

PLAY FOR 8 MENTORING PROGRAM

THE MEANING

On 2/14/18, a horrible tragedy occurred at MSD taking 17 lives. One being Parkland Soccer Club's Team Captain #8, Alyssa Alhadeff. Alyssa's leadership abilities led her team to many victories and allowed them to push through many challenges. Living like Alyssa means being a strong, kind, and empowering individual, and the PlayFor8 program strives to teach girls how to continue this legacy.

WHAT ARE BIGS AND LITTLES?

Bigs are boys from an older team that will serve as mentors. The bigs are responsible for providing support to their littles through whatever challenges they may face both on and off the field. They should support them at some of their games and always be there when needed.

Littles are boys from the younger teams. Both bigs and littles can support each other and should create a lasting friendship that goes beyond club soccer.

WHAT IS IT?

A mentorship program is set up at a soccer club. A captain is selected from a team to help coordinate the event. There is an initial event where the boys' matches are revealed. The bigs come prepared with gifts and signs with their littles' names on them. All at the same time, Bigs turn their signs to reveal who their little is. Once the little sees their name, they run to their big, exchange numbers, and begin bonding. Throughout the year, there are events where the boys can form lifelong bonds that will encourage them to be the best teammates and leaders they can be.

