



FFC Ministry
FFC Sports
PO Box 595
Robertsdale, AL 36567
www.ffcsports.org
Admin@ffcsports.org

FFC Sports Parent Information

PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY

It is the mission of FFC Ministry to offer Christ-centered character building, self-esteem, skill enhancing instruction, and spiritual nurturing to children and families of our church and community through our FFC Sports program. As a sports program, we will always strive to increase skill development, game strategy, game rules, and enjoyment of sports. It is our hope that sports can be **Christ-like and competitive** with an emphasis on doing one's best while respecting the coaches, officials, and opponents.

We are a **Developmental League** which has certain rules that demand that our focus is not on winning games. Our program is designed to teach sports in a safe way in which **each** child is given an opportunity to learn skills, increase their knowledge of the game, gain self-confidence and enjoy being part of a team. Each coach is required to focus attention on all players.

League **Player Game Rotations** are put in place to make sure all players play an equal amount of time, start and finish games, and receive an equal amount of time and attention from the coach. This means that coaches are restricted from adjusting the league required player game rotation.

On certain occasions when the score of a game becomes lopsided, we have a **Grace Rule** that requires the team in the lead to ease up, back their defense up to let the opposing team attempt to score all at the cost of losing a game. Another example may be requiring a coach to adjust their game strategy to use the grace rule during a mismatch of talent by asking the team to adjust their play level at times.

Winning is good but our purpose is to develop each player. This means that FFC Sport's is not for everyone. Some parents and players would enjoy a more aggressive league where the main focus is winning as many games as possible or having as much playing time as possible. We understand that. We are developing sportsmanship and spiritual values more so than indulging an instinct to win. We want them to learn to win and lose gracefully. Due to this being a developmental program, this league is not beneficial for higher level experienced players and based on preliminaries, those participants may not be able to participate in the league. While playing in a developmental league may keep them active in their sport, it can diminish their skills they've already developed. It is much more beneficial to those players to continue with higher level playing leagues. We are here to encourage the development of players in the beginning of their skill learning.

Remember that FFC Sports is a positive environment.

- * We do not permit parents to speak harshly to their own children, other children or parents.
- * We do not permit arguing with a referee or umpires.
- * Coaches must never use negative comments to players, other coaches or officials. Please keep this in mind if you invite a guest to our campus and make sure they know our rules.
- * We want our players to hear only cheers and see lots of smiles.

LEAGUE POSITIVE AFFIRMATION RULES:

This program is built by the hard work of many people who are volunteering their time. All of our coaches are VOLUNTEERS. This means they are ready, willing, and able to give their gift of time serving you and your child. Coaches, assistant coaches, team moms, officials and other volunteers are what make this league possible. These people work hard to ensure that all of the children who participate will experience God's love, peace and understanding. Please thank them every chance you get. Please review our campus rules below and instruct visitors you bring:

1. Always speak positively toward your child and/or any other player.
2. Always speak positively toward an adult (coach, volunteer or another parent).
3. Please direct any complaints regarding a call made by an official to Admin@ffcports.org Do not approach the official.
4. Please react in an appropriate manner regardless of your child's performance or team's performance.

These rules are in place to ensure that our focus is on what is best for our children. Children want to have fun and play the game. If you witness someone that you feel is not aware of these rules, please bring it to our attention.

FFC SPORTS COMMUNICATIONS:

Every year we work well in advance to put together the details of the season so that you have information at your fingertips - literally on paper and digitally several ways. Please be sure you read this parent info THOROUGHLY and connect to the links below in order to stay updated.

- * Website: ffcports.org
- * Facebook: facebook.com/FFCSports
- * REMIND APP: To join, TEXT 81010 or find us on your Remind App @ffcspor (note, the "t" is missing on purpose)

PARENT EXPECTATIONS:

- * Parents are expected to be present at all practices and games.
- * **You must bring your child to the coach, you may not drop them off and leave.**
- * Parent are to bring an appropriate first-aid kit or safety kit if needed for your child.

JEWELRY:

No Player is allowed to wear jewelry to practice or games. No rings, bracelets, necklaces or ear rings.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY REGARDING OUTSIDE PLAY:

The FFC Sports Admin will monitor conditions daily. Decisions on canceling practice or games **will not be made, in most cases, until practice or game time.** Games and practice will be cancelled if the FFC Sports Admin feels it would be unsafe to play. Coaches or referees may STOP a game or practice if the weather conditions warrant. Parents and coaches should be prepared with appropriate rain wear. We will notify coaches and coaches should notify the team parents. We will post any changes on Facebook as well. Parents are encouraged to follow our FFC Sports Facebook page for up-to-date information. The main thing we emphasize to all parents is **IT IS THE PARENT'S DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO COME TO A PRACTICE OR GAME DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER.**

FFC Sports Admin will determine if any games missed due to weather should be rescheduled.

FFC SPORTS EMERGENCY PLAN FOR LIGHTNING DISTURBANCES:

1. Except in the case of a local storm emergency, lightening emergencies will only affect outdoor sports.
2. Staff should be assigned to monitor weather conditions prior to the event.
3. A 30 second or less "flash to bang" count calls for the removal of people from the playing fields to appropriate shelter.
4. Once play has been suspended, 30 minutes must expire after the last flash of lightening is witnessed or thunder is heard prior to resuming play.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AND SKIN INFECTION PROCEDURES:

While the risk for blood-borne infectious diseases and skin infections remains low in sports, proper precautions are needed to reduce the risk of spreading the condition to others.

- * Proper hygiene is expected for all players, coaches, and associated personnel.
- * Any known illness or condition that may be considered infectious should be evaluated by a physician before the participant comes to the event.
- * FFC Sports personnel reserve the right and responsibility to refer any participant for medical evaluation before allowing their participation.
- * Wounds that are bleeding must be covered and blood-soaked clothing must be changed before the participant is allowed re-enter the game.
- * Caregivers are encouraged to wear protective gloves to treat wounds.
- * All contaminated surfaces must be cleaned with disinfectant before being used again.
- * Any blood exposure or bites to the skin should be reported to the coach and league director as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

There should be no FFC Ministry sanctioned sports activities without FFC personnel on campus and available.

- * When an injury occurs, or a child/adult shows symptoms of a medical condition that may require attention, the coach must be notified at once. The coach will then notify FFC Sports Admin and report the condition.
- * Parents and family members will be the first resource if a child or adult needs transport to a medical facility or temporary care (ice bag on a knee, etc.).
- * All parents need to bring a first-aid kit or safety kit to each practice and game.
- * Injuries or symptoms that appear serious may require emergency medical personnel. 911 should be called as soon as that determination is made.

In the case of a potentially harmful situation, children and adults will be moved away from the situation before or while FFC Sports Admin or officials deal with the situation. Any official may determine if emergency personnel are needed and call 911. Safety is our first concern.

PARKING AND SECURITY:

Please park in the designated parking area located in front of the recreation center. Overflow parking will be located in the church parking lot at 21081 Baldwin Beach Express. **Do not pull up to the fields.**

DO NOT LEAVE ANY VALUABLES IN YOUR VEHICLES! We are not liable for any theft or damage to your vehicle.

PLEASE SEE THAT ALL TRASH IS PUT INTO A RECEPTACLE!

Please follow the following campus rules, and ask that any guests you invite are aware of these as well:

Absolutely NO: Tobacco, Alcohol, Vape, Profanity, or Pets Permitted on FFC Sports Premises. (Non-compliant visitors will be escorted from the campus).

FFC SPORTS FLAG FOOTBALL LEAGUE INFORMATION

FFC Sport's Flag Football is a coed sport for participants who are age 6 through age 14. The child must be 6 by the start of the season and must not turn 15 during the season.

FFC Sports is volunteer led. This means all of our coaches, team parents, and some officials are volunteers. We cannot form our league without the volunteers and their gift of time. Please consider volunteering to be a head coach, assistant coach, team parent, and also to help officiate. Volunteer coaching forms are online or upon request. No experience is required and we provide all the tools you need including a manual. This is a great chance for you to serve God through this ministry and spend time with your child. We need YOU... ***Thank you in advance for volunteering!***

Our teams are formed by a preliminary process - not "try outs". Due to the nature of our drafting process in our developmental league, special requests for teammates are not accepted. Siblings in the SAME age group, as well as parent coaches, will be placed on the same team unless otherwise requested.

FEES:

Registration Fees (including late registration) will be updated on our website.

EQUIPMENT & UNIFORM PROVIDED:

Registration Fee covers cost of t-shirt, wrist play armband, and player awards. Sizing t-shirts will be available to view upon special request. You must select the correct size you want. Parents who have to reorder for incorrect sizes will be charged for both uniforms. You can have your child try on the sizing shirts at registration or at the preliminaries.

ADDITIONAL UNIFORM PIECES (to be provided by parent):

Each child will need to have their own black shorts (1" above the knee), cleats and black knee high socks. Mouth piece is optional. Soccer or baseball cleats may be worn (no metal spikes). Please put player's name on all equipment. Uniforms will be handed out by first game.

Players **must** wear all of the equipment listed above to every game. Any issued piece of equipment that is lost must be replaced by said player before the next game.

PRELIMINARIES:

All players **must** attend preliminaries. Preliminaries are held at the FFC Recreation Center. Date and time TBD on our website and Facebook pages.

VOLUNTEER COACHES, ASSISTANTS, OFFICIALS, AND TEAM PARENTS:

All of the coaching positions are volunteer positions. All coaches must complete a coaching packet.

COACHES MEETINGS:

- * All coaches must attend coaches training meeting. Dates and times TBD.
- * Coaches and Asst. Coaches will referee the game before or after your game.

TEAM/LEAGUE ASSIGNMENTS:

Players will be assigned to teams by the FFC Sports Admin based on abilities of players as determined at preliminaries. Special requests for teammates are not accepted. We do this so all teams have beginner, seasoned and advanced players to insure the teams will be balanced. League assignments are done after all preliminaries are completed and may not be finished until the week prior to when practices begin. **PARENTS WILL BE CONTACTED ABOUT THEIR CHILD'S TEAM ASSIGNMENTS FROM A COACH.**

PRACTICES:

- * All practices are on the FFC sports fields.
- * Practice days will be on Monday and Thursday. Specific practice times TBD.

GAMES:

All games will be played at FFC Fields on Saturday starting at 9 am. If needed, games may be hosted on a Thursday or Friday evening.

Each game consists of a 5-minute warm-up and then at least 45 minutes of play. Have your child at the game at least 15 minutes early. Parents and coaches can meet for 5-10 minutes after the game to have snacks/drinks and talk about the game and team performance. Practice and game schedules will be posted on Facebook.

Thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to work with your children. We take this responsibility very seriously and we will do all that we can to meet the goals detailed at the beginning of this parent information packet. Please reach out if there is anything you need or that we can do. We welcome both compliments and criticism (constructive, of course). If you see something that FFC can do better, please speak up!

“In all your ways submit to Him and He will make your paths straight.” Prov. 3:6