

Litchfield Youth Soccer League

Players, Coaches, Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct

The LYSL is now requiring all coaches, players, parents/spectators to review, understand and abide by this Code of Conduct. This is a written reminder for all that children's sports are supposed to be fun - for the children. We at LYSL want to be sure everyone keeps our mission in mind and encourages having fun at LYSL soccer events.

We are asking all coaches to review this code with players and parents at your first team meeting. This meeting should be at the beginning of your first practice or at another designated time before practicing. Everyone reviewing and understanding this code will acknowledge the appropriate section by signing that form.

We appreciate your assistance in distributing this Code of Conduct. If you have any questions, please contact the LYSL at info@litchfieldyouthsoccer.com.

Thank you,

The LYSL Board of Directors

Coaches

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players and the spectators on their side of the field, specifically as it relates to the referee, coaches, players and spectators on the other team. Verbal and/or physical abuse will not be tolerated. All persons coaching a team or teams within the LYSL must adhere to this Code of Conduct. Failure to abide by the rules set forth in this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action set forth by the LYSL Board of Directors.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concepts of sportsmanship, trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship.

Rules for Litchfield Youth Soccer Events:

Smoking is NOT PERMITTED

Alcohol is NOT PERMITTED

Pets are NOT PERMITTED (Working Animals are excluded from this)

Children are NOT to be left UNATTENDED

Please Drive Slowly and Carefully

As a coach of the LYSL, I agree to:

- Remember that players participate for pleasure and winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at players for making a mistake or not winning.
- Be reasonable in my demands on player' time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same.
- Ensure that the time players spend with me is a positive experience. All players are deserving of equal attention and opportunities.
- U10 and younger travel - All players deserve equal playing and training time, regardless of their ability.
- U11 and older travel - It needs to be communicated to parents and players that teams are becoming much more competitive and all players will play but not equally.
- All recreation level players should receive equal playing and training time, regardless of their ability.
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age, maturity and ability of all players.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all. This includes, but is not limited to, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, the media, parents and spectators. Show concern and caution toward sick and injured players. Follow the advice of a physician when determining whether an injured player is ready to practice or play.
- Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young players.
- Understand that any physical contact with a player should be appropriate to soccer situations and necessary for the player's development.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender ability cultural background or religion.
- Believe that my role as a coach is to contribute to the overall success, physical, and athletic growth of the player through participation in soccer.
- Endeavor to be a good instructor and a positive role model for my players.
- Remember my behavior brings credit to myself, the LYSL and the sport of soccer.
- Believe that referees, just as coaches and players, are attempting to do their best.
- Understand that my attitude can influence the players, coaches and spectators.
- Demand a sports environment for the children that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all LYSL events.

Being a coach, I have read and understand the LYSL Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by this code of conduct and practice good sportsmanship throughout the season. I pledge to help enforce this code as written to better the soccer experience for all.

Coach Signature

Date

Players

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As a player of the LYSL, I agree to:

- Play by the rules.
- Never dispute rules or calls by a referee or assistant referee. If I disagree I will speak with my coach.
- Control my temper and maintain control over my emotions. I will avoid bad/negative comments and/or gestures, and I know that purposely distracting or annoying an opponent is not allowed behavior in soccer.
- Work equally hard for myself and my team. My team's performance will benefit and so will I.
- Be a good sport; applaud all good plays whether they are made by my team or the opposition.
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Participate for my own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background of religion.
- Believe that referees, just as coaches and players are attempting to do their best.
- Understand that my attitude can influence the players, coaches and spectators.
- Remember that practices are just as important as games and my attendance helps my team. I will notify my coach if I must miss a practice or a game.
- Play for the fun of soccer!

Being a player, I have read and understand the LYSL Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by this code of conduct and practice good sportsmanship throughout the season. I pledge to help enforce this code as written to better the soccer experience for all.

Player Signature

Date

Parents / Spectators

(Parents and players are responsible for the conduct of their guests. All spectators at LYSL events must also adhere to the following Code of Conduct.)

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concepts of sportsmanship, trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The code of conduct that has been developed to clarify and distinguish acceptable behavior that is essential to the development of the sport of soccer.

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As a parent of the LYSL, I agree to:

- Be my child's best fan! Support my child unconditionally and make him/her feel like a winner every time!
- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not mine.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children always to play according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake or losing a game. Positive comments are motivational.
- Understand that my attitude can influence the players, coaches and spectators.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skillful plays by all participants.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from all soccer activities.
- Respect the decisions of officials and teach children to do likewise.
- Never use profanity or touch an opposing player, coach, or game official in a threatening manner.
- Learn the rules of the game and the policies of the LYSL and the Litchfield Fields.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Be kind to coaches, administrators and other volunteers including the officials. They are giving of their personal time to provide a recreational activity for your child. They are providing a valuable community service, often without reward other their personal satisfaction. Without them your child could not participate.
- Believe that referees, just as coaches and players, are attempting to do their best. I will refrain from speaking to officials - unless it is to say thank you after the game. If I have questions of concerns with the referees, I will speak to the coach after the game or practice.
- Support the drug, alcohol and tobacco free environment that is important for all youth sporting events.
- Be sure my child is available for most practices and games. Practices are as important as games. If I know my child is unable to attend a practice or game, I will give the coach advance notice to enable proper planning.
- Report to the coach all injuries, special medical conditions (such as asthma or allergies) or extenuating circumstances (such as lack of sleep or family crisis) that may affect the player.
- Send my child ready to play; my child will be dressed in uniform and will arrive on time.
- Understand that U11 and older travel teams become much more competitive and all players will play but not equally.
- Understand that all recreation level players should receive equal playing and training time, regardless of their ability.

Being a parent, I have read and understand the LYSL Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by this code of conduct and practice good sportsmanship throughout the season. I pledge to help enforce this code as written to better the soccer experience for all.

Parent Signature

Date

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Being either a player/parent/spectator, I have read and understand the LYSL Code of Conduct. I agree to abide by this code of conduct and practice good sportsmanship throughout the season. I pledge to help enforce this code as written to better the soccer experience for all.

Team name: _____

Circle one: Travel / Rec

Signature	League representation (Player, parent, etc.)	Date

