



East Lake Soccer Association, Volunteer Participation Program (VPP) Handout

Volunteer Participation Program (VPP) is one of the prepaid fees paid at the time of registration. VPP is \$35 per player. Parents can earn back VPP by volunteering at the club. You cannot earn back more than was paid in.

- ✓ One player, volunteer 6 hours and earn-back VPP
- ✓ Two or more players, volunteer 12 hours and earn-back VPP for all your players

How exactly do I earn back my VPP?

Step 1: Volunteer

Step 2: Visit VPP.EastLakeSoccer.com and fill out the form

Step 3: Done

What Happens Next:

- ✓ You receive a system-generated email as reference that the request was received.
- ✓ ELSA receives an email with the detailed information for processing.
- ✓ At the beginning of each month (once a month) checks written and mailed.

I have some questions?

Why is VPP \$35 dollars?

Great question, because it is an amount that isn't too hard to part with but enough to want back.

Why charge this fee upfront?

VPP was implemented after many years of trying to find volunteers for the many hours (thousands of hours) required to offer soccer for youth players. Without the "held" funds it was very hard to find volunteers. Many hands make for light work.

Do I have to volunteer?

No, but if you don't volunteer your VPP pre-pay is forfeited and this is your "buy out". Many parents like to relax talk to parents on the sidelines and not be "forced" to miss the player action.

If I don't volunteer where does the money go?

Straight back into the program to enhance the soccer experience for players.

If I volunteer but "donate" my VPP pre-pay to East Lake Soccer, where does the money go?

To scholarship players who wouldn't be able to play soccer otherwise.

Does one member of the family have to do all the volunteering?

No, if a mother and father volunteer for 3 hours (together or separately) that is considered 6 hours for the family.

Can a member bring a teenage son/daughter to help earn back VPP?

Absolutely, we just need the help, if this works for the family, it works for us.

Can a teenage son/daughter volunteer FOR the family?

Absolutely, ELSA needs help, who is helping isn't as important. The volunteer activity needs to be age appropriate. This works well for volunteering on opening day.

Last year no one ever called me about volunteering?

Nobody is chasing parents to volunteer. There is no way to know if not volunteering was a "buy-out". At the time of registration you indicated a preference for volunteering. For "defined" activities your contact information is given to the coordinator of the activity. If you can't participate there is no further contact. If you marked "other" at the time of sign-up or can't participate in your originally indicated activity, the burden is on you to find a volunteer activity.

Continued....

www.EastLakeSoccer.com

3555 Old Keystone Road (1/4 mile east of East Lake Road), Tarpon Springs, Florida.
East Lake Youth Complex is in northeast Pinellas county, 5 minutes from Hillsborough and Pasco counties.



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How will I know what volunteer activities are available?

Some volunteer activities are well defined like coaching or Opening Day helper. Other activities are communicated as part of regular communications. When the “call” for help goes out, it is your responsibility to contact the person identified and let them know you would like to help if you need volunteer hours. **Nobody chases parents to volunteer.**

What can I volunteer to do?

The obvious choices:

- ✓ Coach, contact the Age Group Coordinator (AGC) [[U6 AGC](#), [U8 AGC](#), [U10 AGC](#), [U12 AGC](#)]
- ✓ Assistant Coach, contact the AGC [contacts above]
- ✓ Team Parent, coaches select the Team Parent
- ✓ [Open coordinator](#) positions (like volunteer coordinator), very REWARDING.
- ✓ [Opening day](#) (once a season), very easy and FUN only a few hours
- ✓ [Merchandise helpers](#) (will occur once a month, 4 times), very easy only a few hours.
- ✓ [Field lining](#) (weekly on Thursday), only a 20 minute task weekly
- ✓ [Goal net replacement](#) (once a season before Opening Day), only a few hours 1 time.
- ✓ Work party to spruce the fields [[October](#) / [December](#) / [February](#)], only a few hours sign-up for one.
- ✓ Concession helpers for 2-4 hour blocks of time, contact Kim Hayes (at the concession stand)

The not so obvious choices:

- ✓ Parents with [accounting skills](#) are in high demand
- ✓ Basically [most skills](#) are in high demand (electricians, light carpentry, computers etc...)
- ✓ A parent who [enjoys gardening](#) could help design and plant around the concession stand. ELSA provides the materials and the volunteer provides the labor. This can as small or large as you wish.
- ✓ We would love to offer a “[boot swap](#)”. A player rarely wears out cleats before the grow-out of them. With this type of service you could “trade” cleats, if you want. A great idea, but we need a volunteer.
- ✓ Anytime you hear or think, “[somebody really should...](#)”. You could be that somebody, that’s a volunteer opportunity eligible for VPP.
- ✓ Anytime you hear or think “[wouldn’t it be nice if...](#)”, that’s a volunteer opportunity eligible for VPP. Examples of these types of projects are the Kick Wall Mural, dedicated U6 fields, the tiling in the restrooms, painting, etc.... And rest assured just because you do a task once DOESN’T mean you have to do the same thing again, but you can.
- ✓ East Lake Soccer Association is a volunteer organization that you are a member of. There are no paid employees with the full-time focus to think of everything, we need your help and appreciated it.

Thank you for volunteering!!

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