FAQs

REGISTRATION

My child potentially has conflicts with another sport; should I still register?

You should consider the number of potential conflicts before making your decision. The potential for each child to improve, not only themselves, but their team is going to depend on the level of practice attendance. Child enjoyment and motivation in the program is also going to be linked to the amount of growth they experience.

COACHING

I would like to coach in this program - how do I do that?

Click here to view our coaches checklist.

Coaches should only commit to volunteering for this program if they:

- Can complete the coaches checklist in a timely manner;
- Commit to the majority of team events and organize coverage for their team if they are unable;
- Commit to a team whose final player assignments are made by the NORTAC Programming Leadership team

If you have questions on coaching itself and resources on the checklist, please contact the Director of Coaching (doc@nortac.org).

I am interested in volunteer coaching, but do not have any previous experience. Can I still coach in the program?

Yes! Enthusiasm to work with youth and a willingness to learn through the guidance of the Director of Coaching are the most important components.

I would like to coach in the program but the preliminary practice days don't work with my schedule. Can I still coach a team?

We will make every attempt to accommodate your schedule, particularly if it is a pre-arranged group of kids that can also practice on the days that you are available.

PROGRAMMING

Will groups be co-ed or single gender?

U4 through U6 are the most likely age groups to be co-ed.

How are players grouped?

The objective within each group is to have as much **parity in competence** between players as possible.

When completing the registration, families can submit a "friend request" (**not guaranteed**). Please ensure first and last names of friends are used for any special requests.

Playing up or down an age group may be considered **if it makes sense developmentally** for a player.

Age groups may be combined to create enough teams for an in-house league.

PCSA and SSUL leagues (non in-house leagues) do not permit players to play down on a "younger" team.

PARTICIPATION AND LEARNING

What should my son or daughter bring to each team event (practices and games)?

Soccer ball with name on it (family purchase)
Cleats
Shin-guards (not required for Sparks)
Water
Enough clothing layers
Red NORTAC jersey (provided by NORTAC and distributed at the first practice session)
Black shorts and soccer socks (family purchase)

What will my son or daughter learn?

Our first focus is to help kids develop the best possible **behaviors** to optimize their character development. Click here to review our principles of coaching that guide our learning environments.

Curriculums and ongoing guidance are provided to each volunteer coach and specific learning objectives are utilized for each age group. Click on a curriculum below to review your son or daughter's age group:

Sparks U6 U7 U8 U9-U10 U11+

What are the expected behaviors of coaches, parents and players at NORTAC ?

Click here for our coach agreements.
Click here for our parent agreements.
Click here for our player agreements.
Click here for further parent education.

PLAYER PATHWAYS AND ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMMING OPTIONS

What are the differences between NORTAC Programming and Sparta Tacoma?

Click here to review the similarities and differences between these two programs. Sparta Tacoma teams are our highest competitive level teams starting at U8.