

Information for Team Parents

The following information is a guideline to help you in your role as team parent. It is based on what is typical of an average team in the league. You may add/delete or change items to whatever works best for you and your team. One person can serve as team parent or you can divide up the list in whatever manner works for your team.

Ongoing and up-to-date information regarding the league can be found at www.dmcvsharks.com.

1. **COMMUNICATIONS** - Using the information provided to you by your Head Coach, set-up a roster/directory for the team. Have parents confirm the information is correct. Set-up parents on e-mail list. Have them confirm back to you on your first e-mail, so you can confirm all e-mails are set up correctly. Verify the spelling of the player's names; check to see if they have a nickname they prefer to use on the banner and trophy. You or the coach can send out reminders for each upcoming game, changes in schedules due to rain, information on the skills clinics, etc...
2. **UNIFORMS** – The league will disseminate information for team parents and uniforms during designated times at the office. The team parent will generally handle this responsibility. One method to evenly distribute by size is to get a paper grocery bag for each player. Put a game shirt, practice shirt, shorts, socks and picture packet in each bag, starting with the smallest sizes first and working toward the larger sizes. Staple the bag closed and put the uniform number on the outside of the bag. At the next practice have the players line up in order of size and pass out the uniforms accordingly. (the lower the uniform number the smaller the size) Do not let the younger players open the bags, or the entire uniform will never make it home!!!!
3. **SNACKS** - At the Parent/Players Team Meeting or first practice, set-up a snack schedule. Typically each parent signs up for one game to bring snacks. Snacks include a healthy snack for mid-game (oranges, apples, grapes) and an end-of-game snack. For the sake of trash and sugary drinks, we don't recommend serving drinks, however, encourage each of the players to drink lots of water and preferably in a re-usable water bottle. Although this varies widely, so each team should decide what will work best for them. The snack parent should also bring a trash bag and take on **the responsibility of cleaning up all team and snack related trash after EACH game. In addition, the trash needs to be taken off site per our permits.** We will lose the use of our fields if we leave them full of trash.
4. **BANNERS** - Banners are optional and can be purchased or handmade. If you have one, they usually include the Coaches names, player names, team name, team logo and the sponsor's name. Check with Marcy Roke at craftermarcy@gmail.com if you do not know who your sponsor is, as the coaches do not always know this information. Some banners even have the Team Parent name!!! A list of companies that make banners will be provided at uniform pick-up. They usually run around \$100 depending on who you use, how fancy it is, if you need the framework and shipping and they have great turn around time. Divide the cost of the banner among each of the players. The banner is set-up at

each game, all tournaments and is included in the team photo on picture day. At the end of the season, teams typically cut it up and give each player their name from the banner, or they give it to the coach or sponsor. **IF YOU WANT YOUR BANNER IN THE TEAM PHOTO, DO NOT ORDER VINYL AS THE LIGHT WILL REFLECT OFF IT AND RUIN THE PHOTO.**

5. **TROPHIES** - Trophies are optional, although most teams collect money to buy trophies or medals for the players. Order trophies early, as they sometimes arrive broken or miss-spelled. A list of trophy providers will be provided at the uniform pick-up.
6. **SHARKS IN THE PARK/PICTURE DAY** – Picture Day is Sunday, September 18th at Canyon Crest Academy High School and held along with Sharks in the Park (a family event featuring food, games, booths, soccer merchandise, etc). As team parent, you will let the parents know your assigned time, have all players check in with you upon arrival, collect each player’s picture packet and process players through the picture process. Each player is photographed individually, as well as a team picture. For the team picture, typically the coaches are in the picture, along with the banner. Again Team Parents can be in the picture if you choose. Pictures will arrive later in the season, you will need to pick them up from the office and distribute to players.
7. **GIFTS FOR THE COACHES** – Most teams collect money to purchase some type of thank-you gift for the team coaches. A good source of ideas is the coaches’ spouse or their kid. Value of the gift varies from team to team.
8. **END OF SEASON PARTY** – Most teams hold some kind of end of the season party to hand out trophies, mingle with the team and present coaches gifts. Some hold their parties right after their last game at the field or a nearby park. Parties are not allowed to be held at Solana Pacific. Some go to local eateries or host it at a parent’s house. Some teams precede the party with a parent vs. player game of soccer. Again, this is up to the team parent and team as to what works best for most of the team.
9. **SPONSOR THANK YOU** – The league provides a team photo and plaque to each sponsor. You will get them with your pictures, please pass them on. In addition each team is encouraged to send a team thank you card or other expression of thanks to their team sponsor. Depending on who sponsored your team, you could pass out the plaque at the end of season party or invite them to one of your games and present the plaque at that time.
10. **OTHER** - Depending on whether you have girls or boys, their ages and the location of your practice field, you may want to have an extra parent stay at each practice. This will allow the coaches to focus on coaching and the extra parent can make trips to the restroom, help with “hurt” players, keep an eye on roaming players, etc.

Thanks for your help. The league, the coaches, the parents, the kids, the sponsors, all appreciate your hard work!!!!!!