

DESERT FOOTHILLS SOCCER – Building on Success in 2017!

Dear Coaches, Players, and Parents,

Welcome to Desert Foothills Soccer Club (DFSC) and the 2017-2018 soccer season! Whether you are just beginning in our U4 Soccer Tots Program or are college bound on a competitive Desert Elite team, you are about to become a member of one of the largest and most stable soccer programs in Arizona. Our well-established programs continue to attract players from across the Valley, and this season we anticipate over 1,200 players on the fields every week!

- Our DFSC Recreational League will support over 80 teams for players in U4 through U14 divisions. It begins with the U4 Soccer Tots Program, which is a fun clinic format run by a member of the DFSC professional training staff. Our next division is the U6 Micro-Soccer League, where teams practice first, then follow up with a short game. Finally, our U8 through U14 divisions participate in an eight-week season with one practice per week and games on Saturdays. Dan Soutar, Manager of Recreational Programs, is the contact point for recreational players looking to expand their enjoyment of soccer.
- Our Desert Elite Developmental/Competitive Program will consist of 25-30 teams representing U7 through U19 divisions. Our season typically runs August through our May/June Spring Clinics (for older teams) or March (for younger teams). This program will continue to focus on supporting young players who are developing their skills, as well as players demanding a higher level of commitment. Desert Elite teams will compete with the top teams from across the state, and our older teams will compete in the President's Cup and State Cup tournaments in March and April. All teams in the Desert Elite program will play in a valley-wide league. Our professional staff of 14 trainers provides instruction under the direction of Noel Clarkson, Brian O'Donnell, and Joe Kiefer, our Directors of Coaching.

This season, field space and expense continues to be one of the biggest challenges facing our organization. We work tirelessly with local school districts and the City of Phoenix to develop new fields and park sites in our community; although city bond funds are hard to come by these days. We are attempting to raise funds through several activities and donated services to support field development. Please contribute as you are able during registration, and don't forget your tax-free donations prior to the end of the year. We also encourage you to express your concerns over field availability/quality to the appropriate community officials. With the challenges facing our kids today, youth athletics is one of the best ways to support their positive development...and it all starts with having a place to play!

The Desert Foothills Soccer Club Board of Directors and all our volunteer committees encourage you to enjoy this season to its fullest by participating in team activities and supporting your coaches' requests for assistance. We also welcome your participation with club activities, like our annual Desert Elite Cup tournament, Coaches Cup, Soccer Showdown, and Pancake Breakfast. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and support the community. Please call 480-488-8485 or email desertelitesoccer@gmail.com for more information, or you can leave a message for one of our committee members.

Please visit our website (www.dfacports.com) for further details, contact information, and to sign up for our email mailing list. We hope to see you all out on the field!

Yours in soccer,

Keith McCulloch

Vice President of Soccer

Desert Foothills Soccer Club