

# Lockport Soccer Club Parent / Player Information

The goal of the Lockport Soccer Club is to provide children in Lockport and its surrounding communities the opportunity to experience the life-long benefits obtained from playing soccer. These benefits include improving soccer ability, improving decision making, building character, learning to be a part of a team, and creating friendships. The LSC aims to develop and train as many players as rosters will allow.

## Changes for 2024-2025

Please note that there are some changes to the structure of the LSC Club Fees for the upcoming year that you will see outlined in this handbook. These changes are for multiple reasons, including:

- Increased Fees for the Club - due to practice cost, equipment cost, and league cost increases
- Complaints / Concerns from Multiple Parents Regarding the previous fee collection
- Increase transparency about yearly costs

## Club Dues

Yearly Fee: This will be established at the beginning of each season.

This can be paid as a one time fee due on October 1 or in two installments on October 15 and February 15. All fees must be paid on time, or a late fee will be assessed for past due payment. Players will be unable to participate until all fees are paid.

Club Dues will be charged through TeamSnap.

LSC Club Dues include the following:

- BWNYSL Fees for Outdoor League Play
- NYSW Player Insurance
- Training Sessions / Facilities Rental and Maintenance
- Club Equipment

## Team Fees

These are possible additional expenses not covered by the Club Dues:

- Tournament Entry Fees
- Indoor League Registration (based on the team)
- Uniforms
- Extra Practice Time

One of the many goals of Lockport Soccer Club is to ensure that any child with the desire, commitment, and ability to play for one of our teams be given the opportunity, regardless of their financial situation. Families in need may apply for financial assistance by contacting Mark Czekaj at [markcheckmark@yahoo.com](mailto:markcheckmark@yahoo.com). (Please note that health insurance and military discounts can often be used towards Club Dues. Email Jeff Doyle at [jdoyle51978@gmail.com](mailto:jdoyle51978@gmail.com) if this applies to you.)

## League Play Included in Club Dues

BWNYJSL - This is the main league that LSC plays in. Games are played one night each week from May - July/August. Each team is assigned a "Play Day". These days can be found on [bwnyjsl.org](http://bwnyjsl.org). U10-U12 plays at the Lockport Infirmarary, U13-14 teams play at the Lockport Elks Club, and U15-U19 play at the Day Road Fields.

## Additional League Play Options Charged Through Team Fees

These costs are not included in Club Dues. They will be collected by the team manager of your individual team. Each team plays different indoor leagues and tournaments. Below are some possible options that your coach could choose for your team.

League	Timing	Location	Game Days	Approx. Cost Per Player
Winter A	November - December (8 games)	<a href="#">Sportsplex</a> , <a href="#">Epic</a> , or <a href="#">Sahlens</a>	Usually 1 Game Per Week, Usually on Weekends	\$50-\$100
Winter B	January - April (12 games)	<a href="#">Sportsplex</a> , <a href="#">Epic</a> , or <a href="#">Sahlens</a> Note: Sahlens is only an 8 game session that ends in March.	Usually 1 Game Per Week, Usually on Weekends	\$75-\$125 Epic/Sportsplex \$50-\$100 Sahlens
Spring	March - April (8 games)	<a href="#">Sahlens</a> - 8 game session that begins after their Winter B session	Usually 1 Game Per Week, Usually on Weekends	\$50-\$100 Sahlens
<a href="#">Tournaments</a>	Anytime - Usually May-July	Varies	Usually Weekends Usually 3-4 Games Per Tournament	\$40-\$75 per tournament

## Training

Most teams will train 1-2 days per week.

Indoor Trainings: Typically the Kenan Center and / or a Lockport School Gym

Outdoor Trainings: Lockport Infirmarary, Lockport Elks Club, Day Road Park Soccer Fields, East High Street

## Fields Team Managers

Coaches might ask for a parent volunteer to act as a team manager. The team manager can assist coaches with updating

teamsnap, communicating with parents, registering for indoor leagues or tournaments, collecting fees for indoor leagues or tournaments, or communicating with LSC board members when needed, among many other things.

## Volunteers

The Lockport Soccer Club is a non-profit organization and relies on assistance from volunteers to keep costs down for players. Volunteer requests will occasionally be made by the LSC of parents. Please consider assisting when you are able. Some examples include field lining and preparations in April or early May, LSC Day in May, assisting with tryout registration booths at tryouts in July or early August, or assisting with a possible club based fundraising event.

## Fundraising

Teams are encouraged to explore fundraising possibilities that will help defray the cost of tournament travel and additional league play. You may be asked to participate in fundraising for your team. Each team that is fundraising will either set up an account for their team with the Club Treasurer or submit a statement twice per year outlining money raised and money spent for the team.

## Team Communication

The LSC uses the TeamSnap app/website for coaches to communicate with their teams. You will receive an invite shortly. Games and practice will be uploaded by your coach/team manager as they are scheduled. Parents are expected to mark their player's availability for these events in a timely manner. There is no fee for parents and players to use TeamSnap.

## Playing Time

Ages U12 and Below:

Players will play a minimum of 50% of each match, as expected by the BWNYSL. While the goal is to have a minimum of 50% of each match, this could vary slightly each match. The overall playing time for the league, however, should average to be a minimum of 50% for each player.

Ages U13 and Above:

While players U13 and above are not required to play a minimum of 50% of the game, coaches will make every effort to give all players a chance to compete in games in order to put to use skills learned during training sessions.

## Procedures for Handling Problems

From time to time, problems or conflicts may arise during a season. The most principal element when managing these problems is **proper communication**.

When a problem arises, you first need to discuss the issue with your head coach. If you still feel the issue has not been resolved, you can send an email to the club president. Your concern will be forwarded to the Board of Directors, who will make a final decision on how to resolve the issue.

We ask that you do not approach the coach with any problem or conflict before, during or immediately after the club activity. Please wait 24 hours before approaching the coach after a match or a training session. We also ask the coach to

wait 24 hours before responding. This ensures we are thinking clearly, rather than demanding an immediate response in an emotional situation.

## LSC Board Members

Mark Czekaj: Board President [markcheckmark@yahoo.com](mailto:markcheckmark@yahoo.com)

Jeffrey Doyle: Treasurer [lsctreasurer716@gmail.com](mailto:lsctreasurer716@gmail.com)

Other Board Member Contact Information [lockportsoccerclub@gmail.com](mailto:lockportsoccerclub@gmail.com)

Kim O'Dell: Registrar Jessica Hughes: Uniforms / Secretary Anthony Molinaro: Community Liaison / Club Trainer Jackie Doyle: Travel Coordinator Andy Norris: Volunteer Organization / Grants Adam Huczel: Social Media / Website

## Expectations for players, parents, and coaches

### Players will:

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship at every practice, game, and tournament
- Lead by example and encourage fair play from others
- Accept the decisions of the referee without gesture or argument
- Attend every practice and game that they can and notify their coach when they cannot attend
- Arrive on time with all equipment necessary to participate
- Represent their family, their team, and the Lockport Soccer Club (refrain from using offensive language or wearing clothing with offensive language / imaging)
- Understand that poor behavior during practices and/or games may result in lost playing time or expulsion from the team

### Parents will:

- Understand that children play for **FUN** ; Applaud effort and improvement as well as success
- Never exhibit or tolerate offensive, insulting, or abusive behavior / language
- Allow coaches to direct their team, encourage players but do not tell them what to do
- Instill the value of sportsmanship and respect for the opposition and referees
- Avoid criticism for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Ensure the emotional well-being of the players ahead of a desire to win
- Understand that you represent LSC. Poor behavior may result in suspension or expulsion
- Refrain from negatively addressing any referee, player, coach or spectator during games

### Coaches will:

- Represent the Lockport Soccer Club in a professional manner
- Be a positive adult role model and mentor your peers
- Provide genuine interest and concern for each member of the team
- Be fair and consistent when dealing with players and situations that arise
- Run an organized, fundamental soccer team
- Communicate with parents regarding location & times for games and practices in a timely manner.

**It is expected that all players, parents, and coaches refrain from using drugs or alcohol at games and/or practices.**

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In being placed on a LSC team (being listed on the TeamSnap account, attending practices/games/events, paying club dues) parents and players are agreeing to follow these expectations and acknowledging understanding of this Parent and Player Handbook.