

WELCOME TO CUTTERS ACADEMY - KARST!

Thank you for registering your child(ren) in Cutters Academy - Karst. We are very excited about the upcoming spring season and wish you and your child(ren) a wonderful soccer experience.

The following is important information regarding the upcoming season. Please read at least the **bold-faced parts in red** as these contain the most pertinent information.

Team Formation Your child(ren) will be placed on a particular team first and foremost depending on their age. There are five age groups: U6 (August 1, 2001 - July 31, 2002), U8 (August 1, 1999 - July 31, 2001), U10 (August 1, 1997 - July 31, 1999), U12 (August 1, 1995 - July 31, 1997), and U14 (August 1, 1993 - July 31, 1995). Please note the age group for your child(ren) and let us know if they have accidentally been placed on a team in the wrong age group. A second criteria used in forming teams is gender. We aim to have separate boys and girls divisions in each of the age groups; however, participation numbers usually allow for separate boys and girls divisions in only the U8 and U10 age groups. A third criteria used in forming teams is skill level. Unfortunately, we do not know the skill level of most players, but the information we do have is used to create teams of relatively equal strength. Please note that every effort is made to honor player and coach requests; however, given the constraints indicated above and the number of requests we receive, it is simply not possible to honor all requests.

Location All practices and games will be held at Karst Farm Park. If you need directions to Karst Farm Park please call 349-2800 or link to www.karstfarmpark.com.

Practices The U10s, U12s, and U14s will practice on Monday nights beginning March 31. The U10s will practice from 6:00 - 7:00 pm and the U12s and U14s will practice from 7:15 - 8:15 pm. The U6s and U8s will practice on Tuesday nights beginning April 1 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. The last practice of the season for the U10s, U12s, and U14s is May 12; the last practice of the season for the U6s and U8s is May 13.

Games Games will be held on Saturdays beginning April 5. The U6s, U8s, and U10s will play from 9:30 - 10:30 am; the U12s and U14s will play from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. The last game of the season is May 17. (Please note that May 17 is not the last day of the season. See "Jamboree" below.)

Jamboree An end-of-the-season Jamboree (i.e. round-robin) will be held on Monday, May 19 for the U10s, U12s, and U14s and on Tuesday, May 20 for the U6s and U8s at the normal practice time. Participation medals will be awarded to all players upon conclusion of the Jamboree.

Coaching/Training A volunteer coach is assigned to each team. This person will coach practices and games. The coaches will receive assistance from qualified age group trainers during practices.

Rosters Age-specific coach/trainer meetings will be held on Saturday, March 22. The coaches will receive their rosters at this time. They will be asked to contact the players on their team by Wednesday, March 26. If you have not been contacted by your child(ren)'s coach(es) by Friday, March 28, please e-mail the Club at cutters_soccer@yahoo.com

Apparel It is an absolute requirement that each player wears shin guards during practices and games. Soccer shoes (turf shoes or cleats) are optional. These items can be purchased at any sporting goods store (e.g. MC Sports, Dick's) and at most department stores (e.g. Target, Wal*Mart). (Please note that metal cleats and baseball and football cleats are not allowed. Baseball and football cleats have a toe cleat that is not permissible in soccer. If you have baseball or football cleats and wish to avoid a second shoe purchase, you may cut off the toe cleat. Please link to <http://www.soccer-for-parents.com/soccer-cleats.html> for additional information about soccer shoes.) It is important that players arrive at practices and games dressed to play and dressed appropriately. On some days a T-shirt and shorts is fine; on other days it may be necessary to wear sweat pants, a sweatshirt, a hat, etc. Keep in mind that it is easy to take off layers, but impossible to put them on if you do not have them!

Equipment Players are to bring their own soccer ball to practices. Please have them bring the appropriate size ball for their age group. (The U6s and U8s play with a Size 3, the U10s and U12s play with a Size 4, and the U14s play with a Size 5.) The soccer ball should be inflated and have a name written on it in permanent marker.

Water Players are required to bring their own water bottle. It unnecessarily delays practices and limits the amount that can be accomplished if players without a water bottle have to run to and from the drinking fountain on a regular basis.

T-shirts T-shirts will be handed out during the first practice of the season. In order to facilitate the organization of teams on the fields, we strongly encourage players to wear their team shirts during practices as well as games.

Photographs Team and individual photographs will be taken at some point during the season at the normal practice or game time. You will be given notice in advance as to the scheduled date(s) for your child(ren)'s team(s).

Inclement Weather In case of inclement weather please call the Monroe County Soccer Hotline at 349-2126 or link to www.karstfarmpark.com for field closure information. Cancelled practices will not be rescheduled; cancelled games will be played the following Friday at the normal practice time. (Please note the day and time for which a given game is rescheduled is subject to change.)

Again, thank you for registering your child(ren) in Cutters Academy - Karst. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions/concerns. We can be reached by phone at 333-8010 or by e-mail at cutters_soccer@yahoo.com.

Additional information about parenting the youth athlete can be found at
<http://www.responsiblesports.com>

SEE YOU THIS SPRING!