



May 2011

Congratulations and Welcome to the El Segundo Gunners Soccer Club!

The El Segundo Gunners will begin our 10th year in 2011-2012. We've grown from one girl's team in 2001 to ten teams in 2011. With a combination of bronze, silver and silver elite teams, we are now recognized as one of the competitive soccer clubs in the South Bay.

General Information

We are part of the Coast Soccer League (CSL) and affiliated with California Youth Soccer Association (CYSA). All new teams enter the league at the bronze level. At seasons end, the first place team in the bracket moves up one level the following fall season. The CSL brackets are Bronze, Silver, Silver Elite, and Gold. Each bracket is divided into regions. It is hard to predict which region your team will be assigned, but generally, games are played within a 25 mile radius of home. The League Cup tournament, which all teams participate in during the second half of the fall season, is often held at the San Bernardino Complex for most age groups. Transportation is not provided by the club. Teams are encouraged to carpool. All practices will be scheduled on an El Segundo soccer field. Our home game fields for U11 teams and older are the El Segundo High School and Middle School.

Our website is your resource for the latest information in club and team news.

Club website address: www.elsegundogunners.com

Club email address: info@elsegundogunners.com

Club Correspondence: P.O. Box 2052

El Segundo, CA 90245

Timeline

Try outs are generally held in March and April of each year. Teams must be registered no later than May 15th. Practices can start at any point after player registration in June. Some, teams begin with a practice once a week depending upon the coach. Expect to practice at least twice a week in July and August. The teams will play in one or two pre-season tournaments in July or August. The coaches will try to give you as much lead time as possible, so you can plan your summer schedule. Registration cards are valid for one year beginning on July 1. The regular fall season begins the Saturday after Labor Day and continues through November. Games can be scheduled on both Saturday and Sunday. There are several options for teams in the spring, State Cup, Spring League, and tournaments. Spring League begins in March and ends in mid-May.

Fees

The fees for the 2011-2012 season are \$1360.00; slightly higher for U9 and U10 due to a smaller roster size. Your team manager will email an explanation of fees that will itemize our fees. You can pay in full during registration or opt for our payment plan. If you choose the payment plan, your post dated checks must be turned in with your registrations paperwork. A player will not be registered without payment or a signed coach waiver.

Once a Player has committed to play for an ES Gunners team for the 2011-2012 season there will be no refunds of any fees if the player decides to leave the Club. The only exception is for a Player who suffers a Season Ending Injury. A Season Ending Injury is defined as an injury that requires a rehabilitation period of six (6) months or longer. If a Player suffers a Season Ending Injury the Player shall receive a refund of any pre-paid Club fees based upon a prorated fee schedule. If a player is involuntarily dropped from a team due to a club violation, the board of directors will review the case and make the final decision on a pro-rated refund.

We also have a great way to offset some or all of your club fees. Friends, family and business owners are often willing to sponsor club soccer players. We

are a non-profit organization, so the donation can be a tax write off. The sponsorship letter is found on our website in the forms section.

Here's what you do:

Print the letter and send it to people you know. Adding a personal note is a nice touch. Checks are made out to El Segundo Gunners with your name noted in the memo section. When I receive a check, I will send you a thank you letter to sign and send back to your sponsor.

Code of Conduct

The El Segundo Gunners expect our teams, players, parents and coaches to exhibit respect, good conduct and sportsmanship when representing our club. CSL and CSYA –South also have a code of conduct that they expect clubs to follow. Our code of conduct is on the website with the registration form. Please read it carefully. Sign and return it with your completed registration form to your manager.

Although our club doesn't have a policy against playing club and AYSO, we don't recommend it and strongly encourage you not to. It's a disservice to the other families on the team that commit 100% of their time and money to play on a competitive team. If you choose to commit to both organizations you must clear it with your coach and, we do expect you to put Club soccer first. Meaning, if there is a conflict, you will play with the Gunners and you will not play an AYSO game before a Club game on the same day.

Coach's Decisions

During the year teams participate in practices, league competition, tournaments, State Cup or Spring League. The Coaches will make decisions on player selections, game lineup, player positions, amount of playing time, tournament participation, etc. Players must be positive in fulfilling the role they are asked to perform for the team at any moment, even if that role has them coming off the bench, or playing a different position. If conflicts or issues arise between a Player and/or his/her parents and the Team, then the Team Coach will be responsible for addressing and responding to the conflicts or issues and make decisions for the good of the Team. These decisions will be made in the coach's sole and absolute discretion. If necessary, the Board of Directors will be

available to review decisions. The Player and his/her parents must agree to abide by any decision approved by the Club.

Sideline Coaching

There will be no coaching by Parents. No matter how good your intentions are we insist there be no shouting instructions to your child or yelling to officials during games. Your vocal support and positive encouragement are welcome after a good play. "Go" or "Shoot" are interpreted as instructions and as such are not permissible. It is important that Players not be distracted at practices or during games, and that Players are given only one set of instructions by one voice. For this reason, the Club insists the Team Coach be the only voice at all games and practices. The first concern of the Club is for the long-term growth and development of your child as a person along with their soccer abilities. There will be times Coaches make decisions and Players are instructed to do things Parents will not understand. Club, Team, and Player development will sometimes be given a greater priority than winning, especially in the years prior to high school. Parents must understand this and conduct themselves in a manner consistent with a healthy Team environment. Remember, playing only to win without taking healthy Club, Team, and Player development into account will not result in a solid foundation upon which your child will be prepared for winning. At the appropriate moment and time, Parents should feel free to communicate and ask questions about their son or daughter. Please arrange a time that is convenient with the Coach to discuss issues regarding your son or daughter. Immediately before, during and immediately after a game is not considered the appropriate time. Players are encouraged to speak up and communicate for themselves whenever possible.

We will instruct your son or daughter to ignore adverse conditions such as bad referees, name calling, foul language, rough play, cheating, poor weather, negative behavior by Parents or opponents etc. We expect our Parents to have this same Mental Power.

Uniforms

Our uniforms are Nike. The girls wear Mystifi and the boy's style is Nike FC. Each set includes 1 pair of red shorts, one home and one away jersey, 2 pair of socks, and a backpack. The cost ranges from \$106 - \$128 depending on

the style and size. Sample size uniforms will be available to try on before ordering.

We are excited and looking forward to a fantastic year. We are glad you will be a part of the Gunners future!

Go Gunners!

The El Segundo Gunners Executive Board