



2024 Valor Leander MS Soccer Info Letter

The 2024 Soccer season is here! We are excited for our inaugural season, as this will be the first building blocks for all future years. As coaches, we hope to foster teamwork, friendship, and joy in playing the game while promoting a culture of exemplary leadership and growth in the sport. We will encourage each player to pursue excellence in every area of life, including on the field and in the classroom. Before we get started on what is sure to be a successful soccer season, there are a few good and necessary “housekeeping” items that both parents and student athletes should attend to:

Fees and Physicals:

There is a \$300 fee for student athletes. Fees are discounted for families who apply and qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch. Parents must complete the online registration. Please upload the athlete’s physical and provide payment before the date of first tryout. Please upload the physical and do not turn in a paper copy. Follow the link to register your athlete [here](#).

Equipment:

Every player needs their own:

1. Soccer cleats (contact your coach or Mr. Visy if you need help picking some out)
2. Shin guards: ones like [these](#) are sufficient (for practices and games)
3. Plain white over-the-calf socks **for games only**: they can have a small logo, but please no stripes or colors
4. Athletic attire for practices (see athletic handbook for practice dress code)
5. Filled water bottle for each practice and game

Some soccer balls are provided for practices and games, but players are welcome to bring additional balls to practice. For games, students will wear game uniforms (shorts and jerseys), which will be provided at the beginning of the season. Uniforms must be returned (clean and undamaged) at the end of the season.

Practice Schedule:

Practices are *usually* 2 times a week between Monday and Friday at Spike Frog in Cedar Park (on the large upper field behind their gym).

Practice begin on **Monday, Feb. 5** from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Please arrive on time or early, dressed, and ready to practice. Only players that have completed registration will be able to practice. This season, there are no tryouts – every kid who comes out and meets expectations will make the team.

Games: Our league schedule will start February 21 with playoffs at the end of April. Please have your players dressed and on the field 30 minutes before each game. Since most schools in our league rent from other facilities, please know that the current schedule is subject to change. We will communicate any changes or cancellations as soon as we know of them.

Communication:

The primary means of communicating with parents this season will be through a weekly email and a user-friendly app, BAND.

Expectations of Parents:

- Review the Valor Athletic Handbook
- Ensure your child arrives on time to practice and early for games.
- Be the voice of encouragement and positivity for your student athlete at home.
- DO NOT yell negative comments at players, coaches, or referees.
- Address any concerns with the head coach first.
- Cheer for your child and the entire Griffins team!

Expectations of Players:

- Review the Valor Athletic Handbook
- Stay on top of schoolwork and grades.
- Maintain a teachable spirit. Obey coaches' directions.
- Be responsible to bring your gear and equipment.
- Arrive on time to practice and 30 minutes early for games.
- Remember soccer is a team sport! Be encouraging to your fellow teammates.
- Display sportsmanship to your opponents and the officials.
- Work hard on and off the field; focus during practices and games; support your teammates!

Our coaches work hard to teach sportsmanship, soccer fundamentals, and team cooperation to our players and develop well-rounded athletes. The best thing you can do to help us reach these goals is to provide a solid, positive fan base for the team. Each student will be given an equal chance to prove their skills and the role they can add to the team. We hope that you will trust in us and know that we will do our best to develop individual strengths and find the best fit for those strengths within the team dynamic.

We cannot wait to get started and hope you feel the same excitement. We count on your support as parents, and we look forward to seeing you at games as volunteers!

Sincerely,

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