



Mt. Harmony Baptist Church, Inc.

2012 Upward Spring Soccer

Frequently Asked Questions

Purpose

- **What is the purpose of Upward?** To introduce children to Jesus Christ by creating opportunities to serve through sports.

Location

- **Where are practice and games held?** Practice and Games will be held on the “Vic”tory field behind Mt. Harmony Baptist Church.

Registration

- **When does registration begin?** Registration begins January 1, 2012
- **Can I register on-line?** Yes! Go to www.bluesombrero.com/mhbc and select the Upward Soccer link. Select Upward Soccer and you will find a link to the “Blue Sombrero” website. This company is approved by Upward Unlimited and is hosting our online registration process. You will be able to register and pay the league fees on-line. For online registration, payments can be made via credit card only (Visa, M/C, and Amex are accepted).
- **Can I register via another method?** Of course; however, we prefer that you register on-line. Registration forms are available throughout the church buildings. You can submit your completed form via one of the methods below:

- Drop off your completed form with payment (cash or check) at the church office during business hours (Monday thru Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and Friday from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm).
- Place your completed form with payment (cash or check) in the offering plate during the Sunday morning or evening service.
- Mail your completed form with payment (check) to the church at:

Mt. Harmony Baptist Church
Attention: Upward Soccer
561 Veterans Memorial Hwy, SE
Mableton, GA 30126

- **How much will Soccer cost?** Early registration cost is **\$90.00** per child if paid by Saturday, February 6th.
- **Is there an early registration discount?** Yes. The discount ends on **February 11th**; after that, the registration fee will be **\$110.00** per child.
- **What does the registration fee include?** Each player will receive a reversible jersey, shorts, socks, water bottle, car magnet, Parent's Guide to Upward, a copy of *Winner* magazine, and an end-of-season award (instead of trophies).
- **What is the age requirement to register for Upward Soccer?** Children must be 4-years old by March 3, 2012. The age range is 4 years through 8th grade.
- **When is the last day to register?** The last day for registration is Saturday, March 3, 2012.

Evaluation

- ***What is the purpose of evaluations?*** The evaluations help to make the teams as equal as possible based on skill level.
- ***Does my child have to attend an evaluation?*** Yes, everyone must attend one of the following evaluations:

Saturday, February 11, 2012,

between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

OR

Saturday, February 25, 2012,

between 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

- ***Where will the evaluation be held?*** Evaluations will be held on Mt. Harmony's "Vic"tory Field behind the church.

Practice

- ***When is the first practice?*** Practices begin on **Saturday, March 3, 2012** on Mt. Harmony's "Vic"tory Field and will last one hour.
- ***Will there be practice every week?*** Yes, the second practice will be held on Saturday March 11th and then the remaining practices will be held one night during the week.

Uniforms

- ***When will my child get their uniform?*** The Coaches will give out uniforms after practice #2.

- **Are there any equipment requirements for my child?** Yes, all kids need to have Soccer cleats (no football or baseball cleats will be allowed) and shin guards.

Games

- **When is the first game?** The first game will be Saturday, March 18th. All games will be played on Saturday unless there are rainouts in which the make-up games will be during the week.
- **Are there games every Saturday?** There will a game every Saturday of the season (weather permitting) except for Saturday, April 7th (Spring Break)
- **How many games are there?** The season consists of 8 games and an awards celebration at the end of the season.

Coaches and Referees

- **How can I become a coach and/or a referee?** Just let us know! There are some requirements that must be met as noted below:
 - All coaches and referees must attend **one** of the training sessions.
 - You must fill out a Coach and Referee application and complete the background check form.
 - All Coaches and Referees must pass the background check.

- ***When will Coaches and Referee Training be held?*** Training classes and referees will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the church and will be on the following days:
 - Monday, February 21st at 6:30 pm
 - Tuesday, February 28th at 6:30 pm

- ***How old do I have to be to be a head coach?*** A High School Junior or Senior (a Christian and Responsible person) can be a head coach but must have an adult assistant coach.

- ***If am not a Christian can I coach?*** Yes, but the Assistant Coach must be a Christian and is responsible for all devotions.

- ***Do you need to know how to play soccer to coach?*** No, Upward is organized so that anyone can be a coach. The Coach and Referee handbook details out everything that you need to know to be a great coach.

- ***How old do I have to be to be a referee?*** High School student that knows the rules of soccer and attended a training session.

Pictures

- ***Will there be a day for pictures?*** Yes, **picture day** is tentatively scheduled for April 16th. A detailed schedule will be provided at practice.

- ***Where will pictures be taken?*** Pictures will be held in the Fellowship Hall in Mt. Harmony Baptist Church.

Award Celebration

- ***Is there an end of season awards banquet for the kids?*** Yes, it is called “**Awards Celebration**” and it will be held on May 20th. There will be entertainment and a surprise award (instead of trophies) for every participating child.

Weather

- ***What do we do in case of inclement weather?*** The coach will be contacted in the event of cancellations and then the coach will contact the player’s family. Parents can also check the church’s website for an update (http://www.mtharmony.org/index.php/site/ministries_recreation_soccer).

Rules

- ***What soccer rules will the Upward league be following?*** The rules for Upward Soccer take precedence over all FIFA laws. Where the rules unique to Upward stop the FIFA laws of the game begin.
 - The K4 thru 3rd grade teams play on field 50’ wide x 100’ long fields. The goal sizes are 2 ½’ tall x 6’ wide. Team format is 4 players versus 4 players with no goalkeeper. The reasons for the different Upward Soccer rules are to provide more interaction of touching the ball, more exposure to both offensive and defensive positions, more tactical soccer experience and more development of soccer skills for every child.
 - The 4th thru 8th grade teams play on a field approximately 90’ wide x 120’ long with a full size goal. Team format will be dependent on the number of children playing in this age group and each team will have a goalkeeper.

- Coaches will be fully trained on the rules during their training class and will teach the players.

If you have any further questions, please call the church at (770) 948-3900 or e-mail: Brian Lewis, Spring Soccer Commissioner and Upward League Director at upward@mtharmony.org.