

CODE OF CONDUCT

The following Code of Conduct will be strictly enforced. Please remember that the LeClaire Rec Center is a family oriented recreational facility, which will make every attempt to maintain these standards for the good of all of those who use the Rec Center.

As a player, I understand that I must follow these rules to stay in good standing:

1. Respect the game, play fairly, and follow its rules and regulations.
2. Show respect for authority to the officials of the game and of the league.
3. Demonstrate good sportsmanship before, during, and after the games.
4. Be courteous to opposing teams and treat all players and coaches with respect.
5. Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat.
6. Respect the privilege of the use of public facilities.
7. Must avoid following behaviors:
 - a. Display objectionable demonstrations by throwing any piece of equipment in a forceful manner.
 - b. Heap verbal abuse upon any player, spectator, or official for any reason.
 - c. Use unnecessary rough tactics in the playing of the game against another player.
 - d. Spit on the field.
 - e. At any time, discuss aloud in a derogatory or abusive manner regarding any play, decision, or personal opinion of officials or other players.

(Signature of participant)

(Date)

As a parent/guardian/spectator, I recognize that parents/guardians/spectators are the most important role models for their children, and that sports help to develop a sense of teamwork, self-worth, and sportsmanship. As such, I agree to abide by the following:

1. Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, fans, and officials at games.
 - Remember that every player on the team is a contributing player.
 - Spread your encouragement equitably amongst the team.
2. Place the well being of my child before a personal desire to win.
 - After each match, have a positive attitude and show appreciation for the importance of your child's effort.
 - Remember that playing the game well is more important than winning.
3. Encourage my child to play by the rules and respect the rights of other players, coaches, fans, and officials.
 - Never badger the opposition or argue with their supporters.
 - Be appreciative of good play from both sides.

ALWAYS find something POSITIVE to share with your player and NEVER CRITICIZE their efforts—it may look easy, but it isn't and they are trying their best.

By signing below, I am saying that I have read and agree to the Code of Conduct, Rules, and specifically the "Final Comments" at the end of the Rules.

(Signature of parent/guardian)

(Date)

RULES

(Since this is the first season we are doing this, all rules are subject to be adjusted to make the program better for the kids.)

- A. Length of Game Play:**(Time may be adjusted depending on how kids do with length of time and substituting)
- 3-4 year olds: Three 12 minute periods with 2 minute rest periods between.
 - 5-6 year olds: Four 10 minute quarters with 2 minute rest between quarters and 5 minutes at half.
 - 6-8 year olds: Four 12 minute quarters with 1 minute rest between quarters and 3 minutes at half.
 - 9 & over: Two 20 minute halves with 5 minutes at half.
 - There will be no time-outs during the game.
 - There will not be shoot-outs or overtime.
- B. Field of Play:**
- 3-4 year olds: Will play the length of the volleyball court. If one game width will be basketball half-court line, if two games then width will be the volleyball sideline. The area between two courts will be dead area.
 - 5 & over: Will play the length of the basketball court. Any ball kicked up into stage area will be considered dead.
 - Areas directly behind goals and out any doors are dead.
 - Walls are part of playing area, unless otherwise stated(as for the 3-4 year olds.)
- C. Equipment:**
- All players must wear shin-guards that are covered.
 - Cleats are not allowed. Tennis shoes will be fine.
 - Players must wear either a blue or grey shirt based on schedule.
 - Players may use their own soccer ball during practice.
 - Any jewelry or other articles that may cause harm to wearer or other players will not be allowed during game play nor practice(no earrings, necklaces, bracelets)
- D. Team Composition during Play:**(Depends on number of players present)
- 3-8 year olds: 4-6 players with 1 goalie on field
 - 9 & over: 3-5 players with 1 goalie on field
- E. Substitutions:**
- Should be frequent to make sure all kids receive close to equal playing time. Everyone paid \$10, everyone wants to see their child play. The purpose of this league is to encourage sportsmanship and personal improvement, not winning.
 - Substitutions are unlimited.
 - Can be done on the fly(while ball is in play.)
 - A goal is scored
 - An injury time-out
 - Ball out of bounds
 - The player leaving the field cannot interfere with play at the time the on-coming player enters the field.
- F. Start of Play:**
- The BLUE team will kick-off at the beginning of the game.
 - Kick-off can be in any direction.
 - It can only be touched 1 time by the player kicking off.
 - Players can be off-sides during kick-off, if it happens, first time is a warning, and second time is loss of possession.

- e. Kick-off must happen within 5 seconds of referee blowing whistle.
- f. A goal can occur from kick-off, but two players must touch the ball and it must make 2 full rotations in the opposing team's territory.

G. During Game Play:

- a. There are no off-sides during game play.
- b. Play stops whenever the referee blows the whistle.
- c. The clock runs continuously, except injury.
- d. Anytime there is a dead-ball restart, teams have 5-seconds after the referee blows the whistle to put the ball in play.
- e. NO SLIDE TACKLING(whether for the ball or not and whether or not other players are around)

H. Goalkeeping:

- a. Goalie is allowed to use hands only within penalty box.
- b. Goalie cannot dribble the ball into penalty box and then use hands.
- c. Goalie can not use hands when ball is passed to him with teammates' feet, but can if passed using head, chest, or knees.
- d. If teammate kicks ball to goalie, goalie can only use feet to play the ball.
- e. Must return ball to play within 5 seconds.
- f. Goalie cannot drop ball from his/her hands and then play the ball.
- g. 3-4 year olds may punt the ball back into play.
- h. 5 & above must throw the ball back into play.
- i. When goalie is returning the ball into play the ball must touch either another teammate or opponent before the ball crosses the mid-field line.
- j. Opponents cannot obstruct the goalie from returning the ball to play.
- k. Goalie has control if one hand is on the ball.
- l. Goalkeeper striking: the goalie cannot intentionally either strike an opponent by throwing the ball violently at him/her or pushes him/her with the ball while holding it.
- m. Goalies are the ONLY ones allowed to slide, but only for the ball when opponent does not have direct control of the ball(i.e. long dribble, passed ball).

I. Types of Penalties: (list may change)

- a. Indirect kick-free kick, ball must touch another player before going into goal.
 - Accidental hand-ball outside penalty box.(covering face and groin is ok, but players cannot move hands)
 - Holding or grabbing opponent's body or uniform.
 - Obstruction-intentionally blocking the path of another player without being able to readily play or touch the ball.
 - Infraction of 5 second returns to play rule.
 - Goalie uses hands when ball was kicked back to him/her from own teammate.
 - Returning ball to play from dead area.
- b. Direct kick-free kick, shooter can score without ball being touched by another player.
 - Intentional hand-ball outside penalty box.
 - Charging opponent from behind.
 - Tripping or attempting to trip another player.
 - Pushing or attempting to push another player.
 - At other times when referee sees unjust behavior.
- c. Penalty kick-free kick, awarded for fouls that happen within penalty box, direct kick.
 - Any infractions from above that happen in the box.
 - Goalkeeper striking(and goalie must be removed from game for 2 minutes)

- d. Timed-penalty-player will be asked to leave game for 2 minutes and opposing team gets a direct kick.
 - Slide-tackling.
 - Abusive and profane language.
 - Touching opposing goalie.
 - Can be given if player causes repetitive penalties or requires multiple warnings.
 - Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - Out of control behavior.
 - Boarding-pushing player into a wall.
- e. Game eviction-player must leave for remainder of game.
 - Hitting another player(teammate or opponent).
 - Persistent behavior that can potentially cause harm(physical, mental, or emotional) to others.
 - Persistent unsportsmanlike conduct that hinders the play/fun of other participants.
- f. 1-game suspension-player will be asked to miss next game.
 - Taunting “losing” team after game(will get one warning first per session)
 - Any violently aggressive behavior.
- g. Eviction from league-player will not be allowed to play remainder of season.
 - The purpose of this league is to provide a SAFE and SUPPORTIVE environment for kids to learn and enjoy the game of soccer. If I notice any child(ren)/parent(s)/spectator(s) that are making it difficult for others, I will first discuss the issue(s) with you. If behavior can not be controlled or changed then you will no longer be allowed to participate. If the issue is with the parent or spectator, the child can still participate, but the offender will not be allowed to come to practice/games.
 - Please remember that this could be the first time a child is playing this game and keep in mind your child did not start with the skills they have currently. Instead of your child or yourself “teasing” or criticizing the other child, please encourage your child to encourage the other player. Maybe your player could practice with the new player. Players get better when surrounded by better players. Everyone can make a difference.

J. Treatment of kicks:

- a. 3-6 year olds: ALL KICKS will be INDIRECT, there are no penalty kicks.
- b. 3-6 year olds: Opposing team must be at least 5-8 yards away(may be adjusted to a safe distance).
- c. 6 & above: Opposing team must be at least 10 yards away.
- d. Opposing team can not jump or try to distract kicker.
- e. Kick is taken as close to location as foul as possible.
- f. Once the ball has been kicked, the ball must be touched by another player before the kicker can touch the ball a second time.

K. Goal kicks/Corner kicks

- a. Occurs when ball goes and stops behind a goal or the door on the southwest corner.
- b. Goal kick:
 - Occurs when the ball goes into a dead area over the end-line by the offensive team(the team not defending that goal).
 - Does not have to be taken by the goalie.
 - Only goalie and one other defender allowed in goal box, all other players must be on other side of mid-field. EXCEPTION: 3-6 year olds must be at least 5-8 yards away from ball.
 - The ball must be touched by another player before the kicker can touch the ball for the second time.

- c. Corner kick:
- Occurs when the ball goes into a dead area over the end-line by the defensive team(the team protecting that goal).
 - Any player on the offense can take the kick.
 - It is a direct kick.
 - 3-6 year olds: other team must be at least 5-8 yards away.
 - 6 & above: other team must be at least 10 yards away.
 - After the initial kick into play, the ball must be touched by another player before the kicker can touch the ball for the second time.

L. Final comments:

a. My GOALS:

- Is for EVERYONE to have a fun time.
- Each player will improve on their own skills.
- To assist advanced players in becoming positive role models and teachers(not coaches) for new players.
- To help parents understand the game better so they can help their own players improve.
- To give back to a community that when I was a child was integral in helping me develop a passion for sports and be successful in my sports in high school, college, and as an adult.

b. My EXPECTATIONS:

- Road blocks and speed bumps along the way that will only provide areas of improvement for me and the program.
- Support and understanding from parents and participants that this is a first time league and as such there will be problems.
- Direct communication from parents that have discovered a problem and can offer potential solutions to those problems.(Don't complain, kids do detect this and it effects their perceptions.) I am always open to ways to improve.
- Parents/guardians, spectators, and participants to give ONLY POSITIVE support to other players. Keep in mind each child is someone else's son, daughter, sister, brother. Treat them as you want your child treated.
- Sportsmanship from all at all times.
- I expect a lot of adjustments along the way, so please be understanding. The changes will only be to make the program better for the participants.

Thank you!! I hope your child/ren have a successful season!!

