



PAL SOCCER PROGRAM

Winter 2024 FAQ

Important Dates

Registration Opens	Late Registration Fee Starts On	Ratings	Practice Starts	First Game	Anticipated End of Season
7/29/2024	9/16/2024	9/30/24 – 10/4/24 (TBD)	Week of 11/4/23	Week of 11/20/23	2/27/24

REGISTRATION FAQ

Q: When is registration?

A: Registration opens on July 29th, 2024, and closes on September 15th, 2024, or **AT CAPACITY**. Late fees are added to registrations on or after Sep 16th, 2024.

Q: How do I register?

A: You must register with the City of Plantation. Previous participants can register online at parks.plantation.org. New players must register in-person at Plantation Central Park Multi-Purpose Building. Only parents or legal guardians may register players. You must bring birth certificate & proof of residency to registration. For more information, please call Central Park’s front desk – 954-452-2510.

Q: What are the divisions and age rules?

A: We break up our teams according to age and gender. Boys and Girls divisions: 4-5 Clinic, 6, 7/8, 9/10, middle school (11-13), and high school (14-17). The division is based on the player's age as of September 1st, of their birth year.

Q: What is the Soccer Clinic?

A: Clinic soccer is for children ages 4 – 5 years old. The clinic is run by the professional staff of Plantation FC. They do fun drills, age-appropriate games, and finish with small, sided scrimmages. Clinic meets two hours per week, Friday nights (6:30pm to 7:30pm) and Saturday mornings. Boys’ clinic sessions on Saturday are at 8:30am, 10:30am, and 11:30am, girls at 9:30am. Clinic will not interfere with older children’s soccer schedule during the weekdays. Clinic’s start Saturday, November 2, 2024, and ends on February 1, 2025.

Q: Can my child play up a level?

A: A child must play in the league based on date of birth. Clinic age kids who have already played one year of clinic may move up to the 6-year-old league. All requests to move up 1 year from the clinic, 6, 7/8-year-old leagues must be approved by the Soccer Commissioner. No players can move up into the 9/10 or older divisions without a written waiver request to the Soccer Commissioner.

Q: What is the time commitment?

A: Team commitment is 3x per week (2 weekdays (M/W or T/TH) and Saturdays) Once a child is assigned to a team in the program, a child is not permitted to quit that team for other than a verifiable medical reason. A child must play on the team he/she is assigned to and will actively participate in all scheduled practices and games.

Q: How much does it cost? What does this cost include?

A: \$150 for Plantation residents and \$200 for non-residents. This fee includes a player’s uniform (jersey, shorts, socks), Florida Youth Soccer Association registration and insurance, trophies for 1st and 2nd place teams, and the cost of officials. The clinic fee is \$120 for residents and \$170 for non-residents. It includes a uniform and training by Plantation FC professional staff. Financial assistance is available for qualified families. After September 15th there will be a \$50 late fee added to registration and players may be placed on a waiting list.

Q: What equipment do I need to purchase for my child?

A: Cleats, shin guards and a ball to practice with. Shin guards must be size appropriate and cover the shins. Ball Sizes: Ages 4 - 6 size 3; Ages 7 – 10 size 4; Middle School and HS size 5.

Q: How does the league/coaches communicate?

A: League communicates via email or website. Coaches have the option to communicate via email, text, What's Up, Group Me, etc.

SCHEDULE FAQ

Q: When/where is practice?

A: Pre-season practice begins Monday, November 4th for ages 6-17. All practices will be scheduled at Pine Island Park, or another Plantation Park if conditions warrant. Clinics begins on Saturday, November 2, 2024.

Q: When/where are games?

A: Games will begin on Wednesday, November 20th. Games will be played during the week at 6:00 pm, 7:15 pm, or 7:30 pm and on Saturdays between 8:30am - 2:00pm. All games will be at Pine Island Park unless you are notified otherwise.

Q: How are teams scheduled for practice/games?

A: Schedules are made around volunteer coaches' availability.

Q: How many games are scheduled?

A: There are generally 12 games plus playoff games for ages 9 and up, at least 10 games will be scheduled to play. For ages 6 - 8, there will be at least 10 games, plus a jamboree on the last day. There will also be an all-star game at the end of season for ages 6 and up.

Q: When will I get a game schedule?

A: A schedule will be posted to the league website approximately 2 weeks prior to the first game.

Q: When will the season end?

A: February 27th, 2025 for Divisions 7/8 to HS, 6u/Clinic ends on Feb 1st.

Q: What holidays will there be no practice/games this season?

A: No clinic/practice/games – November 11, 2024 (Veteran's Day); November 25 to December 1, 2024 (Thanksgiving Break); December 23 to January 5, 2025 (Winter Break); January 20, 2025 (MLK Day); and February 17, 2025 (President's Day).

Q: Can you explain playoffs?

A: Playoffs are a double or single elimination tournament format, depending on the number of teams in a league. Tournament seeding is based on team records.

Q: Will there be an All-Star game?

A: Yes, an All-Star Game is scheduled for February 27, 2025, for ages 7/8 to HS and February 5, 2025 for 6u Division.

Q: When/where does the Soccer Clinic meet?

A: Clinic soccer (ages 4-5) will begin Saturday, November 4th, at Central Park, Field 2. Clinic soccer will meet Friday nights at 6:15pm and Saturday mornings between 8am and 12pm – exact times will be emailed the week of October 23rd.

TEAM BUILDING FAQ

Q: What are ratings and who needs to attend?

A: Mandatory ratings will be held for new players, players who did not play last year ages 7 and up, and all players in Middle School (6th to 8th grade). Ratings will be held the week of September 30 to October 4. Exact Dates will be posted on our website. Draft times will be 6pm – 7pm for ages 7-10; 7pm- 8pm for Middle School; and 8pm- 9pm for any new High School players.

Please visit the league website at:

<https://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=plantationssoccer> for updates, times, and field location.

Attendance is only required at 1 of the 2 sessions. Any child who does not attend ratings will be placed as a blind draft pick during the coach's draft. Blind draft pick players cannot be selected during a draft, they will be placed on a team randomly.

Q: When will coaches be selected?

A: Coaches who are selected to coach this season will be notified by October 11, 2024. Head coaches will be selected from volunteers who indicate on their child's registration form the desire to coach this season. New this year- coaches will be required to undergo a Level II Background check (includes fingerprints).

Q: What/when is the draft?

A: The draft will give the coaches a fair opportunity to choose the players for their team. This process is intended to help balance the teams as much as possible. Drafts will be scheduled after tryouts for league ages 7 through high school. Coaches should visit the league website for updates on the draft meetings. Players who do not attend or miss ratings cannot be selected during the draft; they will be randomly assigned to a team during the draft.

Q: Who attends the draft?

A: Only coaches attend the draft.

Q: When and how will I be notified which team my child is on?

A: Coaches should call their players within 7 days after the draft. If you have not received a call from a coach by this time, please email your league director (listed on the contacts section of the league website).

OTHER FAQ

Q: I have more questions – who can I contact?

A: You can contact your assigned league director below:
<https://www.leaguelineup.com/directors.asp?url=plantationssoccer>

Q: Can I request a specific coach?

A: No, coaches are only allowed their own son or daughter on a team and may freeze one child of either a team sponsor or an assistant coach.

Q: When will I get a uniform?

A: Uniforms will be distributed by the coaches at practice before games begin.

Q: Will there be a picture day?

A: Yes, please refer to <https://www.leaguelineup.com/welcome.asp?url=plantationssoccer> for future updates.

Q: How will I be notified if a game/practice is canceled due to weather?

A: For field closure status due to inclement weather, go to www.plantationfc.com home page and please sign up for emails or text alerts by clicking on the Rain Out icon. For ages 9 and up, a game will not necessarily be rescheduled, if at least 10 games are played.

You can scan the QR code below to view our weather stations, including lighting alert countdowns.



Q: How can I volunteer?

A: Simply indicate on your child’s registration form that you are willing to be a coach, assistant coach, or team parent. All coaches must pass background checks and complete Safe Sport Heads Up Concussion Training Video. Coaches must attend all games/practices or ensure proper coverage. Teams meet no more than 3x a week and coaches have the flexibility to pick their practice days.

Q: What is a team parent?

A: A team parent, also known as a team mom or team dad, is a parent volunteer who helps with the team’s administrative communication and other tasks for the coach. Their role often acts as the main point of contact between the coach and the other parents. Team parents often assist with off field activities so that the coach can focus on the players and team development.

Q: What is a team sponsor?

A: Any business or individual may sponsor a team by making a \$500 tax-deductible donation to the Plantation Athletic League. The sponsor will get his name/company name printed on every team jersey and will get a 2’ by 3’ banner at either Pine Island or Central Park. Head coaches may use their one player freeze to select a team sponsor’s child on their team before the league draft. If you are interested in becoming a team sponsor, please email lee@plantationfc.com or call him at 954-558-3080.

