



MIDDLESEX YOUTH SOCCER LEAGUE

Middlesex Invitational

2021

Friday, June 18 - Sunday, June 20th

Congratulations and welcome to Middlesex Youth Soccer League's 2021 Middlesex Invitational Weekend.

This year's event will be hosted by Wilmington Youth Soccer and will be held at the Wilmington Youth Soccer Association facilities at Shawsheen Fields, Yentile Farms Recreation Facility and Whitefield Field. Please visit www.wilmingtonyouthsoccer.org for information on the Wilmington Youth Soccer complexes and field directions

Teams from Grade 34 divisions 1-5 will compete in a three game round robin format Friday thru Sunday.

Teams from Grade 56 division 3, 4 & 5 and Grade 78 division 3, 4 & 5 will compete in single elimination series of games, semi-final games on Saturday and finals on Sunday. All game schedules, team and game information are available on the league's website, SportsManager. Please note that at this time some tie breaker / play in games remain to be played prior to the start of the event and those teams which qualify will be added to the SportsManager schedule as the game results are submitted. Some previously scheduled game times and locations may also require adjustment so please be sure to verify your game schedule.

Coaches are required to check in at least one half hour prior to the scheduled start of their first game of each day at the check in area to the west (right) side of the Concession Building. For games at Yentil and Whitfield, the team will check in at the field with the referee. Coach shall submit two (2) copies of the approved game roster with watermark, complete with jersey numbers for all players at the time of check in. All rostered coaches must have their Mass Youth Identification credential at check in and at all times during the event.

The team pre-game player safety check will be performed adjacent to the team check in prior to the team heading to the assigned field. All players must be assembled for the safety inspection. Any late players or coaches will be required to be checked in at the tent prior to heading to the field. One copy of the team roster will remain at the check in tent after player check in.

The Middlesex Youth Soccer League's Board of Directors directs your attention and adherence to the rules of the tournament, zero tolerance policy and field information on the following pages to ensure a safe and enjoyable soccer weekend.

No dogs or pets are allowed on site or on any of the fields
Tailgating and Barbequing are not allowed
Shade tents are allowed in designated areas Only

June 16, 2021

Fellow MYSL members,

Congratulations on a great season and welcome to the Middlesex Youth Soccer League's 2021 Middlesex Invitational Weekend.

This weekend is a celebration of your return to soccer after a long period of interruptions and restrictions starting in the early spring of 2020. It is a great accomplishment to get to this point and you should all be as proud of yourselves, as we are.

As many of you are aware, inappropriate conduct and outrageous behavior continues to be a problem for youth sports organizations. Please be reminded that MYSL has Zero Tolerance for this type of behavior between and from any combination of our players, coaches, parents, guardians and spectators involved with or in attendance at any MYSL event and this policy will be strictly enforced.

MYSL will not tolerate obscene or vulgar language, derogatory comments regarding race, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation, aggressive behavior, sarcasm, harassment, taunting, verbal or physical threats during any MYSA event, from or toward anyone within its membership.

The role of the coach as role model for their players cannot be underestimated. The coach sets the tone for the team and it is their responsibility to maintain control, support the referees and to address and resolve any issues that may arise with their players, parents, guardians or spectators prior to, during and after the game, at the field and surrounding areas. Encourage the players and promote good sportsmanship!

We are all here to provide a safe and enjoyable environment in which our children may develop their soccer skills and hopefully a love for the game. Our goal is to teach them to be part of a team and learn the values of respect, integrity and good sportsmanship. These are life lessons they will carry with them beyond the soccer field and MYSL. Most importantly, we want them to feel safe and to have fun.

To help promote these goals, we will have Field Marshalls who will monitor the behavior of the players, coaches and spectators throughout the event.

Thank you for your time regarding this very important issue.

Again, congratulations on your season and best of luck this weekend.

Sincerely,

Kenneth G. Antonucci Sr.

Kenneth G. Antonucci, Sr.
Director - 2021 Middlesex Invitational
Vice President of Development
Middlesex Youth Soccer League

Coach, Player and Spectator Conduct

Please review the MYSL Coaches Code of Conduct and Rules 21, 22 & 23 attached to this packet.

It is the responsibility of ALL coaches to maintain the highest standards of conduct for themselves, their players and spectators (supporters) in all matches. Abusive, vulgar or obscene language, derogatory comments regarding race, gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation, aggressive behavior, violent play, violent conduct, fighting, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation and other behavior detrimental to the game will not be tolerated. A coach's responsibility for referee support and spectator control includes the times prior to, during and after the game at the field and surrounding areas. Failure to do so will undermine the referee's authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for players, the referee and all other participants and spectators.

The persons responsible for a team and spectators will not address the referee at all during the play of the game.

Exceptions for persons responsible for a team (Coaches and Assistant Coaches) During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication.
- Making Substitutions.
- Pointing out emergencies or safety issues.

Exceptions for Spectators: During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication.
- Pointing out emergencies or safety issues.

MYSL recommends that the referee deal with coach(es) and spectator(s) infractions in accordance with FIFA Law 5 of the Game.

If the referee abandons the match, directs a person to leave the area, or issues a caution; the referee shall send a misconduct report for review – see MYSL Rule 29. MYSL asks that the information provided by the referee in the misconduct report be sufficient and detailed to determine follow-up actions required by the Commissioners, Age Directors and/or Sportsmanship Committee.

Any player, coach or team official physically or verbally assaulting a referee will be suspended a minimum of one (1) year. If the incident is considered serious, the Commissioner and Sportsmanship Committee may impose an indefinite suspension.

If you get ejected you will automatically be suspended for the remainder of the tournament and potentially any follow on MTOC playoff games.

Please see Middlesex Youth Soccer Spring 2021 Rules for the complete Rule 21 - Coach and Fan Conduct (Zero Tolerance Policy), Rule 22- Ejections and Rule 23- Player/Coach Infractions at www.middlesexsoccer.org under the information/files tab.

MYSL 2021 Middlesex Invitational Check In Rules & Information

Team check in will be at the west (right) side of the field house, opposite the concession area.

All players and rostered coaches **must** check in a minimum of 30 minutes before the first game of each day. Please be sure to have all players and coaches present when approaching the registration tent to be checked in. Any late player or coach will need to be checked in prior to be allowed to enter the field.

All players **must** present themselves dressed to play, in matching uniforms which include matching team jerseys, shorts and socks.

Coaches **must** submit the following at check in:

- Mass Youth Identification Credential for all rostered coaches to be on the team sideline.
- Two signed copies of the team's 2021 game roster with approved watermark and player jersey numbers. The tournament officials will keep one copy of the rosters. Coaches **must** have an approved 2021 spring roster in their possession during all games

All coaches and players must remain in the marked technical area and not creep up to the mid field line. All substitutions must take place at the mid field line.

Teams must provide soccer balls for use in the game.

Commemorative T shirts will be presented to all participants and coaches in the Grade 34 divisions. Commemorative T shirts will be presented to the players and coaches of the winning team of each Grade 56 and Grade 78 final game.

Sun shades or canopies may be used over team bench areas however they must be anchored if on grass fields and weighted on turf fields (no anchors allowed) and must be placed a minimum of three yards from the sideline.

No food or drink allowed on turf fields. Water only.

Please be sure to clean up your team area and vacate the area immediately after your game has completed to make room for the next upcoming team.

The Middlesex Invitational Director will have the final say on any and all discrepancies that may occur.

Protests will not be entertained

Additional Information:

Spectators need to remain behind the spectator lines at all times and at no time are allowed to be behind the goal line or goal.

Rest room facilities are available at the field house adjacent to the concession at Shawsheen Fields.

Concessions will be available at all three field locations.

Fine Designs, our custom apparel vendor, will be on site for anyone interested in purchasing MYSL Middlesex Invitational 2021 apparel or souvenirs.

2021 Middlesex Invitational Rules of Competition

Grade 34 All Divisions - 7v7 Match Rules

- Halves are 20 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- There will be no overtime. Games may end in a tie.
- Games need to be started on time. Teams should be warmed up ready to begin when the game ahead of them ends.
- Sent-off players or dismissed team officials must leave the playing area and may not remain with their team.
- A player sent-off for serious foul play or violent conduct will be disqualified for the remainder of the event.
- Any coach who is dismissed from any match is disqualified for the remainder of event.□
- FIFA Laws of the Game and MYSL Grade 34 playing rules are in force for anything else not mentioned above.

Grade 78 Division 3, 4 & 5 - 11v11 Match Rules

- Halves are 30 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- Games need to be started on time. Teams should be warmed up ready to begin at the designated time.
- A winner must be determined. Therefore, overtime, two 5 min halves, and kicks from the penalty spot, if necessary, will be used. If overtime is needed, both halves will be played to completion. If the score is still tied, then teams will proceed immediately to kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with FIFA rules.
- All matches unfinished due to any cause shall be replayed if neither team is at fault. However, if play is stopped at any time due to one of the teams being adjudged to be at fault, it shall be at the discretion of the Invitational Director whether the game is to be replayed or declared a forfeit.
- Sent-off players or dismissed team officials must leave the playing area and may not remain with their team.
- A player sent-off for serious foul play or violent conduct will be disqualified for the remainder of the event.
- Any coach who is dismissed from any match is disqualified for the remainder of event.
- FIFA Laws of the Game and MYSL Grade 78 – 11v11 playing rules are in force for anything else not mentioned above

Grade 56 Division 3, 4 & 5 - 9v9 Match Rules

- Halves are 25 minutes long with a 5-minute rest interval between halves.
- All of the above Grade 78 rules apply.