



To: All Lil' Kickers Parents:

From: Mitch Bernstein, Lauren Paul, Sean Casey - Youth Soccer Development Program Directors

Dear Lil' Kickers Parents:

Welcome to the Fall session of Lil' Kickers. We are so excited that you have chosen to participate in this program. Our goal is to provide the very best instruction and care for your child. Listed below is some information about Lil' Kickers. A separate sheet is included that gives more details about each level of the program.

Lil' Kickers Progression

Lil' Kickers begins with Bunnies (18 - 24 months) and Thumpers (24-35 months) classes where parents and kids play together. Kids then progress on to Hoppers (3-4 years), Jackrabbits (3-4 years Intermediate), and Big Feet (5-6 years Beginning). All these classes are for kids who have not played any organized soccer.

Micro Leagues

Micro Leagues (4-9 years) are for kids who have taken Lil' Kickers classes before or have played some other form of organized soccer. Micro Leagues teach soccer through specialized instruction and small-sided games (3 vs. 3 or 4 vs. 4). The emphasis is on safety and skill development not winning.

Parent Involvement

In the Bunnies and Thumpers classes, parent participation is required because kids and parents play together. In order to ensure that all kids and parents get the greatest possible benefit, adults should be active and set the tone for their child's class. In all other classes (Hoppers and above) parents can watch class off the field. While watching class parents should feel free to encourage their kids to do their best, or reward effort with a hi-five or a hug. During your child's class please remain the voice of encouragement, and refrain from coaching from the sidelines. From our experience in working with young children in sports, we have found that when parents try to give instructions during the course of play, kids tend to get distracted and sometimes frustrated. Allowing our Lil' Kickers instructors to deal with behavioral and developmental issues during class will help create a great relationship between the instructor and your young player.

Class Locations

There are currently 3 locations where Lil Kickers is offered. United Sports in Downingtown, The Episcopal Academy in Newtown Square and The Montgomery School in Chester Springs.

At Episcopal Academy, classes are located either in the Lower School Great Room or in the Field House Court A.

At Montgomery School, classes are held in the gymnasium or outside in nice weather.

At United Sports, classes take place on either Turf A, Turf B or on the Sport Court. Our goal is to keep each class at one location throughout the session, however, be advised if

changes are made in class location, parents will be advised prior to the class.

If You Have Any Questions

Our program is designed to provide the highest quality youth development experience in Chester County and your feedback is important to us. If you do have a question, concern or compliment you would like to communicate to us, please contact the one of us below.

- Mitch Bernstein (610) 466-7100 ext. 112 or mbernstein@unitedsports.net.
- Lauren Paul (610) 466-7100 ext. 103 or lpaul@unitedsports.net.

Thank you for your support, and we hope you and your child enjoy the session. With parents and instructors working together, all kids will get the greatest possible benefit from our programs.