



EMSA North Community Soccer Program FAQ's

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When Does Registration Open?

- Registration for the **Outdoor Spring Season** opens February 1st and Registration for the **Indoor Season** opens August 1st.
- All Registration periods run for a period of 30 days. Failure to register within the 30 days for ON TIME registration could mean that there may not be space for your child on a team.
- Any Registrations that come in after ON TIME registration will be waitlisted until space is confirmed.
- The **Summer League Program** (U5-U11 only) will open registration early June and run for a period of 2 weeks. Once registration is closed teams begin being formed and no additional registrations can be accepted due to the quick turnaround required to set up this league.

Why do I need to Complete a EMSA Soccer Portal registration & a Team Snap Registration?

- The EMSA Soccer Portal Registration is a requirement of our governing body, registering here ensures Alberta Soccer and Edmonton Minor Soccer Association have the required information and waivers signed by parents to insure that player for that season.
- **YOU DO NOT PAY YOUR REGISTRATION FEES IN THE EMSA SOCCER PORTAL**
- The EMSA Soccer Portal is where our League builds our Official Alberta Soccer Rosters, for legal purposes teams must be built in this system and we do so by using the seasonal registration of each player and coach.
- The City-Wide Leagues are also scheduled in the EMSA Soccer Portal system which is used by all Edmonton Minor Soccer Association Zones and Clubs.
- The Team Snap registration is for the EMSA North Zone only. **This is where you will PAY for your child's registration**, apply for funding, a payment plan and submit your volunteer deposit. Our office will build your teams in this system as well so that our families may enjoy the ease of team communication within the system throughout the season.

Why Can't you just use my child's registration from last year and copy it over?

- For legal reasons and for payment purposes you must register your player each season they wish to participate in.
- Each season has a set of legal code of conducts and waivers that are electronically signed by the parent or team official when registering. In order for Insurance to be in place this is required season to season.
- Payment is also made electronically on the Team Snap system so this has to be completed by the parent season to season.
- Both the EMSA Soccer Portal and Team Snap do make the process simple after the first season of creating a profile, as long as you use the same account in each system much of the information carries over for you!

What Age Group Should my Child register for?

- Age groups are based off the child's year of birth and **NOT** their age.
- U7 for example does not refer to 7 years old but rather Under 7
- Age groups shift a year each indoor season, so your child's age group in Outdoor will be the same as it was for the previous Indoor Season.
- To View the current age groups please visit our website:
<https://emsanorth.com/play/register/>
- Players are not able to Play Down an age group even if their birthday is December 31st of the year previous.
- Unless for medical reasons with an approved Dr. Note submitted to the executive Board for approval playing down is strictly prohibited.

What is an EFCL Card and why do I need this?

- Edmonton Minor Soccer Association is in Partnership with the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues. As per EMSA bylaws, all Edmonton residents who participate in EMSA Soccer need to hold a valid Community League Membership (EFCL) card for that year. (Membership year runs September to August)
- This partnership supports local communities in conjunction with the support of healthy happy and active residents.
- Purchasing a EFCL membership provides many benefits, find out more about these memberships and how to purchase one here: <https://efcl.org/>
- It is suggested that you purchase a membership within the community you reside and not necessarily the community your child plays for. However, the EFCL want their members to receive full usage and benefits from their membership so you may choose to purchase in a community that is best suited for use within your family.

Do you offer payment plans?

- Yes! When you register online in Team Snap you will be provided with an option to separate your payments into 2 equal payments. 1st payment is due today, the second is due 30 days. Payment 2 is auto charged to the credit card used for payment 1.
- If you require a different type of plan this is subject to board approval and you may make that request at socceroffice@emsanorth.ca , please be sure to do so well in advance of the ON Time Registration deadline to ensure we have time to review and approve any payment arrangement before payment deadlines.
- More information of our Payment Plan Policy can be found here:
<https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>

How can I obtain Funding for my Players Registration?

- There are 3 possible streams of funding for soccer registration. For all applications, the applicant must fall under the current year's LICO guideline for income. See Here: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/tv.action?pid=1110024101>
- You may choose to Apply for Kidsport funding which provides up to \$125.00 per season towards player registration. You may apply for this funding when registering in Team Snap so as long as you complete the application provided on the team snap registration in full and provide your proof of income.
- You may choose to Apply for Canadian Tire Jumpsstart funding. This must be done directly with the Canadian Tire Jumpstart Association. Upon review and approval the parent will be notified by Jumpstart the amount of funding they will receive. Apply for Jumpstart Funding here: <https://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca/pages/individual-child-grants>
- The North Zone has it's own Funding program for those in need and unable to pay for any portion of the registration fees for their child's soccer. To qualify you must first apply and be approved for Kidsport and Jumpstart funding. After registering and applying for both funding options please reach out to socceroffice@emsanorth.ca to discuss options while we await for your Kidsport and Jumpsstart Funding to be approved.
- NOTE: All registrations must be paid in Full to be placed on a team as per our registration policy. To review what this means for you when applying for funding, please refer to our Funding Policy here: <https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>

What does the cost of Soccer Fees go towards?

- Individual Seasonal Player Fees cover some or all the following costs:
 - i. Insurance Through our Governing Body
 - ii. Field Rentals (Indoor/Outdoor)
 - iii. Referee & Referee Assignor Costs
 - iv. Coach Training
 - v. Technical Training Plans for Teams
 - vi. Team Equipment
 - vii. Player Jersey's
 - viii. Post Season Tournaments
 - ix. Administrative Costs

What is a Volunteer Deposit?

- Although the Player fees paid cover some of the costs listed above, they do not cover all. We rely on Parent Volunteer commitments to keep the per player fees as low as possible. For each player registered we require one volunteer commitment **for each season**. (With the exception of the summer league)
- A Volunteer commitment may be a one time only shift such as working a Bingo or Casino or Tournament. Or it could be a season long commitment such as volunteering as

a Soccer Coach or Manager on a team. **YES! All our wonderful team officials are people with BIG HEARTS donating their time for the betterment of our athletes.**

- A Volunteer deposit provided upon registration to secure your commitment to volunteering for the season.
- **THE VOLUNTEER DEPOSIT IS ONLY HELD ON FILE AND NO CHQ IS EVER CASHED OR CREDIT CARD EVER CHARGED UNLESS YOU FAIL TO SIGN UP OR SHOW UP FOR YOUR VOLUNTEER SHIFT.**
- A volunteer deposit can be provided to us via our secure & encrypted online form which will keep your credit card information on file. Or via a chq NON DATED made out to ENZSA dropped off in person at our office. We do not accept Money orders or Cash for the volunteer deposit.
- All Deposits are Destroyed when the season is complete.
- Please refer to our Volunteer Policy for more information:
<https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>

Why is the Volunteer Deposit so Expensive?

- The Volunteer deposit amounts are voted in by the Community Soccer Directors each season.
- No Deposit is ever cashed unless a parent NO SHOW's or Fails to sign up for a commitment by the deadline for the season.
- The reason for the deposit is to secure the volunteer, but in the event of a no show the deposit would be used to pay for a last minute person to work the shift or pay for any Fines that we may receive from the Bingo or Casino Hall for the no show of a volunteer.

My child wants to tryout for club, what if they do not make it?

- It is recommended that you review the Tryout Dates for the club you are looking to tryout for and compare this to the Community ON TIME registration dates.
- In some cases the tryouts may occur after the ON TIME deadline, if so we recommend that you notify our office ASAP if your child is unsuccessful at tryouts by emailing socceroffice@emsanorth.ca
- We make every best effort to place any North Zone players onto Community teams who did not make a team at tryouts so as long as they reach out to us as soon as they hear back from the club.
- You may choose to pay for a Community registration prior to ON TIME registration, in order to secure a space. If you do so please select that you are trying out for club when you register on the EMSA Soccer portal so we are aware.
- If you choose to pay community and then attend tryouts, please make note of our **Refund Deadline**. In the event you child is successful we will refund the fees paid up until the refund deadline, if the movement is to NSU Club we will transfer the fees paid to the club.

- If you find out **AFTER the refund deadline** for Community that your child has made a club team the following will occur:
 - i. For NSU Club: A transfer of your fees paid less a \$25.00 administration fee will be sent to the club so it can go towards your NSU fees.
 - ii. For Any Club within Edmonton Minor Soccer Association, a refund to the parent less a \$25.00 administration fee will be provided. Proof of transfer to EMSA Club required.
 - iii. For Any Club outside of EMSA: No refund provided
- No refund will be provided on any circumstance for a player moving from a community team to club once the season has begun and you will still be required to volunteer for your Community team.
- Please refer to our Refund Movement to EMSA Club Policy here for more information: <https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>

What Equipment is Provided for playing, what do I need to Provide?

- All players will be provided with a Jersey for the season
- All Teams will be providing coaches with a coach bag which will include any game equipment such as Nets, Cones, Flags, Pinnies, some game and practice balls & First Aid Kits.
- Some teams will already have goalie gloves, if your player is a keeper please check with the team about goalie gloves
- All players will require to bring the following equipment/gear:
 - i. Shorts
 - ii. Shin Pads
 - iii. Socks that cover Shin Pad
 - iv. Soccer Shoes (cleats for Outdoor U9+, U5 & U7 can choose cleats or outdoor shoes / For Indoor all players need indoor soccer shoes)
 - v. Water Bottle
 - vi. A size appropriate ball (U5/U7 – Sz 3, U9/U11 – Sz 4, U13+ - Sz 5)

When does the Season Start?

- The **Outdoor Spring Season** Begins May 1st and runs until End of June (U5-U11) The U13+ age groups have the potential to play in post season which runs until Mid or End of July
- The **Indoor Season** Begins Mid October and will run until Early February (U5-U11) The U13+ age groups have the potential to play post season into March.
- The **Summer League** will begin Mid July and run until Late / Mid-August (6 weeks total)

What Days will my Child Play?

- Please refer to our website for the game days for each season (these dates will be posted on our website by the registration open date for that particular season). Please note all game days are tentative and can change due to scheduling or weather issues.
<https://emsanorth.com/play/register/>

I have multiple children and their play days conflict, what should I do?

- We recommend every parent plan accordingly when it comes to registering their child for soccer, we will not provide refunds after the refund deadline for issues such as siblings having conflicting games.
- If your children will be playing on the same game days please anticipate that there will be conflicts. You may choose to arrange separate transportation for each child within your family or reach out on team snap to your children's team once the teams are formed.
- Some parent's will choose to do the following if the siblings are close in age to have them play on the same team and avoid conflicts:
 - i. Children can **PLAY UP** 1 Age group without special approval; you may choose to have your youngest play at the older child's age group. Anything over 1 age group will require special approval, you can email socceroffice@emsanorth.ca for this.
 - ii. A Girl may play on a Boys team, so your daughter may play on your son's team so as long as the teams age group is the same as hers or one age group older.
 - iii. In all cases please be sure to put all special requests and player requests to play together in your registration form so when team formation comes our Age Level Directors are aware.

What Time Are Games Played

- For the **Outdoor Spring Season** weeknight games will be held at the following times, please plan for all times listed for your age group below as start times can vary week to week.
 - i. U5 & U7: 6pm or 6:15pm or 6:30pm sessions will run for 1 hour
 - ii. U9: 6pm or 7:15pm & sessions games will run for 60 minutes
 - iii. U11: 6pm or 7:25pm & sessions games will run for 70 minutes (Rescheduled or rain out games will occur on the weekend late morning/early afternoon)
 - iv. U13+: Games can begin as early as 6pm and as late as 8pm and run for 1.5 hours. (Please anticipate possible weekend day games for any rescheduled or rain out games)
- For the **Indoor Season** no times are provided as many factors including space available at the indoor soccer centers will determine when games can be scheduled. As a general rule the younger teams on a play day will play earlier in the day while the older teams

will play later. However, depending on coach conflicts (coaches coaching multiple teams), there may be some variance from this rule.

- For the **Summer League Season** the following times will be followed:
 - i. U5 & U7: pm or 6:15pm or 6:30pm sessions will run for 1 hour
 - ii. U9: 6pm or 7:15pm & sessions games will run for 60 minutes
 - iii. U11: 6pm or 7:25pm & sessions games will run for 70 minutes

Where will my Child be playing

- For the **Outdoor Spring League**, general play locations are listed below, locations can vary game to game.
 - i. U5 & U7: Any outdoor field in North Edmonton
 - ii. U9 & U11: Any outdoor field in North Edmonton & Ft Saskatchewan
 - iii. U13+ : Any outdoor field in Edmonton & Surrounding areas such as St. Albert, Sherwood Park, Spruce Grove, Ft. Saskatchewan, Beaumont & Leduc.
- For the **Indoor Season**, general play locations are listed below, U9+ locations can vary game to game.
 - i. U5 & U7: East Edmonton Soccer Center
 - ii. U9+: Any Edmonton (East, South, West) Soccer Center or Surrounding Area (St. Albert, Ft. Saskatchewan, Spruce Grove, Sherwood Park, Leduc).
- For the Summer League, general play locations are listed below, locations can vary game to game
 - i. All Ages (U5-U11): Any outdoor field in North Edmonton

When and Where are Practices?

- For the **Outdoor Spring Season**, your coaches will speak with you at the beginning of the season regarding where and when they will hold any additional practices.
- For the **Indoor Season**, practice days will be based on coach availability which is provided to the Zone after teams are formed. Based on this information and availability teams will be provided with practice time in School Gyms typically on a weekday evening that works best for the coach. School gyms will be in North Edmonton however there is no guarantee where your child's team practices will be in a gym close to your home. Practice times will be announced soon after teams are made live.
- For the **Summer League**, this is a for fun league so no additional practices are expected however your coach may choose to schedule a few and they will advise at the beginning of the season when they are.

When is the schedule released?

- The League schedule is typically released 48 hours before the start of the season.
- This is due to the fact that once registration closes our association and every other EMSA association begins the hard work of finding our dedicated volunteer coaches, then forming the hundreds of teams while managing player requests and coach conflicts.
- Once all this information is in, we must secure the City fields or Soccer Center time based on the number of teams built then coordinate schedules within the House and City Wide Leagues for these hundreds of teams.
- Once schedules have been coordinated, the League must first pass the information out to the Referee Assignors who will then need to find referees for each game scheduled before any schedule can go live.

Will My Child Play for the Community we Live in?

- This depends, not all communities in the North Zone run Soccer Programs. And not all that run soccer programs have teams for every age group.
- Children are placed on teams based on the availability of a team in their area and any special requests and team history.
- If there is no team in their community our Age Level Directors attempt to place children on teams in the closest community to them with space.
- Please note in some situations it may be a community on the other side of the North Zone. However, since games and practices can occur all over the North zone or even city wide depending on the age group, the location of the community hosting the team is not impactful on where the child will actually play.

Can I ask for my child to play with a specific coach, friend or in a specific community?

- Yes, when you register you can make any special requests
- We will not be aware of your special requests unless you make note of them on the registration form. **Please do not assume that we know where or who you want to play with.**
- All special requests must be reviewed and approved
- There are **no guarantees** that any special requests can be met however they are always reviewed and taken heavily into consideration when building teams
- Approval is based on space on a specific team, all players residing in the hosting community will be placed first prior to anyone outside that community requesting the team.

I found out what team my player is on, and I don't want to play for this team, can I get a refund?

- Refunds are only provided up until the refund deadline, see the refund policy and dates here: <https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>

- Typically teams are announced after the refund deadline, so we recommend that all parent's understand special team requests are reviewed and considered and we try our best to accommodate but not all requests are able to be approved based on space.
- If there is a particular team or location you are not wanting to play with please put this information in your registration form as well.
- **No refunds are provided after the refund deadline.**

I just found out where/ when my child's team is practicing, and it won't work, and I want a refund?

- Refunds are only provided up until the refund deadline, see the refund policy and dates here: <https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>
- Typically, practices are announced after the refund deadline. We recommend you refer to the information above on possible practice times and make accommodations to try and be flexible with your schedule in this regard.
- We cannot guarantee another team in your child's age group will practice on a day you are able to accommodate or will have space on the team if so.
- Many families on teams work together on car pooling to assist if there is any conflict in practice dates to your schedule or they speak with the coach if the athlete has other commitments at the same time as practice on how they may divide the time. We suggest reaching out to your team first on Team Snap in the event of a conflict with the teams practice time, to try and find concessions.
- **No Refunds are provided after the refund deadline.**

I just got my child's game scheduled and it will not work, can I get a refund?

- Refunds are only provided up until the refund deadline, see the refund policy and dates here: <https://emsanorth.com/about/policies-governance/>
- Typically, game schedules are released after the refund deadline, so we encourage all parent's to refer to our website regarding tentative play dates ahead of time before registering their player <https://emsanorth.com/play/register/>
- Please note all play dates are tentative and subject to change. Based on field availability and coach conflicts however we try our best to stick to the proposed dates as best as possible. There may be a game or two that does not work for a family, and we understand this, and suggest you reach out to your team on team snap and see if car pooling may be an option for your athlete.
- Please refer to the questions above regarding tentative play times and locations as well so that there are no surprises when the schedule is released.
- **No Refunds are provided after the Refund Deadline.**

I want to Coach both my Children's teams can you make sure there is no conflicts?

- For the **Outdoor Season & Summer League** please review the scheduled play dates for each age group that your children will be playing for by visiting our website here: <https://emsanorth.com/play/register/> . Please note that if your children both have the same play dates but are in different age groups or one is in a boys team another a girls. It will not be possible to avoid conflicts as they will be playing on different fields based on their divisions and games only run back to back double headers each night. Chances are you will not have time to travel to each game.
- For the **Indoor Season** please refer to the play days at <https://emsanorth.com/play/register/> . If both player's age groups or divisions play on the same days conflicts may still exist. However please notify the office asap so they can make note when scheduling. The Indoor schedules run on the weekend and there is a bit more flexibility to try and avoid conflicts for coaches of two teams.
- In all season's if play days for each of your children do not conflict then typically there should be no scheduling issue, excluding possible rain out rescheduling issues.
- In all cases, please inform our office if you are coaching two teams. We need this information for scheduling games but also for practices.
- We will only make attempts to avoid HEAD COACH conflicts where possible. **We cannot commit to try and avoid Assistant Coach or Manager conflicts.**

For the Outdoor Season the Field we are playing on is in bad shape, what do we do?

- Soccer Fields are maintained by the city of Edmonton on a maintenance schedule. Our association has no more pull on the city then a member of the public does to request maintenance on soccer fields.
- In the event that a soccer field needs to be mowed, please reach out to the city of Edmonton via 311 to request mowing. Please coordinate that all parent's on the team do the same, there is power in numbers! We won't reschedule games due to long grass.
- If a field is unsafe or unplayable the coach should be reaching out to the office to inform us of the field status in detail (photos help!). We will report this to the city and depending on the severity we will need to reschedule future games on this field.

For the Indoor Season do I need to purchase a pass to watch my child play?

- The Edmonton Minor Soccer Association rents all it's bookings for games from Soccer Centers.
- At this time, the Edmonton Soccer Centers and the Edmonton Soccer Dome do charge an entry fee for spectators between the ages of 18 and 64.
- All players & coaches are exempt from this entry fee
- The entry fees are used to support the operating expenses of the Edmonton Soccer Facilities. The City of Edmonton Ice Arenas receive significant annual operating subsidies

from tax levies, Edmonton Soccer Centers do not which is why they use entry fees towards the following:

- i. Operating Costs: Utilities, Repairs, Supplies, Insurance
- ii. Future Improvements or Development Costs
- Rates for the 2023-24 Indoor Season Admissions are as follows:
 - i. Daily Admission - \$7.00 (purchase on site)
 - ii. Multi Facility Season Pass = \$50.00 (must purchase via this form <https://www.esaf.ca/images/multi-f%20season%20pass%20form%202023-2024.pdf>)
 - iii. Multi pass includes entry into the three Edmonton Soccer Association Indoor Facilities (East, South, and West), the Scottish Dome and Viktoria Soccer Club
- The Edmonton Soccer Centers are offering an Early Bird deal on passes. Until **August 31st, 2023**, families can purchase a maximum of 2 passes at a discounted price (1 pass = \$45; 2 passes = \$65) at the following locations:
 - West Soccer Center – August 15 & 16 from 4:30pm to 8:30pm
 - West Soccer Center – August 17 & 18 from 10 am to 4:30pm
 - West Soccer Center – August 21 to 24 from 4:30pm to 8:30pm
 - West Soccer Center – August 28 to 31 from 4:30pm to 8:30pm

 - South Soccer Center - August 22 from 6-8pm
 - South Soccer Center - August 23 from 6-8pm
 - South Soccer Center - August 24 from 6:30-10:30pm
 - South Soccer Center - August 28 from 6-9pm
 - South Soccer Center - August 29 from 6-9pm
 - South Soccer Center - August 31 from 6:30-9:30pm

 - East Soccer Center – August 22 from 10am to 2pm
 - East Soccer Center – August 23 from 10am to 4pm
 - East Soccer Center – August 24 from 10am to 4pm
 - East Soccer Center – August 30 from 10am to 2pm

Does my player or do I need an EMSA ID Card?

- EMSA ID Cards are Digital Identification cards that are valid for 3 years
- Those who require cards are listed below
 - i. Outdoor Spring / Summer Season
 - 1. All Team Officials U9+
 - 2. All Community Players U13+
 - ii. Indoor Season
 - 1. All Team officials U7+ (this allows entry into the soccer center)
 - 2. All Community Players U13+
- An email will go out to players and team officials reminding them to obtain or renew their EMSA ID card prior to the season beginning.

- There is a simple online form that needs to be completed where the individual will upload a photo of themselves shoulders up along with a copy of a government issued identification.