



TOPSoccer FAQs

Who can participate in TOPSoccer?

TOPSoccer is open to anyone with a disability including but not limited to: A.D.D., Autism, Hearing Impaired, Sight Impaired, Cerebral Palsy, Traumatic Brain Injury, Cystic Fibrosis, Down Syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Seizure Disorder and Spinal Bifida. If you aren't sure if TOPSoccer is a good fit for your athlete, please contact us!

Who coaches TOPSoccer?

Each session we will have a group of VA Rush coaches and volunteer "buddies" to lead the athletes during practices. Buddies are assigned to athletes who require one-on-one attention in order to succeed. Buddies will typically be VA Rush, local High School or other local club players, siblings or volunteers who will be trained prior to the sessions.

What experience is needed for TOPSoccer?

- No experience necessary.

What are our goals for TOPSoccer Athletes?

- Sense of belonging by being a part of a team
- Improved self-esteem, fitness, social and soccer skills
- Success based on individual ability
- Fun!

Is the TOPSoccer Program a drop off program?

No, parents/guardians are required at all sessions. Buddies will assist the players so the parents are able to enjoy watching.

What does it cost? / What do I need?

Due to the generosity of our sponsors, the session will be conducted **FREE OF CHARGE** to the players. Each player will be provided with a event t-shirt and medal. Players need to provide their own footwear and socks.

How do I register / participate?

All that is required to participate as a player is to complete the online registration and show up. If you are not able to register online, please let us know you are planning to attend by sending a

message to gdattilo@bellsouth.net to pre-register. The registration forms will be collected at the player's first session.

How are TOPSoccer Sessions Conducted?

There are three key people in a TOPSoccer session:

- Coach – leads activities
- Player – child with special needs
- Buddy – the person who assists the Player with activities as needed

The players come to sessions lead by coaches from Louisville Soccer where they work on different soccer skills in a positive and safe environment. The player with disabilities is paired with a buddy who will assist them in following the directions of the coach who is leading the session. As can be imagined, abilities of the players varies widely and drills are modified to match their skills. Activities are paced to accommodate the players and the emphasis is always on positive reinforcement and encouragement.