



Dear Current & Future Westbrook Soccer League Players & Parents:

Registrations for the 2010 fall travel soccer program are now being accepted. **Boys and girls ages 7-13** by July 31, 2010, that are looking for a new challenge – a way to further develop their current skill set and improve on their overall game with instruction from accredited coaches – are encouraged to register. Evaluations will be held on May 16 and May 23 at the Westbrook High School Upper Fields (4-5 pm for boys and girls ages 8 and under; 5:30-6:30 pm for boys and girls ages 9 and older). All skill levels are welcomed. No one will be turned away. Players, based on age, will be placed on teams that will compete throughout the Greater Portland area this coming fall.

Travel typically is within 20-30 minutes of Greater Portland, and includes towns and cities like Falmouth, Cape Elizabeth, Gorham, Windham, Portland, South Portland and Buxton. Home games are played at the Westbrook High School Upper Fields.

New Fall Travel Soccer Fees for 2010:

\$85 – Ages 8 and under (as of July 31, 2010)

\$85 – All first-year players, regardless of age

New Introductory Rate for 2010!

\$130 – Ages 9 and above (as of July 31, 2010)

\$130 – Non-residents

A deposit of **\$50** is due at the time of registration. The remaining balance is due by the first game but, if you pay in full by the final player evaluation session on May 23, you'll be entered for a chance to win a **FREE** week at Challenger Sports British Soccer Day Camp in Westbrook August 23-27.

Based on last year's schedule, our registration fee comes out to about **\$1 for every 20 minutes of soccer instruction or game play (or \$3/hour)**. Westbrook charges the **second-lowest registration fee in the Greater Portland area**. Gorham is at \$205; Scarborough is at \$175; and Windham is at \$170, for all ages. Only Falmouth at \$105 is less expensive (fundraising and hosting tournaments help offset the cost). All other programs fall somewhere in between.

Discounts are offered for multi-player families. However, siblings taking advantage of the new first-year introductory rate will not be eligible for the sibling discount.

Westbrook's registration fee includes:

- **Full travel soccer uniform – jersey, shorts & socks**
- **Five-evening soccer camp instructed by WHS varsity coach, Tim Gillis (August 9-13, 5-8 pm daily)**
- **15-20 games (held on Saturdays and/or Sundays)**
- **1-2 team practices per week (varies by coach)**
- **Fees for two fall tournaments**
- **Referee fees**
- **Field maintenance**
- **Dues to Soccer Maine (insurance, scheduling)**

Registration is open to all **Westbrook residents**, as well as **players from surrounding communities that are not selected to play for their local club (a waiver is needed)**. Please pass this information along to anyone that you feel may be interested in joining the Westbrook Soccer League fall travel soccer program.

Check out these testimonials from current Westbrook Travel Soccer parents:

"Last year, my son was on the U-10 boy's team and my daughter was on the U-9 boy's team (no girl's team that young last year, which is why we need to get more girls out there!!!). They have fine tuned a lot of their skills and have seen what they are up against if they want to stay competitive in this sport. They also have developed many great friendships. My husband and I have also met some really great people and our friendships have carried over past the soccer season."

"Travel soccer has allowed my son to improve on his natural soccer abilities and add to his skills in a manner that can only occur when one is faced with playing more challenging opponents. (It's) allowed him to be far more challenged by playing in a league full of potential standouts. The commitment may appear overwhelming at first, but it is worth every moment when, as a parent, you can witness the transformation of your casual soccer player into a physically-aggressive, passionate, disciplined and contributing member of an elite soccer team...Priceless."

"In addition to learning in more detail the rules, regulations, positions and intricacies of the game, our son now understands what it's like to be "team" on an entirely different level. Expectations are higher; commitment on the field is a must; and his teammates count on him in ways he's never before experienced. This has greatly help with his maturation process as both a person and a player. Travel Soccer has provided structure, discipline, perseverance (sometimes wins are sacrificed for overall development; especially at the younger ages), and helped him develop leadership abilities that are key to all facets of life."

"This will be the third year that I've had a child involved in Westbrook Travel Soccer. When my oldest turned 8, I felt he needed a (new challenge). He was developing some skills and becoming more competitive than some of the other kids his age. So we decided to let him try travel. He really enjoyed the higher level of play."

"The exposure my son has had from being in the Westbrook Travel Soccer program has been invaluable. He has made incredible strides in his abilities, confidence and understanding of what it truly means to be on a team, not to mention the wonderful friendships that we have both made. There is always an opportunity for continued development by either playing with kids that are at times at a higher skill level, or by the many clinics that are offered throughout the season. The positive experience my son has had with the program is what prompted my daughter to join last year. She had such a good time she's coming back this year for a second season!"

"This past fall my son joined the Westbrook Travel Soccer (Program). He had played in the fall recreation league for two years and he was ready to take the next step to the travel league. The U-9/U-10 travel teams that he has played on were very welcoming from the first practice. The coaches do a great job teaching the kids about the game by developing skills in an atmosphere that emphasizes teamwork. The season itself was very enjoyable and the distances to the games very reasonable. The travel league is more competitive than the recreation league, but it is still fun, as the coaching staff places more emphasis on the players growth in the sport than on the win/loss column. The playing time was evenly distributed. Each child was given the opportunity to try different positions, if they requested. Since the fall travel season ended my son has continued playing with his travel team throughout the entire year in different leagues. He has developed a great sense of teamwork over the year and has made many friends. His soccer skills have improved as an individual and his confidence in his ability to compete at a higher level is now in place. The team itself has transformed over the year from a group with varying skill levels to a team that works in unison on the field, playing in support of one another and not just looking to make an individual play. Travel soccer has been a great experience for my son as he continuously looks forward to playing each week. From a parent's standpoint, I have only great things to say about the program. I would encourage any parent whose child is interested in soccer to look into the travel program."

Should you have any questions, please let us know by calling Greg Post at 310-8297 or e-mailing at gpost@nlpnpartners.com. We hope to see you this fall!