



GLOUCESTER DRAGONS RECREATIONAL SOCCER

A Proud Member Of The Gloucester Soccer Association

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May Communication to Parents

The soccer season is now upon us! Play starts the week of May 18th. I would like to take this opportunity to bring everyone up to date on changes from last year and new developments.

Age group divisions are now known as Micros (5-7), Mini's (8-11) and Youth (12-18). The biggest changes affect the Mini group as this year we incorporated the OSA Mini rules. Details of these can be found at: <http://www.soccer.on.ca/OSN.nsf/dbb55973bc995f658525681c007c4497/1d5b2e02258c9038852570c3005bd517?OpenDocument>. Some of these changes include only 7 on the field with a maximum of 14 per team, no throw-ins for U8-10 and no off-side U8-11. We believe this will help focus on skills and ensure all members of the team have an active chance to get in the play. It is important to note that even though U8 is included in the Mini age group, they will still play and practice on Fridays and follow their specific rules in the handbook.

For U9-18 the pre-season will also show a bit of a change. Normally we ran 2 full exhibition games. This year, the first half of each will be a practice followed by an exhibition game with ref's against the team you are sharing the field with. This will allow everyone more time to get into the rhythm, do equipment hand-out and get to know each other.

If this is your first year with us, welcome. You are probably anxious to hear about which team your child is on. This information is relayed after the week-end of May 10th as that is when the coaches receive the lists. Please do not call the office unless you have not heard by the 18th of May. Thank you.

During the course of the season you will see Executive members, wearing blue Dragons shirts, walking the fields. Please do not hesitate to stop them if you have any questions or concerns. If you wish to make a complaint, please use the complaint form on our web site.

The Dragons would also like to welcome Boston Pizza as a sponsor this year. If you eat at BP during the season, please keep your receipt, which we will collect from you through your coach. At year end, the receipts are turned in and Boston Pizza provides to the Dragons 10% of the value. This sponsorship money helps the Dragons with equipment costs and helps keep our rates low. Other valuable sponsors include Lorenzo's Pizza and Tyro's Lebanese.

Enjoy your summer.

Sincerely,

Sean Cale
Chair
