



ABINGTON YOUTH SOCCER

2024 FALL SEASON

(Games September 6 – November 2)

WHAT'S NEW

Since 1976, our fall recreation program has focused on introducing the children of Abington to soccer, developing their skills in a fun setting, and instilling a lifelong love of the world's most popular sport.

In the past couple years we have offered both a fun fall rec program as well as a competitive fall travel program for players in grades 5-8. However, **the AYS Board has decided to only offer a rec program this fall.**

Offering a travel program at the same time as our traditional rec program requires significant additional resources: coaches, fieldtime, volunteers, etc. Meanwhile, the South Shore Soccer League Fall Travel League has fewer participating towns, which results in combined divisions and uneven competition levels. Also, there are no standings or playoffs.

We understand some will be disappointed by this decision. But we believe focusing on our core mission in the fall will benefit all in the long-term. In addition, by not having fall travel, AYS can conduct spring travel tryouts and form teams earlier, allowing for a faster jump into winter indoor sessions. If you have additional questions about this decision or our plans for the fall, feel free to reach out at ayspres@gmail.com or stop by our next Board meeting, which is scheduled for June 18.

REGISTRATION

Who: Children from pre-K (age 3) through Grade 8.

When: Registration is now open! Please register by **July 10th** to avoid a late fee.

How: [Click here](#) to access the Registration page!!!

COSTS

Fees to Play:

Date	Program	Total Cost
Before July 10	Minikickers	\$100
	Grade K -8	\$125
	Family discount – 2 players	-\$25
	Family max	\$300
July 10 and after	Late Fee	\$25 (per player)

FEE ASSISTANCE

If your family is experiencing a hardship, AYS offers fee assistance. Please [click here](#) to access the Financial Hardship Application.

TEAM GROUPINGS

Players will be placed on teams based on grade and gender in mid-August. Registration numbers could impact how grades are grouped

The below is how groupings have occurred over the past several years and the associated rules of play.

	Mini Kickers Age 3 – Pre K	Grade K	Grade 1/2	Grade 3/4	Grade 5/6	Grade 7/8
No. of Players	n/a	4 v 4	6 v 6	7 v 7	9 v 9	11 v 11
Game Location	Turf	Turf	Turf	Turf	Turf	Turf
Playing Time (minutes)	45-minute Instructional	10-minute Quarters	25-minute Halves	25-minute Halves	30-minute Halves	35-minute Halves
Goalkeeper	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Offsides	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Heading	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Ball Size	3	3	3	4	4	5
Goal Size	n/a	4' Popup	5' x 7'	6.5' x 12'	6.5' x 18'	8'x24'
Typical Field Size (yds)	n/a	30 x 20	40 x 25	65 x 40	80 x 50	100 x 65

GAMES

When: Friday nights and Saturdays from Sept. 6 – Nov, 2 (See below **for more details**)

Where: Abington High School Turf Fields

Game Times (These are estimates; times could change depending on the number of teams in each age group. Times may also change based on HS athletic schedule)

	Boys	Girls
Minikickers	Saturdays at 8 AM	Saturdays at 9 AM
Grade K Rec Grade 1/2 Rec	Saturdays at 8 AM	Saturdays at 9:15 AM
Grade 3/4 Rec	Fridays at 6:30 PM Saturdays at 10:30 AM	Fridays at 6:30 PM Saturdays at 11:45 AM
Grade 5/6 Rec	Fridays at 6:30 PM Saturdays at 10:30 AM	Fridays at 6:30 PM Saturdays at 11:45 AM
Grade 7/8 Rec	Friday Nights at 7:45 PM	

PRACTICES AND CLINICS

The below optional sessions are included in the fall registration fee. You must register for Fall soccer prior to taking part in any of the below. All training will take place at Abington HS, either on the turf or front grass field.

Summer Skills Training

- 2x a week (days TBD); 45 minute sessions
- For Grades 1-8
- Grades 1-2 @ 5 p.m.; Grades 3-5 @ 6 p.m.; Grades 6-8 @ 7 p.m.

Pickup Games

- Monday nights July 22 – August 19
- For 5&6 and 7&8 age groups.
- Teams will be coed and created each Monday based on participation

Fall Team Practices

- Coaches will schedule one weekly practice for Grades 1-8 teams.
- Practices may start the week of August 26th based on field and coach availability

EQUIPMENT

- Shin pads are required and must be worn under socks.
- Soccer cleats or turf shoes are required (Mini Kickers may wear sneakers).
- Players are also encouraged to bring their own ball (see size chart above). Mini kickers players are provided a free ball at the generosity of [Abington Bank](#).
- All players will be provided a shirt.

JEWELRY

Jewelry may not be worn during the program for safety reasons. **This includes earrings... even for newly pierced ears.** Taping over earrings is not allowed per Mass. Youth Soccer insurance rules. Bracelets (hard or soft), necklaces, or chains are also not allowed.

AND LASTLY WE NEED YOU!

We rely exclusively on volunteers to become coaches. Without coaches, we cannot offer our programs to the children of Abington. To ensure your player has the opportunity to participate, please consider becoming involved as a coach or assistant coach. AYS will offer training assistance to all new coaches; we also reimburse fees for all U.S. Soccer Grassroots Coaching Courses. Small commitment, BIG rewards! [Click Here to sign up!](#)