

## Welcome to Flagstaff Micro Soccer **Flagstaff Soccer Club**

Around the world, most children learn to play soccer in the street or in the playground. There are no coaches, no rules, just kids having fun with the ball. Micro Soccer is a program that uses this very basic concept. Using the principle that the triangle is fundamental to soccer, Micro Soccer encourages playing 3 or 4-a-side games on a small field with a small ball. Everyone gets a chance to kick, dribble, shoot, and play goalkeeper.

The first essential is to have fun. Young children do not need complicated rules and elaborate instruction can be discouraging. The game itself is the teacher. By playing the game, the children will develop their skills and learn intuitively over time where to position themselves. By not keeping score, we keep the players (and parents) focused on the game and having fun.

### **Responsibilities of the Parent**

- To read all information included in player's Opening Day bag.
- To make sure the player arrives at practices and games on time.
- To ensure the player is properly equipped with shoes, socks, shin guards, shorts, T-shirt, plenty of water, ball, sunscreen, and warm jacket.
- To make sure their shoelaces are tied tight!!
- To stay at practice and games whenever possible.
- To inform the coach if a player cannot attend practice or a game.
- To encourage your child and your child's team. A good rule to follow is to cheer only after something has happened, i.e. "Nice shot!" "Great block!"
- To acknowledge the other team's goals and good plays.
- To support the coach and leave the actual coaching up to him/her.
- To be positive and not let your team's performance change your attitude.
- Above all, to let your child be what he or she is – a child.

### **Responsibilities of the Player**

- To bring soccer gear to practice.
- To perform up to your own potential.
- To get to practice and games on time (explain this to Mom and Dad).
- To have fun.

### **Responsibilities of the Coach**

- To know the rules of the game and to pass that knowledge on to young players.
- To plan practice sessions, and to plan for the game (pre-game instructions, substitute system).
- To be on time for practices and games.
- To welcome other coaches and parents.
- To give players equal opportunity and equal time.
- To listen to the players.
- To encourage and be positive in correcting faults.
- To be prepared to restrain, politely but firmly, over-enthusiastic parents.
- To discuss player progress with parents.