



## Parent Handbook

### Santos Family Values . . .

Here at Santos, the emphasis is and will be on developing skills, learning how to compete, and equally as important, providing a fun environment out on the fields for our kids to succeed. We do not equate success with wins and losses, rather, we judge success on the growth and the level of progress that our players are making every time they step on the pitch.

Our hope is that you will find your Santos experience a positive one. You can help foster that positive experience by being supportive of your child, your child's team and their coach.

Our hope for your child this year is that they will have fun, increase their soccer skills, enhance their social skills, and learn to love the game of soccer.

We'll outline further in this handbook ways that you can help your child's Santos experience be a positive one, and ways that you can help be involved in the Club.

This handbook also includes information on the process of forming the teams, the expectations of the parents and the players, and information on what will happen throughout the year.

### Mission . . .

The TVSA Santos FC mission is to provide each player with the opportunity to build positive

self-esteem and to develop his/her technical and tactical abilities to their fullest potential within an atmosphere of positive reinforcement and fun.

### Philosophy . . .

The TVSA Santos FC Philosophy is SKILL = FUN.

This simple motto translates into having an exciting, long term learning experience while achieving excellence in total personal development. This framework allows our young players to experience the sense of pride and accomplishment that comes from dedication, teamwork, and the joy and satisfaction of being a member of a larger community -- the Santos Family.

Santos FC is blessed to have coaches with deep experience, both as licensed educators of the sport, but also as players at the highest levels. This combination allows our coaches and trainers to understand how the educational process develops to establish positive role models for all our players. The Santos program is directed by a training staff of exceptional quality. Our coaches all follow the same philosophy which gives them the ability to cover for each other during busy tournaments. Please be understanding if another Santos coach covers your game. Currently our teams are competing on par with the various top teams in the state. Technically and tactically we have produced some of the best players in Central Ohio. Santos' trademark is its training program based on the Brazilian playing philosophy. Brazil is consistently ranked in the upper echelons of world soccer. Skill development at Santos FC has five basic components:

Technical.....the ability to control, dribble, pass, shoot and head the ball.

Tactical.....the ability to make timely and correct decisions on and off the ball.

Psychological....developing the mental fortitude to withstand the rigors of select competition.

Physical fitness...the ability to maneuver at speed over the duration of a game.

Imagination . . . the ability to instinctively maneuver during the game to excite fans.



# TVSA Santos F.C. Parent Handbook

# Parent Expectations

## Be Positive . . .

It is our hope that our parents will always be a positive influence in their child's soccer experience. Please keep that in mind while attending your child's games and practices. Sometimes it is easy to get caught up in the moment at a game, but try to keep emotions under control.

Remember, everyone makes mistakes, but the players are also learning from their mistakes. Try to be positive with your child and not dwell on what went wrong in a game, but rather look to the positive and encourage them to continue the things that went right.

## Don't coach from sideline . . .

We ask that all parents and spectators refrain from coaching the players from the sidelines. We are attempting to encourage individual players to make decisions on the field in preparation for balanced technical and tactical development, as well as the ability to think for oneself. Problem solving is an essential part of child development that transcends the soccer experience.

We appreciate parent participation in helping the coaches accomplish Santos objectives regarding player development. Thinking for oneself is the most significant aspect in player development. Instruction beyond the coach's game plan distracts from that aspect of player development. When a player has the ball, he or she has to make a decision that contributes to maintaining possession, creating opportunities to score, or advancing the ball to achieve the ultimate objective in the game, which is to score a goal. While winning is not the sole objective, cultivating the ability to create scoring opportunities can only be enhanced when the individual player is able to recognize the varying situations available when in possession of the ball as it relates to team strategy.

The key objective is player development, and multiple instruction leads to confusion, indecision, hesitation and robotic play ideas. If the player is waiting around to be instructed, there will be no improvement. Consequently, please try not to instruct players. Instead, allow for individual play ideas in relation to team strategy as informed during practice sessions. Please allow the player to make an independent decision, especially on offense, and cheer the outcome, be it a good pass, good shot, great play, great move, or just wow!!

## Sportsmanship . . .

Please help remind your child to always be a good sport and a good representative of Santos, on and off the field. The best way for this to be done is by the parent setting a good example, especially at games and practices. Appropriate language is expected by the parents and players.

## Patience . . .

As with most soccer clubs, the coach assigned to your team may coach more than one team within the club. So, while your team is assigned a specific coach, please remember that your child's team is a part of a club, and because of scheduling conflicts, there may be times when another coach from the club will need to conduct your team's practice or coach one of their games. All of the Santos coaches adhere to the same coaching philosophy and they are all qualified to coach any of the teams. The kids seem to enjoy getting to know all of the different coaches.

All of our coaches try to be accessible to the parents. If you have questions for the coach, please address them after practice or a game so the coaches can give their full attention to the team.

If you are upset about a coaching situation, give yourself time to calm down before reacting (we suggest the "24 -hour rule", which many programs use - give yourself 24 hours before reacting), and don't have discussions in front of the children. This will only upset the child and make them uncomfortable.

## Commitment . . .

Club soccer is meant to be a year-long commitment. When the club offers your child a roster spot, the club is offering that spot to your child for the year (Fall-Winter-Spring). It is our expectation that you will honor that same commitment by staying with the club for the entire year.

## Tryout Process:

Tryouts start at the end of May and go through the beginning of June, depending on age group.

### Tryout Procedures are set by MOSSL:

All clubs that play in the Mid-Ohio Select Soccer League ("MOSSL") must follow the same tryout procedures. MOSSL sets the weeks that tryouts may be held for each age group.

### Age Groups are set by MOSSL:

MOSSL sets the age groups for the league. Your child will play in an age group based on their age on August 1st. Players may "play up" with an older age group, but cannot play in a younger age group. Even if they miss the cut-off by just a few days, we cannot move them down to play with friends, etc. This is a rule enforced upon all clubs playing in the MOSSL league and the Ohio South Youth Soccer Association (OSYSA).

### Tryouts are held two nights:

Tryouts will be held for two nights during the assigned age group's week. While it is not required that you attend both nights, it is better that you come both nights so that the coaches can get the best look at your child. If you cannot make both nights, just be sure to let the coach and the registration table know that they will only be there one night so the coach will know to do their best to evaluate the player in one night.

### Roster spots offered following tryouts:

Email notifications will be sent following tryouts. Parents will need to reply to the email within 24 hours after being offered a spot on the team in order to secure their child's spot with Santos FC.

### Parent Meetings:

If your child is offered a roster spot, there will be a very important parent meeting within a few weeks to begin the registration process.

# Soccer Seasons

## Fall

### Preseason

Preseason training will begin in early August consisting of four evenings (Monday-Thursday) of practice (1 1/2 hours per night)

### Regular Season

League games will begin and will consist of 8 games (4 home & 4 away). Practices will usually be held 2-3 times per week (depending on game schedule) and teams will have approximately 2 games per week (usually one weeknight and one weekend game)

### Tournaments

All teams U9-U14 will participate in the season-end MOSSL League Tournament. Many teams will also be selected to attend one additional tournament (usually out of town)

## Winter

### Indoor Training:

Indoor training is offered during the Winter season. The coaches encourage participation; however, it is not mandatory. There is an additional fee to participate in indoor training. Indoor training will be offered from November through February and is held at Ultimate Sports Center in Grandview.

Indoor training consists of two training sessions. Training sessions consist of speed/agility & strength training along with work on technical, tactical and decision making skills.

## Spring

### Preseason

Most teams will begin practicing in March, weather permitting. Some practices may be held at Busch Park, before Thompson Park opens.

### Regular Season

League games will begin. Practices will usually be held 2-3 times per week (depending on game schedule) and teams will have approximately 2 games per week (usually one weeknight and one weekend game)

### Tournaments

All teams U9-U14 will participate in the season-end MOSSL League Tournament. Many teams will also be selected to attend one additional tournament (usually out of town)

## Practice Procedures:

Each coach will set their own practice schedule. The coach will try to set all practices in advance and try to give parents plenty of notice. Due to game schedules, practices may not always be on the same night each week. Coaches need to work around your game schedule and the game schedules for any other teams they coach. Also, rainouts and rescheduling of games can cause a change in practice schedules and locations. Please try to be patient, flexible and understanding when your practice gets changed, sometimes at the last minute. The weather can sometimes create a lot of scheduling problems.

All players should try to arrive early to practice so they can be ready to start at their appropriate practice time.

Always bring water and a ball, and be dressed for soccer (cleats, shinguards, practice jersey & proper soccer attire).

## Game Procedures:

Please try to arrive 30 minutes prior to

game time to allow for proper warmups before the game.

Always bring water and a ball, and wear the appropriate home or away uniform set, with your shinguards and cleats. Whether its a home or away game, always bring both uniform tops in case the team has to change due to a color conflict.

Parents will sit on the opposite side of the field from the teams.

Please be sure to let your child's coach and team administrator know as far as possible in advance if your child is not going to make a game.

## Game Uniforms:

### BOYS:

#### Home Uniform:

Yellow Jersey, Blue Shorts, White Socks

#### Away Uniform:

Blue Jersey, White Shorts, Blue Socks

### GIRLS:

#### Home Uniform:

Yellow Jersey, Blue Shorts, White Socks

#### Away Uniform:

Blue Jersey, Blue Shorts, Blue Socks

Santos F.C.

Coaching Staff

Maziya Chete  
Director of Coaching

Seymour Alleyne  
Director of Coaching

## Parent Meetings

If your child is offered a roster spot and you accept the spot, the player registration process will begin. A parent meeting will be held within a couple of weeks after the tryout process is complete. You will need to bring your \$250 non-refundable deposit to the parent meeting, along with various documentation explained below. This will also be the time to order your child's uniform.

## Registration

You will need to bring with you the following documentation in order for your child to be registered on the team: Copy of your child's birth certificate\*, small recent color photo (1" x 1" size) of your child (head shot), player registration form and medical release form. The Medical Release form will need to be notarized. There will be notaries available at the parent meeting. Do not sign the form ahead of time. It must be signed in the presence of a notary.

It is important to get this paperwork submitted at the Parent Meeting. Your team administrator needs this documentation in order to submit the roster to MOSSL and have the players carded (each player needs a player card issued by MOSSL so they can participate in games). The carding process needs to be completed two weeks prior to your team's first game. Once the team administrator enters the roster with MOSSL, they will need to print a card for each player and have it signed, and then make an appointment to take them to MOSSL for approval. This process can take several weeks, so please help your team administrator by completing the paperwork quickly and making your child available to sign their card.

\*Returning players to the team do not need to bring a copy of their birth certificate. Their player card from the previous year will serve as proof of date of birth for MOSSL.

## Uniform Orders

Uniform orders will be placed at the Parent Meetings. Samples will be available for fitting.

Please bring new players (or returning players needing new uniform pieces) to the Parent Meeting so they can try on sizes. Uniforms are not returnable, so please be careful when choosing sizes. In order to have all of the uniforms ordered and numbered prior to the first game of the Fall Season, the order needs to be placed in early Summer, so please make sure to get your order submitted. Uniforms orders are only placed twice per year - once prior to the Fall Season and once prior to the Spring Season.

## Volunteer Positions

Except for the professional coaches, the club is run entirely by volunteers. Each team needs a team administrator to oversee the various administrative aspects of the team. In addition to the team administrator, there are many smaller jobs that need to be done as well, from confirming referees and games, to entering game scores on the MOSSL website, providing maps to away games, or even preparing a snack schedule. If everyone helps just a little, it's not so overwhelming for one person. Please consider volunteering to help your team.

## Website

Additional information regarding the Santos club may be found on our website at [www.santos-fc.com](http://www.santos-fc.com)

## TVSA Santos Logo

There shall be no unauthorized use of the TVSA Santos logo or the Santos name.

## Fun Events:

### Santos Family Gathering

Each year before the season begins (usually mid-August), the Santos Family Gathering is held at Thompson Park. This is a fun afternoon for the families to gather together and meet their new teammates and coaches. This event fosters the importance of being part of the larger Santos "family".

### Team Social Events

Team social gatherings are great for all teams, especially the young teams and newly established teams. Getting together for pizza or ice cream after the game is a great way for the kids and parents to get to know each other off of the soccer field. Enjoying being with your teammates is part of the soccer experience!