



PRESS RELEASE

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WARRENTON YOUTH SPORTS CLUB (WYSC) INVITES COMMUNITY'S YOUNGEST TO JOIN LEAGUE

WYSC Invites Age 3, 4 & 5 Year Olds to Register for Spring Soccer

WARRENTON, VIRGINIA – March 17, 2016 – Warrenton Youth Sports Club (WYSC) invites children ages 3, 4 and 5 years old to join its spring soccer season. Registration is open now and is available through www.wyesc.org. Children are placed onto small, co-ed teams and meet 1-2 times a week.* Teams are led by a professional coach who works well with young children, creating a fun and enthusiastic atmosphere. The focus of soccer for these young teams is to promote exercise, teamwork, and the joy of interactive play.

Teams at this age do not play actual soccer games, but use soccer balls, teamwork and exercise-driven games and activities on the field to play and move together. Parents are encouraged to stay for the length of the practice, and in some cases assist the coaches and participate in the fun with their preschooler. Examples of coach-led games include *leap-frog soccer*, *shark island*, and *freeze-tag soccer*. These games, combined with dribbling and passing drills, make up most of the practice time.

"There is nothing too serious about soccer at this level. It is all about getting the children to use their imaginations, enjoy the concept of teamwork, and establish a good comradery with their coach. The children enjoy the fresh air and exercise while playing interactive games, and there are a lot of laughs. We hope these young players will get used to having a ball at their feet, go home with smiles, and want to come back for more," says Melissa King, Recreational Soccer Coordinator.

WYSC soccer teams are grouped by age – and more specifically birthdate. The youngest players' teams are referred to as U4 ("under 4" – or age 3 and younger 4's) and U5 divisions ("under 5" or older 4's

and younger 5's). *Players in the U4 division practice once a week on Saturdays or Sundays throughout the season, and parents may specify which day they prefer. Players in the U5 division will adhere to this schedule as well, but also have an optional practice time on Tuesdays.

All U4 & U5 teams use the Athey Fields, located behind the Warrenton Aquatics Recreation Facility (WARF). Parking is located at the top of the fields off of Route 211 via a gravel parking lot, and parking is available at the WARF as well. The WARF and Athey Fields boast miles of walking trails and a "Fun for All" (handicap accessible) playground that many in the community use for family fun and exercise.

Oscar Blanco, director of WYSC soccer, volleyball and basketball programs says, "As a league, we offer several sports for many different ages. We believe in introducing the concepts of sports to children early – teamwork, respect, self-control, discipline, the love of playing the game, healthy lifestyle choices, and making exercise a part of life. We welcome the young children to experience this with us – we are like a family here, and we want the community to come and play with us for years to come."

WYSC soccer teams for older five year olds and six year olds exist in the U6 ("under 6") category, and these teams begin to follow the traditional soccer team format of 1-2 practices per week, with a coached game on Saturdays or Sundays (again, parents have the option to request which day works best for them). Practice field locations for U6 divisions and older may vary, but all recreational games are played at the Athey Complex. For questions regarding age divisions or team placement, please contact Melissa at mking@wysc.org.

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WYSC

Warrenton Youth Sports Club (WYSC) is a multi-sports focused non-profit organization focused on bringing recreational and competitive opportunities to the community. WYSC's Website is www.wysc.org.