



# GLOUCESTER DRAGONS RECREATIONAL SOCCER

A Proud Member Of The Gloucester Soccer Association

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Dear Dragon's Parents,

Welcome to the 2010 season of Dragon's soccer. 2010 and 2011 will prove to be exciting times in the soccer world as the men's and women's World Cup matches are celebrated respectively. In honour of these events for 2010 we are pleased to offer uniforms matching the 16 teams selected for the World Cup. These uniforms are exact replicas of the country uniforms that will be worn and as such will include jersey, shorts and socks. This will be offered for all age groups and for both boys and girls.

I will take another minute to provide some additional information related to the uniforms to help things run smoothly. Since this is the first year of doing this both for us and the supplier, the uniforms are all boys cut only. Next year girls cut i.e. cap sleeves, will be available. Second, getting replacements is timely and expensive. Therefore please do not request specific jersey numbers. Uniforms will be handed out by size by the coach in order to ensure everyone gets the best fit. Third, all elements of the uniform should be worn, including the shorts for all games. Fourthly, due to the increased costs of the uniforms, practice t-shirts will not be distributed for the next two years.

Along with the change in uniforms, the Dragon's have implemented a number of changes and improvements based on feedback, etc. These include clarifications on calling games due to weather and field conditions as well as stricter rules related to running up the score. This information is all available in the handbook, which is available on-line or from your coach.

I know many of you are anxious to hear what team your child is on, see schedules, etc. The Board of Directors is working feverishly as we speak to finalize numbers and recruit coaches. You should hear from a coach by the middle of next week. Please don't call the office unless you haven't heard anything by the 13<sup>th</sup> of May.

Speaking of coaches, we are as usual, still looking for coaches at this point. For the players assigned to a team with no coach, the parents will receive an e-mail from the Age Group Director shortly requesting someone to volunteer. If no one steps forward and the start date for the team comes and goes, your child won't be able to play soccer. I know one of the main fears, especially for parents new to soccer is not knowing enough to coach. This is a legitimate concern. However we have a number of resources to help get you started. We need at least one person to be responsible for the team. You can recruit your fellow parents to help going forward. As a reminder relatives, neighbours and co-workers are acceptable coaches as well, it doesn't have to be a parent per se.

I want to thank the Board of Directors for their hard work to date to keep things on schedule and all the boxes checked off. We have a full board this year with a lot of new members. The learning curve is steep and swift and they are doing well. Also thanks to Bridget, our Office Manager, for keeping us all sane, while she struggles with the day to day frontline work.

Lastly, the Hornets are running summer day camps this year for recreational and competitive level. Please visit their web site for more information and to register. <http://gloucesterhornets.ca/programs/gloucester-hornets-summer-camps/recreational-camps/>

Have a great soccer season and a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

Sean Cale  
Chairman, G.D.R.S.

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