



U5/U6 Soccer Parent Guide

Helping Your Child Love the Game

Welcome to soccer! At ages 4–6, the goal is simple: fun, movement, and confidence. Winning doesn't matter yet — building smiles and a love for the game does.

Your role as a parent makes all the difference!

Your #1 Job

Cheer, smile, and let them play.

Kids learn best when they feel safe, supported, and free to try things on their own.

What Parents SHOULD Do

Encourage effort

“Great try!” “I love how hard you ran!” “Did you have fun?”

Create a positive environment

Clap and celebrate everyone, Keep it light and fun, Focus on enjoyment, not the score

Help with logistics, Arrive on time, Bring water, shin guards, and proper shoes

Volunteer when you can (snacks, setup, team help), Model good sportsmanship

Respect coaches and referees, Be kind to other teams, Stay calm and positive

Build independence, Let kids carry their own gear, Allow them to solve little problems

Encourage them to try on their own

What Parents Should AVOID

No sideline coaching - No “kick it!” “go!” “shoot!” or instructions

Too many voices confuse young players

No pressure about winning - Scores don't matter at this age

No negative comments about referees, coaches, or players

No comparisons - Every child develops at their own pace

Remember

At U5/U6, soccer should look like:

Lots of running

Lots of giggling

Sometimes kids chasing butterflies

...and that's perfectly okay

If they leave smiling, we're doing it right.

Thank you for helping create a fun, positive first soccer experience for every child!