

# TMS Boys Soccer Program

# **TMS 7th Grade Boys Soccer**

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# TMS Coaches, Tryout Times & The Basics

Dear Parents and Players, Welcome to the 7th Grade Boys Soccer Season! Us as a coaching staff are looking forward to a great season! I want to start off by introducing myself. My name is Tanner Sizemore and this will be my 5th year coaching the 7th Grade Boys Soccer Team here at TMS. You can reach me by my cell number 805-538-4444 or email [tsizemore@templetonusd.org](mailto:tsizemore@templetonusd.org) . This packet will include a plethora of information about our program and what to expect! Once the roster is set I will also make a Team Reach and will share the team code with all the parents and players, Team Reach will be the main point of communication during the season. Typically, at the Middle School level, the roster size will depend on how many players we have at tryouts and will be up to us coaches on how many we want to roster at that point. With this document, the goal is to help explain the criteria for tryouts and roster selection. The biggest key point is that we are looking to build the best possible TEAM to represent TMS. The best TEAM cannot always be made from the best individual players if they are not willing to play and sacrifice for the betterment of the TEAM. Specifically, to make the TEAM, we are looking for superior soccer skills, excellent decision making, and players that want to be great teammates. These are the qualities we need to put on the roster because it is what is best for the TEAM. The goal is to ultimately get these players ready to play soccer at TMS as the coaches at the high school level look for these same things.

## *Coaching Staff*

### **Templeton Middle School**

925 Old County Rd.  
Templeton, California 93465

### **Head Soccer Coach 7th Grade Boys**

Tanner Sizemore

Email: [tsizemore@templetonusd.org](mailto:tsizemore@templetonusd.org)

School Website: [TMS](#)

### **Assistant Coaches**

Tim Sizemore

### **Athletic Coordinator**

Judy Craig [jcraig@templetonusd.org](mailto:jcraig@templetonusd.org)

## **Game Location**

Volunteer Stadium - THS Football/Soccer field.

Tryout Times: February 17th-20th from 3:15-4:30pm (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday)

Players are required to attend 3 tryout days to be eligible to make the team. If you must miss a tryout for any reason I must be notified in advance that way we can work on a makeup tryout date for that player. Roster will be posted in the evening on the TMS athletics website February 20th. Practices will start Monday February 23rd. Once the roster is set practices will be Monday-Thursday from 3:15-4:30pm.

### **What you can expect from the coaching staff:**

To be role models of values and character for each young man in the program.

To have a great work ethic.

To instill discipline within the program.

To be very organized.

To push each player to be the best he can be.

To be available and approachable for every player.

To show sportsmanship.

To be totally honest.

To provide the leadership and training necessary to achieve our goals.

To assist each player in any way possible now and after graduation.

To make all the decisions predicated on what is best for the team and then what is best for the individual.

To help each player reach his goals.

# What We Look For In Players & What We Ask Of Our Parents

At tryouts, the coaching staff will be looking for very specific items in our student-athletes. Here is a summary of some of the most important pieces, and these are not necessarily in any order:

1. Attitude and body language. Do players get upset, rattled, mad, etc.? As representatives of our school and of me as a coach, I want composed and poised young men. We do not want hotheads or players who are likely to get involved in altercations. Cautions (cards) are part of soccer, but we don't want players that will get excessive cards or a Red Card for mouthing off or fighting. Being coachable and being a team player is also part of this category. Have you earned the respect of other players and do you treat them with respect? Have you earned the respect of your coaches and do you treat them with respect? Do you commit, sweat, and bleed for your teammates regardless of whether they are your friend outside of practice or training?
2. Soccer and Field IQ. Do you understand the game? Do you adapt easily? Can you play any position asked of you? Can you understand our concepts and strategy for defending, attacking, and possessing the ball? Players need to be able to think and play smart.
3. Soccer Skill Set. All the normal things you would expect here. Ball control, footwork, dribbling, passing ability, defensive tenacity, finishing, adherence to fundamentals, strength, conditioning, speed, fitness, etc.
4. Decision Making. Selfish players on the soccer field create turnovers and unwelcome situations for their team. At the Middle school level, we expect players to make sound decisions when they are on the ball. Players are expected to understand the "thirds of play" and situational awareness of playing within each third. Players need to understand game situations and know when to play with urgency or when to try and slow the game down.
5. No showboating or taunting. In soccer, taunting is a guaranteed caution and can sometimes lead to a straight red card. Our program will not tolerate taunting or showboating by any player regardless of skill. Soccer is a team sport; showboating is meant to draw attention to the individual, and not the team. Showboating doesn't make you a bad person, it just means that you may not be the best fit for the team. Any athlete that taunts an opponent will likely be cautioned by the center referee. If this happens, the athlete should not expect to re-enter the game.
6. Academic Grades. Grades are a huge indicator for the coaching staff as it relates to selecting a team. Letting your team down when you are needed by them most, by becoming ineligible at an inopportune time, is unacceptable. Earning and maintaining good grades is a sign of self-initiative, work ethic, drive, and demonstrates an

understanding of priorities. To be clear, I don't expect every student to be a straight "A" student. Additionally, I will never make judgements about students on their academic achievement. However, students not achieving good grades due to missing assignments, poor behavior in class, etc. is a reflection of the same behaviors we would likely see as a player. So yes, they are considered when making roster decisions.

### **Practice**

Players are expected to attend all practices, arriving at the practice site fully equipped five to ten minutes before the actual start time for practice. Fully equipped entails: cleats, shin guards, socks, and appropriate pants/shorts. Failure to show up equipped can lead to extra fitness. Players are responsible for notifying the coaches of an anticipated absence prior to a practice or game. Players are responsible for obeying all rules established by the coach. Players are prohibited from using profanity or vulgar language. Our practice will be on days we do not have games from 3:15 to 4:30. Playing time will be affected if practice is missed without an appropriate reason (doctor appointment, sickness, or a family situation). Players will not be in the starting lineup if they miss practice the day before a game.

### **Games**

Players should have all equipment needed for the game (jersey, shorts, shin guards, cleats, socks). If a player does not have required equipment, they will not start on the field and may not play the entire game.

When competing, players must wear school issued uniforms with black shorts. Jewelry is not allowed (earrings, rings, necklaces, bracelets, watches, etc.)

### **Equipment Loss**

Student athletes are financially responsible for all equipment issued in their name.

### **Quitting the Team**

Players wishing to withdraw from the team after the first game will forfeit any award for the sport and will be ineligible for participation in another sport until the end of the season for the sport for which they have withdrawn.

### **Class Attendance**

Players are expected to be in class on time and act appropriately during class. If a player has more than three (3) tardies a week of the season, they will miss the following game. After the first missed game due to tardiness to class, players will miss a game with two (2) tardies a week.

## **What we ask of our parents:**

- To trust the coaching staff: We realize we are working with your most valuable possession—your child.
- To be positive with your son. Letting him know by simply being part of this team is an accomplishment.

- To support and be positive to all members of the TMS Soccer Program.

**Respect the referee! Without referees, we have no games. Realize, what you are looking at, the ref may be looking at something different. Profanity, vulgar, or disrespectful comments to referees could result in your child being dismissed from the team. Parents being disrespectful to referees will be asked to leave the game. Please feel free to cheer on the team with, “Let’s Go Eagles!,” or “You Got This!” or anything positive is appropriate. Let the coaches tell the refs what we see, or what they didn’t see.**

- To insist on good grades and good behavior in class. Soccer talent/ability means nothing if the students’/athletes’ grades and behavior do not meet expectations.
- Exemplify good sportsmanship and be a good fan in the stands. Yell your head off, but please be positive toward the opponent, all coaches, referees, and all players. Please refrain from coaching your son during the game.
- Insist that your son develop self-control. Self-respect begins with self-control. Teach your son to have a “Respect for the Game.”
- Support the ideals that we will build our program upon and encourage players to abide.
- Share your concerns with the coaching staff before they become problems. If your son has a problem, encourage him to talk to the coach. Teach your son to take responsibility and handle his concerns in an appropriate manner.
- Enjoy your son and his play. Time flies quickly as your son goes through middle school. Make the most of each game. Whether or not your son has a good game or not, it’s okay!
- Let the coaches do the worrying, and you can just enjoy the ride!

## Playing Time & Game Schedule

A reminder that at the middle school level of play, it is important to know that it is not Recreation soccer where athletes typically get played more evenly. TMS athletes earn game minutes by how they perform in practice. Performance in practice is all encompassing from soccer skills, attitude, body language, decision making, etc. It is possible that some athletes do not leave the field in games; it is possible that some athletes will play very little, or even not at all, in games. This does not mean the athletes receiving more playing time are any more special than athletes not playing. It just means they each have different roles in a successful and competitive soccer program. Neither is more important than the other, and both are critical to success. While it is nice to be able to play in every game, it is not always possible. All players will need to have a

“team before self” understanding. All these things listed above are to get these players ready for the high school level.

## Game Schedule:

Date	Time	Opponent/Location
Tuesday, March 3	4:00	Los Osos - Volunteer Stadium
Wednesday, March 4	3:30	Laguna - Volunteer Stadium
Thursday, March 5	4:00	Flamson/Lewis - Volunteer Stadium
<b>Monday, March 9</b>	<b>4:00</b>	<b>Laguna MS</b>
Tuesday, March 10	4:00	Atascadero - Volunteer Stadium
Wednesday, March 11	4:00	Santa Lucia - Volunteer Stadium
<b>Monday, March 17</b>	<b>4:30 (8th Grade Only)</b>	<b>Mesa MS</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 25</b>	<b>4:30 (8th Grade Only)</b>	<b>Judkins MS</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 31</b>	<b>4:30</b>	<b>Los Osos MS</b>
Wednesday, April 1	4:30 (8th Grade Only)	Paulding - Volunteer Stadium
<b>Thursday, April 2</b>	<b>3:30</b>	<b>Flampson/Lewis MS</b>
<b>Tuesday, April 14</b>	<b>3:30</b>	<b>Atascadero MS</b>
<b>Thursday, April, 16</b>	<b>4:30</b>	<b>Santa Lucia MS</b>

**Away games in bold.**

The schedule can also be found on the TMS Athletics Page.

## Club Soccer & Other Activities

At the middle school level you are allowed to play for any Club soccer teams or play other recreational sports while you are playing TMS Soccer. I just ask that parents or players communicate with the coaching staff on if your child will miss tryouts, practice or games.

## Athlete Eligibility to Play in the Program

To clear up any concerns about how a student-athlete is eligible, the following items must be followed to play in the program.

**All student-athletes must be enrolled as a full-time student at Templeton Middle School and must complete and submit the TMS Sport Application packet to the Athletic Director in order to be eligible to try out, practice, or compete in any sport. The packet includes, but isn't limited to:**

- Athletic Handbook Signature Document (Google Form) on TMS athletics website
- Athlete Information & signed Participant Permission Slip which includes: athletic physical screening, medical information, acknowledgement of risk, consent to participate, consent to treat injury, and insurance information.
- Sports physicals must be renewed annually, and **MUST** be cosigned by a medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy. Physicals are valid June 1-June 1 of the current year.
- Attend a minimum of 4 periods of the school day to participate in practice or play in a game (with excused absences) **that day**.

Athletic eligibility is based on grade checks done throughout the season. Grades for all TMS students will be checked every two weeks.

- Student-athletes are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA on all grade checks and semester report cards to be eligible for athletic participation.
- Student-athletes receiving an "F", "N", or "U" on any scheduled grade report shall be ineligible for participation until the grade/citizenship is raised. If a student-athlete receives an "N" or "U" in citizenship, they will be ineligible for a minimum of 1 week. If a student athlete receives more than one "U" during the course of the season, they may be subject to being dismissed from the team.
- The period of ineligibility will start and end following grade checks by administration or designee.
- If the athlete chooses or is unable to participate in PE class, he/she may not participate in practice or game of that day.
- Any student-athlete receiving an "**I**" **Incomplete** on a **Semester Grade Report** is ineligible until the grade is brought up to passing. An "**I**" **incomplete** not cleared within two weeks will become an "F" and the student-athlete will remain ineligible until the next grade report.

- The only excused absences on game day are a doctor, dentist, or other authorized appointment, in which a note signed by the doctor or dentist office must be submitted to the attendance office for clearance. “Illness” or “personal” absences are not excused and the athlete will be held out of play on the next game day. Tardies in excess of 30 minutes are recorded as an absence and the student does not receive credit for attendance.
- Excessive absences or tardies may result in Activity Restriction per the district wide Student Handbook. **5 unexcused tardies and/or 3 uncleared absences (truant) may result in a dismissal from the team.**
- Attend practice the day **before** a contest or have the coach’s consent to be eligible to participate in the contest. Prior approval may be granted by the coach for a student athlete to miss practice.

## TMS Boys Soccer - The 5 C’s

Our program philosophy is simple, get all players to “Level 5” on the chart below.

### Level 5: Conquer

To be the best, practice is everything. I often say, “You Play Like You Practice.” The greatest detractor from high performance is fear: fear that you are not prepared, fear that you are in over your head, fear that you are not worthy, and thus ultimately fear of failure. If you can **CONQUER** that fear, not through arrogance or just wishing difficulties away, but with hard work and preparation through practicing at a high level, you will put yourself in an incredibly powerful position. A position to **CONQUER** your challenges and those that challenge you.

### Level 4: Coach

**COACHING** is not limited to adults. As players we **COACH** each other by teaching, sharing our knowledge with each other, and positively supporting them. Remember that good players inspire themselves, great players inspire others.

### Level 3: Compete

**COMPETE** at all times. Not just with each other, but with yourself. The most important **COMPETITION** that matters is the one that takes place within yourself. Remember that humility and a healthy respect for your opponent is a critical component of **COMPETING** at a high level. “Talent is God given. Be humble. Fame is man-given. Be grateful. Conceit is self-given. Be careful”.

*-John Wooden*

## Level 2: Commit

A 100% **COMMITMENT** to the team and your role is all that is allowed. Know your role, do your job. We all have a role. We must be cognizant of what our role is, study that role, understand in detail all the intricacies of that role, and then fulfill your role by doing your job associated with it. If you cannot **COMMIT** 100% to your role, you should quit to make way for someone who will.

## Level 1: Care

You need to **CARE**. You need to want to be here. Be here every day. Be here on time. Be prepared. If you don't **CARE**, someone else does. They will gladly take your place.