

## **Statement from the Director of Competitive Soccer on Travel Soccer:**

Lakefront Soccer Club stresses player development rather than results. It is much more important that we teach players within the proper framework at this age as opposed to demanding that teams must win at all costs. If we focus on the individual performance of the player, player then team progress will be a byproduct. A child must first learn sounds and letters, then words, before you can hand them a book to read. In soccer, the same sort of skill building is required. They must learn the fundamentals before they can compete at the highest level. With our curriculum and training methods, the players will be placed in a competitive environment where the demands of training and games will best promote individual and team success for the present and the future.

The Technical Staff believes training outdoor in the environment that soccer is played will provide the best results for development. Training outdoors provides players with the space needed to learn the game correctly. Because we live in a cold weather climate the need for indoor training is important, however; the game of soccer is predominantly an outdoor game. Lakefront provides indoor training during the winter months in our own facility.

Lakefront provides the largest amount of outdoor fields in the Rochester area. Our Club has a new complex of 9 outdoor fields that will be ready for play, soon. Go to our website at [www.lakefrontsc.com](http://www.lakefrontsc.com) to view our fields that have been completed.

The year-long curriculum will be designed specifically for youth players; therefore, your child will be assured a proper, age specific learning environment. The teams train for a 9 to 10 month period, with short breaks in the middle and at the end of their season. This is just one vital part of the development process. I strongly encourage children to spend time at home working on their skill, watching better players play the game (pro's, College players and high school players) and reading about the game of soccer.

### **Improving Technique:**

When players improve their technical ability they grow in confidence and give themselves a greater capacity to process information, which is vital in the development of young soccer players. Improving technique is paramount to Lakefront Soccer Club.

### **Improving Teamwork:**

Another way to increase enjoyment of the game is through interaction with team-mates, with small group activities which enhance skillful and imaginative play, for example (2v1, 2v2, 2v3, 3v3, and 4v4 to goals or targets) At a young age, players play in a number of positions to improve their all-around understanding and knowledge of the game. Hence, players will be exposed to multiple positions throughout the seasonal year.

### **Simple discipline:**

Simple disciplines play a key factor when learning the game of soccer. Here are some small but important lessons we can teach our kids that will go a long way in life:

- Attend training sessions
- Arrive early to games, as required by the coach
- Dress for training — Wear training gear and dress properly for the training conditions (track suit etc.)
- Equipment- Players must bring a soccer ball, shin-guards and water bottle to training and games

### **Player Code of Conduct:**

We expect our players to treat each other, their coaches, officials, spectators and the game with respect. A player agreement is signed and discussed at the first team meeting.

### **Parental Code of Conduct:**

Parents are asked to encourage and support their child as he develops and learns. Just as our players sign Codes of Conduct, we ask our parents to sign a parental commitment form. Parents should not be on the field during practice or games unless it is a medical emergency that pertains to your son/daughter. Our parents and families will exemplify good sportsmanship; will not engage in negative comments or behaviors directed at opposing players, parents, referees, or their own child. And most importantly, will be their child's biggest fan — they will cheer for the team and will allow the coach to do his/her job of coaching. This will be agreed on by the parents when their team position is accepted.

### **Games, Tournaments and Travel:**

- Commitment to the Travel Soccer Program is for one year. The season starts for the Travel Teams 8U-12U in September and will run until the end of the season in July. Older Travel teams at 13U-18U will start in early November at the end of their high school or modified season.
- Travel teams will compete in the RDYSL during the spring season.
- For ages 8U-12U the fall will consist of training, and a number of friendly matches against like clubs, inter club matches and other opponents. The fall season is strictly for the purpose of learning and developing individual skill and simple team bonding.
- RDYSL matches are scheduled matches that can occur on any day of the week depending on availability starting in mid-May and ending at the end of July (unless of weather issues).
- Teams typically participate in 2 or 3 local club tournaments, one which is always the Lakefront Soccer Tournament.
- Uniform Fee — Lakefront will have the same style Uniform for 5 seasons starting in 2015/16 (Travel cost will be \$120.00 and Premier cost will be \$230.00). Parents will be able to order new uniform pieces before every season. Since the uniform will stay the same, it will be up to the families to decide when they want to purchase new uniforms or just parts of the uniform for their children.
- Club Fees — Club fees can be paid in installments. Additional team fees may be required depending on team activities during the season.

The Lakefront Soccer Club believes that young kids benefit from taking a physical and mental break from formal training at different times of the year. **Instead of the typical 4 month break at the end of the school year, we take a shorter break in August and smaller breaks at different times of the year.**

We offer optional summer camps (for all ages) as well as clinics throughout the year to help enhance the development of each player.

## Answers to often asked questions

### Can I still be "team mom" or "team dad" for my child's team?

Absolutely! We are always in need of volunteers to help with team organization.

### I was a coach for my son's Recreational team. Can I continue to coach?

The use of parent-coaches is vital to our travel program. Every season we are looking to find parent-coaches who have coached, played or are just interested in teaching kids about the game of soccer. Lakefront also provides quality coaching education as well as different avenues for new coaches to learn. If you are interested, contact the Director of Competitive Soccer, Jesse Myers at docs@lakefrontsc.com.

### Do we have to travel over-night?

In order to keep costs down for our families, we try to keep our youngest players close enough to home to make travel for games a short, day-trip that does not require a hotel stay. Older teams may choose to play in tournaments outside the Rochester area.

### Are camps and clinics offered by Lakefront SC mandatory?

No, it is not mandatory. We encourage our players to attend the camps and clinics we offer, as they provide more opportunities for players to learn the game of soccer.

### My son can't be there for the tryout or player assessment dates. Does that mean he can't join?

If he is unable to join us for tryouts, please contact the Director of Competitive Coaching, Jesse Myers at docs@lakefrontsc.com to discuss his participation.

### Why does it cost more to play on a Travel team rather than a Recreational program?

The cost of the program covers a variety of services that are not offered in the Recreational Program:

- Quantity of training sessions and games
- Adidas uniform package (this is a separate cost, in addition to the club and team fees)
- Certified League play in RDYSL
- Lakefront Tournament registration
- Futsal
- Free GK instruction

### Is Financial Assistance available?

Financial assistance is available to those who qualify. Please E-Mail the Lakefront office for more information

All requests must be emailed to the Lakefront office at office@lakefrontsc.com before September 1 of the upcoming season.