

Coaches

We are asking everyone to be fully registered as a coach. In addition, we strongly encourage all coaches to take the appropriate online coaching training *and* to attend the appropriate NorthStar coaches orientation session (which is where we will go over the actual rules and stuff like that!)

It is most important that Head Coaches and full Assistant Coaches at all age levels follow these steps. We hope that weekly Skills Coaches/Assistant Coaches will follow the steps as well. NorthStar will reimburse costs for all coaches on these items.

Getting Registered as a Coach with Alabama Soccer Association

Use this link to get to the coaching page on the NorthStar website. <https://www.northstarsoccerministries.org/volunteers>. From there, click on the soccer ball to get to the getsoccer website for creating or updating coaching applications.

- Every Coach needs to have an account in Getsoccer. If you set up your account through this link then you will automatically be connected to the NorthStar getsoccer account. It is a two-step process. First you will fill out a form. Once approved you will then be able to set up your getsoccer account. Once your account is established you should immediately give permission for a background check to be completed.
- In addition to submitting to the background check, coaches must complete safety course requirements. The links to these courses are found in your getsoccer account.
 - Intramural League coaches will be registered with Alabama Soccer Association which requires both SafeSport and Coach Safely
 - Club Team coaches coaching in ASA State League are also registered with Alabama Soccer Association and have the same requirements
 - Most NorthStar Club Team coaches will be coaching in CASL (Central Alabama Soccer League) and your registration will be through US Club Soccer, which only requires SafeSport.

Completing Your Coaching Education Certification

NorthStar requests every head coach and full assistant coach to complete the appropriate US Soccer coaching license. We will be offering/encouraging additional coaching education for all long-term coaches but the basic certification is online:

- Go to the US Soccer Learning Center website - <https://learning.ussoccer.com/>. Create your own account on that site. The courses you are looking for are 'Grassroots Coaching Education.' **All coaches should start with the 15 minute (free) "Intro to Grassroots Coaching"** listed with the online courses.
- Once you have complete the Introductory Course you should select the appropriate course based on the age level you will be coaching. These courses each take about 2 hours (you only need to complete the one course associated

with your current coaching assignment – unless you are coaching multiple teams!). The courses cost \$25. NorthStar will reimburse coaches who complete the certification for this amount.

- U6 and U8 coaches should complete the **Grassroots Coaching 4v4 online course** (don't be confused – we actually play 3v3 for U6 and 5v5 for U8 but 4v4 is the correct course).
- U10 coaches should complete the **Grassroots Coaching 7v7 online course**
- U12 coaches should complete the **Grassroots Coaching 9v9 online course**
- U13 and older should complete the **Grassroots Coaching 11v11 online course**

Spring Season Orientation

- We will have separate orientation sessions for Club Team Coaches and NorthStar Intramural Coaches. (NorthStar Intramural includes coaches for the After-School programs at Hemphill, West End Academy and Oliver elementary schools). Coaches plan to meet at the NorthStar office (please check in because there is a chance we will have to change the location) at 700 8th Avenue West. Both orientation sessions will be from 9:00-12:00. Coaches for both will begin the morning inside but should be dressed to take the field. We will move to Legion Field practice field to complete the session.
 - Club Team Coaches (U12 and older teams) are requested to attend the Coaches Orientation session on Saturday, February 5 from 9:00-12:00.
 - Intramural Team Coaches (U6/U8/U10) are requested to attend the Coaches Orientation session on Saturday, February 12 from 9:00-12:00.
- Coaches, please note that our coaching plans will be based on US Soccer format presented in the Grassroots Coaching courses. *It will be very helpful if you have completed the appropriate online course before the Orientation Session.*