

THE CITY OF
Anna

Youth Soccer
Fall 2023

Registration Packet
& Rule Book



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LEAGUE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

League registration can be completed in one of the three following ways:

- a. Online Registration: Follow the Registration Link at <https://www.annatexas.gov/1363/Youth-Soccer>
 - i. Returning Customers: Registration is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during the registration dates. Your account should have already been created within the system.
 - ii. Use your email on file as your login. Click “Forgot Your Password?” to create a new password if you have forgotten yours.
 - iii. New Customers: Please click “Log In/ Create Account.”
 - iv. If you have questions or to receive more information, call the Recreation staff at 469-885-9428.
 - v. Payments Accepted: American Express, Discover Card, MasterCard, or Visa.
 1. Check your receipt to ensure your child was registered for the correct league and age division.
 - b. Phone Registration: Please call the Recreation staff to register your child by phone.
 - c. To register by phone, you will be required to make your registration payment by card (American Express, Discover Card, MasterCard, or Visa).
 - d. Walk-In Registration: Please submit your registration form and registration fee at the time of registration.
 - i. Walk-In Registration will be offered at: 120 W 7th Street Anna, TX 75409.
- B. Refunds: Refunds will be prorated after schedules have been made.

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Amy Lacey - Sports Recreation Coordinator
alacey@annatexas.gov
Office (214)831-5336
Recreation Cell Phone (459)406-7493

Jeff Freeth - Assistant Director of Neighborhood Services
jfreeth@annatexas.gov
(214)831- 5350

**Most days, at least one staff member will be in the office between the hours of 9AM and 5PM Monday through Friday.*

Uniforms/Equipment

- A. Jersey tops must be tucked in, and all players on a team are expected to wear matching jerseys with a number on the back.
- B. No jewelry, including piercings, may be worn.
- C. No hats with hard brims (like baseball caps) or hard headbands. Beanies / cloth headbands are allowed.
- D. Cleats - Rubber ONLY. No metal cleats allowed. No football, baseball, or softball cleats with a toe cleat. Tennis shoes or turf shoes with waffle bottoms are acceptable.
- E. Shin Guards are REQUIRED for participation, socks must cover the entire shin guard.

Weather

- A. In the event of unfavorable weather/field conditions that lead to game cancellation/delay, all league directors will notify their head coaches, who are then responsible for notifying their parents. The Weather Hotline Number is: 469-218-9696
- B. If weather conditions become unfavorable during a game:
 - a. Site Supervisor (4U/6U) or Referee (8U) will make the decision to delay/cancel games.
 - b. A game must reach halftime to be considered complete. If a game does not reach halftime before it is cancelled, it will be rescheduled.

Game Clock

- A. All games are limited by time. All games will be timed, by a designated Home Team coach or parent for 4U and 6U. A referee will time games for 8U.

Practices

- A. Practice days, times, and locations will be coordinated with the league manager. Coaches meeting will take place on August 15, 2023.

Games

- A. While The City of Anna plans for and schedules 8 games for each team, we cannot guarantee all 8 games will be played each season. Conditions outside of our control, such as the weather, may force us to eliminate games to meet the time requirements provided to us by the City of Anna.

Game Locations

- A. All league games will be played at Slayter Creek Park in Anna. To assist our department, we ask every team to police their fields for trash after the games and practices.

Team Formation

- A. Teams are formed based on age. Players are placed on teams after registration closes by the league director.
- B. Players may request a teammate or coach at registration, but we cannot guarantee same team placement.

League schedules

- A. All schedules, standings, game results, league information, and communication will be posted in CivicRec and communicated via email. Game and practice schedules will also be posted on annatexas.gov under the Parks and Recreation tab.
- B. League Schedules
 - a. League administrators will begin formulating league schedules the day after the registration period concludes.
 - b. Once league schedules have been posted, league administrators will not reschedule games at the request of any team or coach.

Sportsmanship

- A. Coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their players, parents, assistant coaches and themselves. Poor sportsmanship or disrespect toward any referee, opposing player or coach will not be tolerated. Coaches, parents and players are to speak to all players in a positive and supportive manner. Violations will result in the Referee / Site Manager ejecting the coach, parent, or player from the field. League administrators will investigate all ejections and act accordingly.
- B. Fouls and Misconduct
 - a. A player who commits any of the following six (6) offenses shall be penalized by the award of an indirect free kick to the opponents.
 - i. Kicks or attempts to kick an opponent.
 - ii. Trips an opponent (i.e., throwing or attempting to throw an opponent by using the legs or by deliberately/intentionally stopping in front of or directly behind the opponent).
 - iii. Charges an opponent in a violent or dangerous manner.
 - iv. Holds an opponent with the hand or any part of the arm.
 - v. Pushes an opponent with the hand or any part of the arm.
 - vi. Handles the ball (i.e., strikes, or propels the ball with the hand or arm). It should not be considered a “hand ball” when any player attempts to protect the vital areas of the body (chest, crotch, face, etc.) by placing hands or arms across them to protect them from being struck by the ball. The official / coach shall be the sole judge of whether the hands or arms were used deliberately to propel the ball.
 - b. A player or coach shall be sent off the field of play if:
 - i. In the opinion of the official / coach, the player or coach is guilty of fighting.
 - ii. The player or coach uses foul, abusive, or improper language. If play is stopped by reason of a player being ordered from the field for an offense without a separate breach of the rule having been committed, the game shall be resumed by an indirect free kick awarded to the opposing side from the place where the infringement occurred. The player or coach sent off can be replaced with another player or registered coach from the same team. The player or coach being sent off must sit out the rest of that game.
 - iii. If there is not a registered coach to take the place of the evicted coach, the game will be forfeited by the team with the infraction.

Player Substitution

4U and 6U:

- A. Substitutions are best made at the beginning of each quarter or half to encourage the kids to play the entire time. Players may be substituted by coach discretion if a player leaves the playing field upon his or her own will and does not want to play, or if a player is injured or in duress. As determined by the referee/coach.

8U:

- A. Substitutions may be made when the ball is out of play and with the consent of the referee. Head coach must get the referees attention and call “Sub” before the ball is put back into play.

Head Contact / Injury

- A. If a referee witnesses a head injury, play will stop immediately so that the coach can come onto the field and tend to the player. All other injury stoppages are left to referee discretion.

Forfeits

- A. All age divisions: If your team will be short players and cannot play the game, please check with the other coaches to see if you can loan a player from their roster. If a player is not available to loan, please call the league administrator at least 45 minutes prior to game start to notify us of the forfeit. **Rec cell phone: 469-406-7493 Email: alacey@annatexas.gov**
- B. 8U: A forfeit will be scored a 3-0 win in favor of the team not at fault. As a courtesy to the team you are playing, please contact the league coordinator 45 minutes prior to your game to let us know if you are forfeiting. This will give us enough time to contact the team you're playing and make referees aware of the forfeit.
- C. If an Anna City League registered coach is not available to be present at the game, that team must forfeit the game.

Coaches, Parents, & Players

Coaches

- A. One Coach per team (4U/6U) is allowed on the field to administer the game and provide direction for the game on kick offs, corner kicks, goals kicks.
- B. 8U Coaches are required to wear their identification lanyard at every game for the referees to know who the head coach is. Whomever is coaching the game must wear the lanyard.
- C. All Coaches are responsible for the actions and behaviors of themselves, their team's parents, and their team's players.
- D. All Coaches are expected to high-five or shake hands with the opposing team after every game, regardless of the outcome.
- E. All Coaches are expected to display good sportsmanship. Failure to do so can lead to an ejection from the premises and a meeting with league officials.

Parents/Spectators

- A. Parents/spectators are NOT allowed on the field of play at any time. Parents/spectators are to remain on the designated sideline OPPOSITE of the team sideline.
- B. Parents/spectators are NOT allowed on the team sideline OR in the areas behind the goals.
- C. Parents are expected to display good sportsmanship. Failure to do so can lead to an ejection from the premises and a meeting with league officials.

Players

- A. Players are expected to display good sportsmanship towards teammates, opponents, and all coaches.
- B. Players are expected to high-five or shake hands with the opposing team after every game, regardless of the outcome.

League Administrators

- A. City of Anna Parks & Recreation staff (the League Commissioners) have the final say in disputes that may arise during, before, or after games. They can make executive decisions about weather, behavior, and rule protests regardless of the game location.

Division Game Play

General Rules

4U and 6U:

- A. U4: age 3 or 4 by August 12, 2023.
- B. U6: Age 5 or 6 by August 12, 2023.
- C. A player may play up an age division, but not down. Please register your child in the appropriate age division then call or email to have them moved to the requested age division. Do not alter their birthdate.
- D. Field Size: 20 yards wide and 30 yards long.
- E. Goal Size: Goal size is 4ft high and 6 ft wide.
- F. Ball Size: Size 3 Soccer Ball.
- G. Number of Players on the Field: Game shall be played 3 vs. 3 (4U no less than 3 on the field), 4 vs. 4 (6U no less than 3 on the field)
- H. Goalie: There are NO goalies.
- I. Scoring: There is NO score kept.
- J. Off-sides: There are no off-sides.
- K. Game Length: Four 10-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters and a 4 minute half-time period.

8U:

- A. Age 7 or 8 by August 12, 2023.
- B. Field Size: 30 yards wide and 50 yards long.
- C. Goal Size: Goal size is 4.5 ft high and 9 ft wide.
- D. Ball Size: Size 4 Soccer Ball.
- E. Number of Players on the Field: Game shall be played 5 vs. 5 (including goalie no less than 4 on the field).
- F. Goalie: 1 goalie per team wearing a different color jersey or goalie jersey (different color than both teams. A pinnie may be worn over the team jersey). Goalie jerseys are not required to have a number on the back.
- G. Scoring: 1 point for each goal scored.
- H. Off-sides: There are no off-sides.
- I. Game Length: Four 10-minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters and a 5 minute half-time period.

Referees

- A. There are no referees for 4U and 6U. Coaches will act as "referee" during the game.
- B. There will be 1 referee for 8U games.
- C. The referee/coaches can stop the game for infringement of the rules and can suspend or terminate the game whenever the referee deems such stoppage necessary, for example, severe weather, interference by spectators and/or coaches.

Coaches

- A. One coach per team is allowed on the field in the 4U and 6U divisions.
- B. No coaches allowed on the field for 8U division.
- C. Coaches must stay in the designated Team area on the sideline and may not coach from the spectator side or from behind the goal.

Kick-Off

- A. Kick off will be decided at the beginning of the game by a coin toss with the team winning the toss choosing the side of the field. The team losing the coin toss will kick off. Teams will switch kick off and sides of the field for the second half. Opponents must be at least 10 (ten) feet from the ball.

Free kicks (indirect)

- A. Kick-off, goal kicks and fouls are indirect kicks (i.e., a goal cannot be scored by kicking the ball directly into the goal: the ball must first be touched by another player). Defending players must be at least 12 (twelve) feet / 4 (four) yards away from the ball at the time of the free kick.
- B. Each half starts with a kick-off. Second and fourth quarters are restarted on the field where play in the previous quarter ended with a stoppage of play.

Fouls and Misconduct

- A. A player who commits any of the following offenses shall be penalized by the award of an indirect free kick to the opponents:
- Kick or attempts to kick an opponent.
 - Trips an opponent.
 - Charges opponent in violent or dangerous manner.
 - Holds an opponent with the hand or any part of the arm.
 - Pushes an opponent with the hand or any part of the arm.
 - Handles the ball, "handball": a "handball" shall not be called when the player is attempting to protect themselves from being struck by the ball. The referee (8U) has full discretion.
- B. A player or coach shall be ejected from the game/field immediately if:
- In the opinion of referee/coach, the player is guilty of fighting or uses foul, abusive, or improper language.

Ball Out of Play

- A. The ball is out of bounds when the whole ball passes over the whole sideline or goal line. The ball will be put back in play by the opposing team as follows:
- Played over the sideline: 4U and 6U: A kick-in is taken at the point the whole ball crossed the line. 8U: A throw in is taken at the point the whole ball crossed the line.
 - A throw in will be thrown with both hands at the same time from over head while a part of both feet are kept on the ground.
 - Played over the goal line by the **defending** team: 4U and 6U: a kick-in is taken at the point where the whole ball crossed the line. 8U: a **corner kick** is taken by the attacking team from the corner arc on the side of the fields where the ball crossed the goal line.
 - Played over the goal line by the **attacking** team: 4U and 6U: a kick-in is taken at the point where the whole ball crossed the line. 8U: a **goal kick** is taken by the defending team from anywhere in the goal area.
 - A goal is scored when the whole ball passes completely over the goal line between the goal post and under the crossbar.

Note: All kicks restarting play are indirect; therefore, a goal cannot be scored from a restart except as defined unless the ball is touched by two players. The kick-in shall be restarted if the player kicking-in touches the ball a second time before any other player touches the ball. Defending players must be 12 (twelve) feet / 4 (four) yards from the ball at kick-in.

Goalies

- A. 4U/6U players are only allowed to stand inside the goal box if they are directly playing the ball. Players may play defensive positions but must move up the field with the play. All children should be involved in the action.
- B. 8U Goalies can use hands, feet or any other body part to defend the goal. Heading is prohibited.
- C. 8U Goalies may kick or throw the ball back into play (one handed or tow handed throw).
- D. 8U: No player shall make physical contact with the goalkeeper, harass the goalkeeper, or attempt to play the ball once the goalkeeper has possession of the ball in any manner and to any degree whatsoever. Note: Generally, one finger on the ball is considered possession.

Slide Tackling

- A. Slide tackling is strictly prohibited and will not be allowed under any circumstances.

Heading

- A. Purposely heading the ball is prohibited. If a player heads the ball, the referee shall award an indirect free kick to the opposing team at the spot of the infraction.

**The contents of this packet are intended to be guidelines for the operation of the City of Anna. League officials reserve the right to adjust this document and other league rules and procedures as necessary to provide the best recreational soccer opportunity for all involved. **

