

Portage Soccer Club



All soccer enthusiasts: come play with Portage Soccer Club!

If you want to develop your soccer skills, knowledge, and passion, *Portage Lightning* is the answer. We offer quality training, tough competition and lots of fun all at a competitive price. Join one of the largest and most successful soccer clubs in West Michigan.

Serving players in: **Portage**, **Mattawan**, **Kalamazoo**, **Three Rivers**, **Comstock**, **Paw Paw**, **Schoolcraft**, **Vicksburg**, **Plainwell**, **Richland** and surrounding areas.

Portage Soccer Club offers the following advantages to its players:

- Excellent and dedicated coaches (licensed by USSF or NSCAA)
- Competitive and instructive environment without excessive emphasis on winning
- Teams play at Select, Elite or Premier level depending on team capabilities
- Most teams offer optional training during winter months
- Sportsmanship, Respect and Integrity are core values
- Club owns and maintains a state of the art facility with nine beautiful fields
- Private practice fields - no competing for space with other organizations
- Structured Non Profit organization puts the interests of the players first and foremost

How much time is involved? Where are games played and how much travel is there?

- Teams usually practice 1 ½ hours - twice a week during the season
- Eight games in the fall and eight games in the spring
- Home games played at Portage Soccer Complex located on Bishop Road in Portage
- Away games played at nearby clubs (usually less than an hour away - many much closer)
- Most teams play in one out-of-town tournament in the fall and another in the spring.

What does it cost?

- Club fees for 2009 - 2010 Season:
 - Includes referee fees
 - Includes field rental
 - Includes coach stipend

Premier	\$240
Elite / Select	\$195
HS Age Season	\$155
U8 Academy	\$ 25

- One-time uniform purchase (from Back of the Net) for ~\$100 can be used in subsequent years[#]. This is a complete kit with shorts, two cool Puma[®] jerseys, and two pair of socks.
- As with any well-run non-profit group, some Volunteer Time is required. Volunteer time includes Portage Soccer Classic Tournament and 2 hrs in concessions 1-3 times per year
- Scholarships available - see website for details



For more information check out our website: www.portagesoccer.com

Portage Soccer Club Tryout Information



Where: Portage Soccer Complex
4422 Bishop Road
Portage, Michigan



When: Week of June 15 - 18, 2009

Time: Register at 5:30 p.m. Tryouts begin at 6:00 p.m. (except Thurs)
Monday June 15: Premier (U13 boys only this year⁺)
Tuesday June 16: All boys Select and Elite teams.
Wednesday June 17: All girls Select and Elite teams.
Thursday June 18: boys 5:30 - 6:30; girls 7:00 - 8:00

Preregister at www.portagesoccer.com, print the form, sign and attach a 1.5" x 1.5" photo. Bring birth certificate if new to club. Players who can't be present for both days should call Mark Murry at 324-7947.

Teams/Squads are offered for players U-7 through U-19. Eligibility is established on Aug 1, 2009. For example, if you will not turn 12 until August 1 or later, you are a U-12 player*.

U-7 and U-8 players will be placed on "U-8 Academy" Squads[#].

U-9 and U-10 players will try out for teams that will play 6 versus 6 player games on half-size fields.

U-11 and U-12 players will try out for teams that will play 8 vs 8 player games on three quarter size fields.

U-13 and U-14 players will try out for teams that will play full field 11 vs 11 games.

U-15 and older players will try out for teams that will only play spring or fall (opposite high school season)

*Players a year younger can be considered for the team a year older (if they want) provided they are in the same grade in school as the team a year older, or if they are rated near the top of their age-appropriate team by the PSC coaches. Similarly, some U-8 players may be considered for the U-9 team as appropriate. However, per WMYSA rules, no U-6 players are eligible for the U-7/U-8 Academy Squad.

⁺ U13 Boys who don't make the Premier team Monday are strongly encouraged to try out for the U13 Select team Tuesday.

[#] U-8 Academy players do NOT need to purchase the Puma[®] uniform, as a squad t-shirt is already included in the \$25.00 fee.

What to bring:

- ☉ Water bottle
- ☉ Ball - appropriate size
- ☉ Signed Registration form - *with recent 1.5 x 1.5 photo of player's face attached.*
- ☉ Copy of birth certificate if did not play for PSC 2008-2009.
- ☉ Wear a white shirt - no club logos. Free numbered t-shirt to first 300 at tryouts.
- ☉ Shin guards
- ☉ Appropriate soccer shoes (cleats)

What coaches are looking for:

Selected players will possess a positive attitude, a willingness to learn, and above-average soccer ability. Portage Soccer Club wants players who possess a desire to train and compete at the highest level, with a passion for the sport of soccer. A list of our 2009 - 2010 coaching team can be found on our website.

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Portage Soccer Club offers excellent coaching/training, strong teammates to play with, competitive leagues to play in, and well-maintained fields to play and practice on.

Coaches are carefully chosen to guide the technical growth of each player in an age appropriate system. Coaches receive professional training and are certified through USSF. Emphasis is placed on proper progression, and guiding skill development with organized and challenging practice sessions where each player contacts the ball hundreds of times. Progress is evaluated by how often players correctly execute techniques in tactical situations during league and tournament games. Values taught include sportsmanship, respect, and integrity.

Portage Soccer Club Coaches for 2009-2010 Seasons-

<u>Age</u>	<u>Head Coach</u>	<u>Background</u> (note that USSF D certification is more advanced than E)
U8 Academy	Mark Murry	7 yrs coaching PSC & AYSO, 20+ yrs playing incl. college
Boys U9	Mark Murry	7 yrs coaching PSC & AYSO, 20+ yrs playing incl. college
Boys U10 Kelly	David Mih	3 years AYSO coach, played 10+ years
Boys U10 White	David Hook	In preparation
Boys U11	Jeff Merasco	extensive youth coaching experience; athletics instructor
Boys U12	John Twiehaus	5 yrs coaching experience, 20 yrs playing, USSF E certification
Boys U13 Premier	David Rice	18 yrs head coach PSC, USSF D certification
Boys U13 Gold	Vu Le	10 yrs coaching PSC, played 3 yrs college, USSF D certification
Boys U14	TBD	
Boys U15	Dan Zeitler	6 yrs coaching PSC and travel, USSF E certification
Boys U16	Mark Verburg	3 yrs head coach PSC, assistant for many years, USSF E
Boys U17/18	Bill Restivo	In preparation
Boys U18	Ryan Brown	2 yr asst coach, played TKO, Wolves, ODP, & 4 yrs PCHS
Boys U19	John McKenzie	8 yrs head coach PSC, HS coach 6 yrs, played many yrs, USSF E
U8 Academy	Mark Murry	7 yrs coaching PSC & AYSO, 20+ yrs playing incl. college
Girls U9	Mark Murry	7 yrs coaching PSC & AYSO, 20+ yrs playing incl. college
Girls U10	Melissa LaFave	3 yrs AYSO and youth coaching, 11 yrs playing experience
Girls U11	Ann Woolley	3 yrs head coach PSC, USSF E certification
Girls U12	Dennis Wilson	In preparation
Girls U13	Vu Le	10 yrs coaching PSC, played 3 yrs college, USSF D certification
Girls U14 Green	Lloyd McGruder	7 yrs PSC coach, HS coach, played 25 yrs (2 yrs college), USSF E
Girls U14 Gold	Ed Quinones	9 yrs coaching PSC & AYSO, USSF E certification
Girls U15	Ann Woolley	3 yrs head coach PSC, USSF E certification
Girls U16	David Rice	18 yrs head coach PSC, USSF D certification
Girls U17	Michael White	12 yrs youth coach, played club & HS in England, and 15+ yrs adult
Girls U18	Blake Glass	29 yrs, ODP, high school, premier, PSC, 19 as college head coach

For the latest version of this document, go to www.portagesoccer.com