasons for this. First of all, it is unfair to the coach and the other players on the team to have someone away for such a large part of the season. Second of all, there may be players on the waiting list who are available but aren't getting the chance to play. Thus, we ask that you not register anyone who will be away for an extended period.

4. **Depending on the schedules, we may have a conflict with other sports/activities. Should we still register?**
   As in the previous point, you are making a commitment (on behalf of your child) to be at practices and games on a consistent basis (with the exception of 3 weeks or less vacation time). If you cannot meet this commitment, it is unfair to the coach and the other players. We provide you with a tentative schedule to assist you in your planning. The tentative schedule generally becomes the final schedule, however changes to these schedules may be necessary once we know how many players have registered for each of the divisions. If you register and then later withdraw (before the deadline) you will be charged the administrative fee.

5. **What happens after I drop off the registration form?**
   Once we get most of the registrations, we determine how many teams there will be in each division, ensure that there are enough coaches and convenors and we do an initial assignment of players to teams. The resulting team lists and pre-season schedules are posted at Mount Joy for the Orientation Night for each division. If you cannot make it to the Orientation Night, this information will be available on the club's website and will also remain posted at Mount Joy for several days. This information will tell you which team your son or daughter has been assigned to and when and where to show up for the first pre-season session. If your child is on a waiting list, he/she will not be on any of the team lists at the Orientation Night.

6. **When will player photos be taken?**
   Player photos for U6 to U18 will be taken on June 12 and 13, 2010 at Mount Joy Indoor Soccer Centre. A schedule will be distributed to all players and published on the club's website. U4 photos will be taken June 16 & 18. U5 photos will be taken June 15 & 17. U3 photos will be taken June 20. U3, U4 and U5 photos will be taken on the field during the regularly scheduled game time. Please check the website for any future schedule changes.

7. **What happens on Closing Day?**
   The Micro Divisions each have their own Closing Day activities involving all players in the division. The U8 to U18 house league divisions have a Closing Day that revolves around the Championship play-off games and presentation of awards for the season.

8. **How do I know if a game is cancelled due to bad weather?**
   You will be notified if the club has formally cancelled a game due to extreme weather or field closure. Otherwise, **coaches and their teams must show up at the field.** As long as a game is still scheduled, **the referee shall have the sole authority to cancel the game** due to unsuitable field or weather conditions. Outdoor games will normally proceed even if it is raining but must be halted by the referee in the event of lightning. If in doubt – show up; otherwise your team may forfeit the game.

9. **Tax Receipts –** Receipts will be provided in January 2011, All-Star receipts are provided by the team.

10. **How can I help?**
    OK we don't get this question that frequently. Some people actually think that some or all of the coaches, convenors, Board members and other volunteers are paid. They don't understand that without (unpaid) volunteers, this organization couldn't exist and their child wouldn't get to play soccer. If you want this community soccer club to continue providing good quality economical programs, please help us with your talents and enthusiasm. Many roles do not require specific soccer expertise. For those that do, we can provide training and information. Make your contribution to the community. Just fill in the volunteer section on the registration form.

If you are interested in applying for a volunteer position or if you need more information about the positions that are available, please contact the Executive Director, Lyn Wallington at 905-472-2869 Ext 311.