

# KidsPLAY

## Registration FAQ

### **Can I register for a class directly with KidsPlay?**

KidsPlay does not accept registration for any of our programs. All registration is handled directly with our partners - usually a school district or youth sports organization.

### **Where can I find the latest registration information for KidsPlay programs?**

- 1) Look for the "Registration Links and Partners" links on the front page of the website, and click on the district or league closest to you.
- 2) The latest registration information is always posted on the "Links" section of our website (look for the "Links" link at the top of the front page).
- 3) We encourage you to call or email your questions to us. It's always pretty easy to track us down by calling 873.2353, 480.2374, 480.1436 or emailing us at: [kidsplay@mac.com](mailto:kidsplay@mac.com).

### **What is the best way to insure we get a spot in class?**

KidsPlay classes usually fill quickly which makes us happy and sad. The happy side of the story is that a quick-to-fill class reaffirms that parents and children like KidsPlay a lot and spots in our programs are tough to obtain. The sad side of the story is that almost every session, longtime friends of KidsPlay find themselves closed out of our program.

*Our best advice is to register on the first day of registration. For most programs, you are assured a spot in class if you register within the first 3-4 hours of registration.*

For those districts that coordinate online registration, that seems to be the fastest method to get in to a class. If your local district doesn't host online registration, phone or drop off registration are your best bet.

If you wind up being closed out of a class, consider registering for KidsPlay in a neighboring school district. Contact us at 873.2353 or [kidsplay@mac.com](mailto:kidsplay@mac.com) for registration info on the district closest to you.

### **Can KidsPlay please, please squeeze my child into a class that is full?**

There are a variety of reasons why we can't and we won't bore you by listing them all here. First and foremost, it's an insurance issue. If an accident ever occurred in a class that had been overbooked, our liability insurance premiums would skyrocket and we'd be out of business.

### **How can I obtain a credit/refund for a KidsPlay class?**

All credit/refund inquiries should be directed to the district or organization that accepted your registration.

### **Is it worth it to place our name on a waiting list to get into a class?**

Yes. People pull out of classes for dozens of reasons. Schedules change, children fall ill, and sometimes a child isn't yet ready to participate in a structured youth sports program like KidsPlay.

If you are one of the first three names on the waiting list, there is a 10-30% chance a spot might open up for you.

And even if you are the 41st name on a waiting list, there's always the possibility that a class with a heavy wait list leads us to find some gym/field space to open additional classes.

### **Can I please, please register my 4 year old for a 5-6 year old T-Ball class?**

Sorry, the restriction we have from our insurance carriers is that all players must be of age by their first scheduled class.

The only exception we are allowed to make to this restriction involves the transition from instructional play up to KidsPlay leagues. Once a child is enrolled in KidsPlay, they progress to more advanced levels of play based on their ability, not their age.

### **Why doesn't KidsPlay offer a soccer class for 3 year olds or a T-Ball class for 4 year olds?**

An increasing number of youth sports organizations are offering structured sports programs for children ages 2, 3 and 4. Our coaches have viewed several of these programs and we aren't particularly impressed with what we see. At best, these classes are glorified free play with a hefty price tag. One has to wonder if the organizations that host these classes are truly interested in serving the best interests of young athletes or more interested in making money.

We believe that a 3 year old soccer player - even a very talented one- receives more benefit by kicking a ball around with friends or family than playing in a structured environment. A child's initial exposure to sport should be filled with creativity. They should meet a game on their own terms.

Our best advice to the parent of a very young child is: be patient. Try to create opportunities for your child to play ball with you or with friends, and recognize that there is tremendous value in free play. There will be plenty of opportunity to play in structured leagues later in life. Rest assured that your 3 year old will not "fall behind the pack" if they aren't enrolled in formal skill training.

### **Can my child play on the same team as a friend?**

Usually, yes. Building friendships should be a big part of playing sports.

The only thing that ever prevents us from grouping friends together on a team is 1) if both friends are outstanding players and grouping them together creates an overly dominant team or 2) we have a string of 5+ players and, again, grouping them together affects the balance of the league.

