

Signal Mountain Soccer League

Select or Recreational?

SMSL provides both recreational and select leagues for our youth players. The following information should help parents and coaches in determining the proper league for their player and give instructions on how to go about forming such a team.

What is the difference between Select and Recreational teams?

Any youth player can join Rec. and is assured a spot on a team. Rec. guarantees playtime of at least half of each game. Rec. practices and plays on Signal until the U12 age group. Once U12, Rec. practices on Signal but plays both on and off the mountain (travel to Middle Valley, Camp Jordan, Redoubt, etc. – these games are usually no more than 35 minutes away from Signal.) Rec. has all-boy and all-girl teams (Fall) and some co-ed (Spring). Financial commitment: Registration fee of \$75/season (includes uniform).

Select has tryouts and does not guarantee a spot on the team. Select does not guarantee playing time. The coach determines who plays to give the team the advantage. Select practices on Signal, scrimmages locally, and (usually once they are U10) travels to tournaments in and out-of-state throughout the year. Amount of travel is determined by the team. Select teams are all-boy or all-girl (however, a boy team may take on a girl player). Financial commitment: Tryout fees, registration fee of \$55/year plus uniforms, tournament fees, coaching fees and travel fees. There is also a \$25/player field maintenance fee assessed the spring season payable to SMSL.

How old does my child have to be in order to play Select?

The state dictates that the youngest team will be U9, meaning that your child can be no younger than eight years old and their birthday must fall between the state's age range for that year.

We have some players who want to play Select, what do we do?

1. Elect someone in your group to become team manager (contact person throughout the process.)
2. Contact the SM Soccer Board and inform them of your plans. You'll be provided all the pertinent information to the formation of the team at that point.
3. If you don't have a coach, contact our Coaching Director and she will locate a coach for you. If you have a coach in mind, contact our Coaching Director and the SMSL Board for approval. A coach must have a minimum of an E license.
4. You must advertise tryouts by sending a flyer to each eligible player on Signal and by placing an announcement in the paper. You may not proceed with tryouts until the Board has approved your request.

My child didn't make the Select team but wants to play – what do I do?

You can sign up with the Rec. league even if your child is trying out so they are guaranteed a spot on a Rec. team if they don't make it. (Please note this on the registration form.) If he/she makes the Select team your fees will be applied accordingly. **Note: All U9 and U10 players must play Rec. and Select simultaneously in the fall.** (\$75 Rec. league fee plus \$30 Select fee.)