



College of the Desert Sports Ministry

Right across the street from Desert Springs Church, the College of the Desert Roadrunners compete in many sports; football, soccer, basketball, and others. Our Sports Ministry exists to love and serve these student-athletes in a practical, relational way.

For about ten years, Head Coach Jack Steptoe, his coaching staff and Chaplain Joseph have been bringing a team of 60-75 young men over to DSC to do what is most natural to young athletes—EAT! And, to take the opportunity to thank our Lord Jesus for the love and blessings He has given us. Here is a link to the COD Football website. [College of the Desert \(codathletics.com\)](http://College of the Desert (codathletics.com)).

Now, we regularly open our doors to host the teams, currently Football, Men's and Women's Soccer, and Basketball. We provide a warm meal, a welcoming atmosphere, and the chance to simply rest and connect before competition or just a practice day. Along with the food, we share a short gospel message and sometimes accompany the message with a video featuring a well-known athlete or coach who speaks about faith, purpose, and life beyond the field or court.

FOOTBALL



This is not about high-pressure evangelism. It is about consistent presence, genuine hospitality, and pointing young men and women toward Jesus through everyday kindness and the power of a clear gospel word.

MEN'S SOCCER



Whether you want to help prepare and serve meals, greet players, pray for the teams, or simply cheer them on from our side of the street, there is a place for you in this ministry. We believe every meal shared and every conversation started can open a door for the gospel in the lives of the next generation of athletes right in our neighborhood.

WOMEN'S SOCCER



Come be part of welcoming the Roadrunners to our beloved church.

OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE



We try to make it simple. The main meal is donated or purchased.

- **Meal Planning & Shopping** – Help plan menus or pick up meals from local restaurants, caterers.
- **Ice up beverages.**
- **Food Preparation** – Assemble dishes in the church Loft kitchen.
- **Set-Up & Serving** – Arrive early to arrange tables, plate food
- **Deliver welcome and blessing.**
- **Serve the teams with a smile and a kind word.**
- **Plan and deliver gospel message. Same with handouts.**
- **Invite all to church services and applicable ministries and events.**
- **Converse with players and coaches.**
- **Clean-Up** – Stay after to wash dishes, put away leftovers, and reset the space.

No advanced cooking skills are required—just a willing heart and a desire to serve. We coordinate around the teams’ game schedules, so opportunities are flexible and usually a few hours on game/hosting days.

Why It Matters – A simple meal opens conversations. While players eat, we share a short gospel message and frequently a video from a well-known athlete or coach. Your behind-the-scenes work makes those moments possible.

How to Get Involved – Contact the church office or Ron Marinella (ronmarinella@gmail.com) the current Sports Ministry coordinator to join the meal team. We’ll add you to the volunteer list, share upcoming game-day needs, and help you find a role that fits your schedule and gifts.

Whether you can help once a month or every game day, every contribution strengthens this outreach to the Roadrunners right across the street.