

OSSO Frequently Asked Questions - Coaches

When are the games? Saturdays. The U5 to U12 age groups play between 9AM & 4PM. U14 and U16 may play in the evening and on other days of the week.

Where do we play? At the Jackson County Soccer Complex for U5 to U12. The complex is located on Hwy 90 east of Hwy 57. U14 & U16 travel to surrounding communities.

Where and when are practices held? Most coaches practice at the Jackson County Soccer Complex. Teams may practice one or two days each week.

When is the season? The regular season is October through February, taking off for holidays. There will be a U10/U12 OSSO Tournament at the end of February.

Is there coaching training? Mississippi Soccer Association (MSA) requires coaching training and certification for all coaches. MSA provides an e-Coaching system for the required online coaching courses. Go to http://www.mississippisoccer.org/Top_Nav/Coaches/coachcourses.htm for more information. Follow the directions to register and take the online course. Once complete, you may attend a local field session, look for "Youth Module Field Sessions" listed under the "Coaches" menu. Upon completion of the field session, you will receive a license certificate.

Why do I have to submit a background check? All MSA volunteers working with children in the state of Mississippi are required to submit a background check form each year. Submit online at: <https://www.gotsport.com/asp/application/reg/?ProgramID=5381&Type=COACH>. This link may also be found on the Coaches page @ <http://www.oceanspringssoccer.org/>.

Are there special rules? OSSO plays "small-sided soccer" for most age groups per USYSA. Refer to the age group rules matrix comparing the rules of each age group. Each player must play at least half of the game (2 quarters). The OSSO Soccer Handbook is available on the OSSO website.

What's next?

1. As soon as you are assigned a team review your roster and contact your players.
2. Have a meeting with parents before your first practice to establish expectations.
3. Prior to the first game uniforms, schedules, game cards, and game balls will be distributed to you.

Other questions or comments? Go to <http://www.oceanspringssoccer.org/> and click on "Feedback".