



Blackstone Millville TOPSoccer

Spring 2010

Our Spring 2010 season is now finalized -

We hope to run for 7-8 weeks

Beginning on the weekend of April 10th and ending on June 12th

(Skipping the weekend of 5/8, and 5/29)



When? - TOPSoccer takes place on Saturdays from 2:30-3:45pm.

Where?- Field location is AFM Elementary School in Blackstone MA.

Cost? - \$30.00 per season. Family max of \$60

The initial registration fee includes a starter kit containing a uniform (shirt, shorts, and socks), soccer ball.

Registration takes place online through www.BMYSO.org

Contact Bill Chaplin, BMYSO Interim TOPSoccer Coordinator at
wfcjr8611@yahoo.com or (508) 883-4757



WHAT IS TOPSoccer?

TOPSoccer (The Outreach Program for Soccer) is a community based soccer program for young athletes with special needs. The program, which is backed by US Youth Soccer and Massachusetts Youth Soccer, provides an alternative / positive soccer experience for individuals with disabilities who cannot or may not wish to participate in their local youth soccer program.

Massachusetts currently has 20-25 such programs located throughout the state. These programs are serving in excess of 550 children/athletes from over 30 communities with ages ranging from 5 to 16 years old and have a variety of disabilities, including autism, cerebral palsy, down syndrome, motor delays, and others.

- **Small Sided Team Soccer Events (3 v 3)**
- **Individual Skill Events : Dribbling, Passing, Shooting**
- **Traditional and Unified Team Opportunities**

Additional information is available at:

<http://www.usyouthsoccer.org/programs/TOPSoccer.asp>

<http://www.region1.com/TOPSoccer/TOPSMain.htm>

http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/pages/95_top_soccer.cfm

**Bill Chaplin – BMYSO Interim TOPSoccer Coordinator
BAYS TOPSoccer Coordinator
MAYS TOPSoccer Coordinator
Cell -(508) 330-0323 or email- coachbill8611@yahoo.com**

What is TOPSoccer?

The emphasis of the program is on development, training, and meaningful participation rather than on competition. We focus on ABILITIES vrs their DISABILITY. We teach them the fundamentals of the game of soccer in a fun, structured, safe environment in order for them to reach their full potential.

TOPSoccer was started in Blackstone when a group of coaches and parents within BMYSO saw the need within our community. There were many young athletes with disabilities around us who were looking for an opportunity to play. These children were already in our programs. They were sitting on the sideline benches and chairs watching there siblings play soccer. This all changed in the Spring of 2007 when we had our inaugural season of TOPSoccer with a total of 14 athletes and many wonderful coaches and junior coaches teaching the game of soccer. It was a big success.

The program runs for 7-8 weeks in the Spring and Fall with the opportunity to participate in the statewide Special Olympics Fall Soccer Tournament. Volunteers under the supervision of special needs professionals and experienced soccer coaches through BMYSO staff the program. The TOPSoccer program is open to children in Blackstone & Millville and the surrounding communities. Our program is successful because of the dedication of the Coaches, Junior Coaches and other Volunteers. Each TOPSoccer athlete receives small group and/or one on one attention at all times from our staff of Coaches and Junior Coaches that consist of middle school, high school or college age students. Each skill or game is adapted to each TOPSoccer athlete's special needs and every athlete participates at the level that they are able. The admiration and friendships between the athletes and coaches will leave both with valuable and lasting memories.

Testimonial:

Bill,

I can't thank you enough for allowing Connor to join the team so late in the game. He was so anxious about it at first but by Saturday he was in the groove! We had a family reunion at my house on Sunday, with 60 guests. He invited almost everyone into the dining room to see his display table of medals. He had neatly laid them all out for viewing and has been checking in on them regularly.

Your wonderful way with the kids and the amazing volunteers have made quite an impact in a short time for my little Connor. He was too medically compromised to play when he was younger so he decided he just "wasn't into sports." But being on your team opened new doors for him and he found a success he has never had before. He has been walking tall and proud.

I thank you, your other coaches and the volunteer staff for the smiles, the encouragement and the empowerment you have given your team, and Connor.

See you in the fall,

Kristin M

