

## **Levittown Soccer Club: Travel Parents Information Guidelines**

### **Frequently Asked Question about LIJSL & LSC Travel Program**

Who is LIJSL? Long Island Junior Soccer League (LIJSL) is a league that operates under the banner of the Eastern New York Youth Soccer Association, ENYYSA. ENYYSA is one of 15 National State Associations that are members of Region 1. There are 55 National State Associations and four regions which make up the United States Youth Soccer Association.

#### **Objective:**

The Levittown Soccer Club (LSC) Travel Program is focused toward fielding a team comprised of the best players possible in each age category recognized by LIJSL and ENYYSA. The club recognizes that the LIJSL has many skill divisions and encourages as many teams in each age group to participate. In each of these skilled divisions, the objective is to compete successfully and to advance to the more skilled division.

#### **Age Groups Birthdates:**

Age groups begin on August 1, and go through July 31 on the following year. Any player, who wishes to play “up” beyond their age group, must apply in writing to the travel director no later than May 10 for the new U-10 travel teams and June 1 for all other age groups. The Board will review each letter and make a determination regarding the player’s application to try out an age group up. All registered players must show official proof of their birthdates to register with LIJSL.

If a team is not being fielded in the player’s appropriate age group, a player will receive permission to tryout for the age group above. Players will not be allowed to tryout for any team that is a 2-year age group difference. This rule will not apply to teams formed in the U17-19 age group category.

#### **Uniforms:**

All players in LSC shall wear the approved uniform during state and league competition. All team apparel will be selected from an approved list, obtainable from the Equipment Director. All apparel will be selected according to the club colors.

#### **Selection of a New U-10 Travel Head Coach:**

Each year, the LSC will select head coaches for new travel teams based upon a properly completed resume, which is submitted to the Travel Director by May 15<sup>th</sup>, and an in-person interview with the selection committee. Verbal requests or incomplete resumes will not be considered.

In the event that (2) or more coaches apply for a team, a committee will be formed to conduct the interview of each applicant before making final selections. The committee will submit the name of the coach to the LSC President and/or Board of Directors for final approval. The committee will be formed by the Travel Director, as the chairperson, and other LSC members. A neutral person could be asked to serve on the committee to aid in the selection. The committee will consist of no more than 5 persons.

All travel head coaches, selected to coach a team, must have or obtain a NSCAA 'C' License within a 1 year period from their selection as a Travel coach. When selecting coaches, soccer coaching licenses or certificates will influence the decision making process.

No Travel Coach or Adult Supervisor, who has a LIJSL Adult Supervisor pass, shall be paid by the team which they are coaching to train or perform any other function.

The travel coach position for LSC established teams will be reviewed every 2 years. An established coach will not have to reapply for his/her team unless there is a challenge for the coaching position. The selection committee will meet to interview and/or select from the candidates, the travel coach for that age group.

Coaches will recognize that they are role models for the players and shall portray themselves, accordingly. The behavior and demeanor of any coach may be a subject of discipline and/or action at the discretion of the LSC Board of Directors.

### Scheduled Age Group Tryouts:

Age Group Tryouts shall be posted on the LSC web site ( [www.levittownsoccerclub.org](http://www.levittownsoccerclub.org)) during the club spring registration period. Each player, who registers prior to the tryout, will receive either written or oral communication about the tryout dates. All players must be registered with the club prior to participating in a tryout. Players can complete the registration process at the age group tryout. Parents must read and sign the LSC Parents Code of Ethics prior to the tryout.

In the event that a player could not attend the tryout and had a legitimate reason ( i.e. sickness, religion, injury, etc) the coach may receive permission, from the Travel Director, to conduct an individual tryout

### U10 Age Group Travel Tryouts:

The U-10 Travel Tryouts will be conducted by an outside training organization and will provide ratings for players over a 2-day period. The 'A' team coach will be provided with the top 18 rated players for their team selection. The coach will select his/her team from this list and the players not selected will be added to the list for the 'B' team selection.

The 'B' coach will select their team from the provided rating list of players, which includes the players not selected for the 'A' team. All players not selected for a U-10 travel team will have the opportunity to return the intramural program if properly registered. Any player not interested in returning to the intramural program can request a refund.

Any U-10 player who is selected but not interested in playing for a specific travel team after his/her selection must notify the coach immediately of their intentions. Any player who is selected by a specific team and is not interested in playing for that team, he/she forfeits the right to be considered for the another team within the age group teams until all players from the entire age group have rendered their team selection decision.

If a U-9 player has requested permission for a tryout in the U10 age travel division , he/she must rated in the top 8 players for the 'A' team only, to qualify to play on that team. If not rated in this category, the player will go back to their own age group.

The number of travel teams in the U-10 age group will be based upon the number of players who tried out for the travel team age group and the availability of qualified coaches. Ratings of lower ranked players will also determine if a team can be fielded.

### U11-U14 Age Group Travel Tryouts:

The U-11 thru U14 Travel Tryouts will be conducted by the present team coaches and will be a combined tryout. The combined tryout will take place at the same time and location. The selection process will be scheduled over a 2 day period, if necessary, and players can be separated on the second day of tryouts if the 'A' team coach knows that a player or players will not be selected for that team.

The same team selection format will hold for all teams in this age group. Any player who is selected but not interested in playing for a specific travel team after his/her selection must notify the coach immediately of their intentions and he/she forfeits the right to be considered for the another team within the age group teams until all players from the entire age group have rendered their team selection decision. Any outside player who registers for the club for the 1<sup>st</sup> time must be seen by the 'A' team coach before being selected by the 'B' or 'C' team in the age group.

### U15 and Above Age Group Travel Tryouts:

For Travel teams U15 & above, coaches can hold separate tryouts for the 'A' and 'B' teams for interested players. The tryout date and location for an age group with two or more teams will be the same so players can decide which team to compete for. Any player who tries out for the 'A' team and is not selected, must be considered for the 'B'

team. Any outside player who registers for the club for the 1<sup>st</sup> time must be seen by the 'A' team coach before being selected by the 'B' team in the group.

### Team Rosters:

Team rosters and associated forms are the responsibility of the head coach. All forms must be filled out correctly and player/coaches passes must have the picture attached and signed. When the team is registered in LIJSL, players are registered for a full season and cannot be released from the team unless the player and a parent request a release.

Releases must be given in written form and there will be no full refunds of the travel registration fee after a team is registered. If there is a refund issued, the team uniform costs will be deducted from the refunded fee.

### Player/Adult Supervisor Passes:

Passes are property of the LIJSL. At the end of each playing season, the player and adult supervisor passes must be returned to the Travel Director/Club LIJSL Registrar. Coaches are required to obtain the ENYYSA Risk Management authorization before an adult supervisor pass will be issued. The Risk Management authorization will be good for a 2-year period. A fee must be paid to obtain this authorization.

### Practices:

Coaches should take into consideration the age of their players when planning the number of practices a week and the length of the practice sessions. Coaches will allow time off in the summer when teams are fielded for the full year. Weather conditions should be taken into consideration during practices and players/coaches must leave the field immediately whenever lightning or thunder is present in the area. No team player is to be left at the field unattended following a practice or game. Coaches or an adult team supervisor are required to attend all practices, including a practice under the direction of a trainer.

### Playing Time:

For LSC travel teams, each player shall be entitled to 30% playing time for 'A' teams and 50% playing time for all other teams over the course of the season in divisional and tournament competitions. State and League Competition Cups will be at the discretion of the coach. A coach may request a waiver from this requirement, from the travel director, based upon disciplinary problems or poor attendance at practices.

## Guest Players:

A player within the Levittown Soccer Club may not play for another team within LSC without permission of the player, parent(s), current coach, and guest coach. This rule applies to all tournaments and league games, whether sanctioned by LIJSL or not. For guest players obtained outside the LSC club, the coach must follow established guidelines of the LIJSL.

## Injuries:

All coaches must notify the Travel Director or Club President immediately when a player is injured during a game or practice. An injury report form must be filed with the Travel Director within 72 hours of the injury date. Forms are available at the [www.lijsoccer.com](http://www.lijsoccer.com) website. The Travel Director will submit the forms to the league for secondary insurance for the player.

## Guidelines for Player Transfers

Why the transfer waiting period?

In December 2002 the LIJSL club president's approved the 30-day transfer in order to stabilize teams that had registered for the season. They felt that once a player made a commitment to play for a team they should follow through. That in previous seasons many teams were forced to disband after registration due to too many players transferring just before the season started leaving the team short of players and unable to field. This was unfair to the players left behind on the team that now had no place to play. Below describes which transfers require a 30-day wait and which do not. The 30 day transfer rule applies to all teams registered with LIJSL.

The seasonal year is the Fall season followed by the Spring season. The leagues registration periods are July for the fall season, end of December beginning of January for the spring season. The following rules apply to player transfers:

1. At the end of the spring season a player may register for any team he or she wishes. Since it is considered the end of the seasonal year the player is NOT considered a transfer player. Does not require a 30-day wait.
2. If a player chooses to transfer to another team after the fall season during the club spring registration period the player is a transfer player and each team is only allowed 5 transfers for the seasonal year. Suggestion; If a player wishes to transfer between the fall and spring seasons he/she should notify their present coach by mail and copy the LIJSL office. The LIJSL office copy should include the name of the club and team they are registered to and the name of the club and team they are transferring to this will expedite release of their pass. Does not require a 30-day wait.

3. If a player's team disbands after the fall season and the player registers for another team in the spring the player is still considered a transfer and a team may only take 5 transfer players. Does not require a 30-day wait.
4. If a player registers for a summer tournament team and the team does not disband before September 1st and the player wishes to play for another team in the fall or spring season the player is considered a transfer player. Does not require a 30-day wait.
5. Anytime a player registers for a team during the leagues fall or spring club registration period (end of June beginning of July for the fall season, end of December beginning of January for the spring season) whether it is a tournament team or a team participating in LIJSL or Premier league play if said player changes teams they are considered a transfer player. Does require a 30-day wait.
6. If a player registered for a team during the leagues club registration period (end of June beginning of July for the fall season, end of December beginning of January for the spring season) that player is considered registered and rostered to a team. In order for the player to change teams after the registration period the club the player is transferring to must submit a player transfer form to the LIJSL office with all appropriate documentation. The timeline for submission of the player transfer form is September 1st for the fall season and March 1st for the spring season (forms are not accepted before dates published). Once the form has been submitted there is a 30-day waiting period from the date of submission for the transfer to be completed and a new pass to be issued, the player may continue to play for their original team during this time. Players transferring from one team to another within the same club (they are transfer players) do not have to file a transfer form and do not have a 30 day wait.

### League Schedules & Tournament Competitions:

League play: The games committee of LIJSL takes on the task of placing teams in divisions. The division coordinator with input from the supervisor places teams where they will be competitive with the other teams in their division. The alignments are reviewed by the Saturday and Sunday Directors, the Boy's and Girl's Chairmen and the Games Chairmen. The schedules are then produced and given to each club. The club then assigns a field and time to their home games for each weekends play.

How does the league place the U/10 teams into divisions? When clubs register their U10 travel teams for the new Fall season, registrars should designate which team may be eligible for the major or other divisions. Normally there are eight to ten teams in a division and teams that have a good record during their intramural years are placed in the major division. Also large clubs that due to the size of their intramural program have a multitude of skilled players are often chosen. The club registrar should indicate on the team registration form if the team is an 'A', 'B' or 'C' team for appropriate placement. Once the major divisions are chosen for Nassau and Suffolk, the remainders of the teams are placed competitively by geographic area.

So you won your division, now what? Congratulations! Each division winner receives medals and patches for their players and coaches. They are to be picked up at the league office Monday thru Friday 9 am - 3 pm. Awards are available after your supervisor has called in the winner. In cases of ties each team will receive awards. Please note that due to limited space, the league office only has the awards available for a limited time.

What does SP mean on my schedule? If under field on your schedule it says SP1, SP2, etc. it means you are playing at the Peter C. Collins Soccer Park in Plainview.

Waldbaum's Cup ? Sponsored by Waldbaum's Supermarkets. The cup is a single elimination knock-out tournament that is held each spring where in addition to regular league play, teams play over a series of months. Teams are grouped based on their current spring division alignments; the major division is normally composed of the 20 teams from the top two divisions of league play. The alignments from division 3 and down make up the intermediate to minor brackets.

Open and Challenge State Cup ? The State Open Cup can be entered by any LIJSL team. But teams that were in LIJSL divisions 1 and 2 the previous spring must enter the Open Cup. The Challenge Cup is for those teams that played in LIJSL Division 3 or lower in the preceding spring season. The winner of the Open State Cup in age groups U12 to U19 go on to compete in the Region One tournament held in early July. The winners of the Region 1 tournament U14 and up go on to the USYS National Finals at the end of July.

### LSC Team Finances:

The LSC Treasurer will request that each travel team establish a team account at a bank selected by the club. Every travel team will be required to keep a log of all expenditures and collections. The board will require a copy of the account to be maintained and submitted to the club Treasurer, if requested. Coaches shall make a good faith effort to inform the parents of players before tryouts what the anticipated team costs are to be for the year, including, team training fees, tournament fees, team equipment and uniforms (bags, training suits, etc). The LSC Treasurer will request that each team establish a team account at a bank selected by the club.

### LSC Team Trainers:

The LSC Board of Directors must be notified of any paid trainer prior to holding a training session for the seasonal year. A trainer must obtain a LIJSL Trainer's Pass to be on the coaching sideline for any league game or competition. Trainers must show proof of liability insurance and must submit a copy to the LSC Travel Director for the seasonal year. The head coach must maintain a copy for his/her files.

### LSC Team Training or Tournament Reimbursements:

The club has established a matching fee program for training for the U10 through the U14 age divisions. The board of directors will allocate an amount of money to be matched for a qualified trainer or training group. This does include payment to a goalie trainer. The trainer and training group must be recognized by the club to receive the reimbursement. (Holds Approved Liability Insurance) The reimbursement amount is established by the LSC Board for each seasonal year.

U-15 and above Travel teams can use the matching funds to attend sanctioned tournaments during the seasonal year. The club will match the entrance fees for the sanctioned tournaments.

### LSC Fundraising:

All travel teams are permitted to fundraise during the seasonal year after notifying and completing club fundraising request forms. The team must submit a fundraising request to the Board of Directors for approval prior to the fundraising event. The money raised may be used for tournaments fees, player equipment, training fees and team supplies. The team will inform the club Treasurer of the monies collected after the fundraising event.

If a player leaves the team, the money in the account stays with the team. It is understood that the money is the team's fund not the individual player. The head coach will seek team approval for all major purchases. (Major Expenses > \$100.00) If a team disbands, all monies still in the account revert back to the LSC General Fund.

### Levittown Soccer Club Programs and Annual Events:

Topsoccer Special Children's Program: For the child who deviates from the average or normal child in mental, physical, or social characteristics to such an extent that he or she requires a modification of educational practices and services in order to develop to his/her maximum capacity

Scholarship Committee: LSC awards scholarships each June to outstanding student athletes in our area who have played for the club and meet our scholarship requirements.

Kicking-Back Program: LSC has a program to benefit area club families and players, who are experiencing a difficult time, and are in need during the year. We have given numerous checks and offered deferred registrations to families, with the support from the club membership

Christmas Holiday Parties and Annual Picnic: The club hosts these annual functions in December and June for the Snoopy, Intramural and Travel programs..

Other LIJSL Programs:

LIJSL ODP: LIJSL ODP try-outs are held yearly for boys and girls ages U11 to U17. LIJSL ODP Developmental Program tryouts are also held yearly. Competitions are during the summer. No underage player may tryout.

The League Office: The office staff has various responsibilities concerning the operations of the league,. However, the office staff cannot answer your questions concerning game changes, division alignments, Waldbaum's game changes, arbitration decisions etc. those questions must be directed to the appropriate committee.

LIJSL Camps: The league has two full day camps at the Peter C. Collins Soccer Park. League summer camps are also run at participating club sites from June through August. The individual clubs choose the date and site. If you are interested in a camp please call the LIJSL office for further information.

Coaching Academy: Since the six licensing levels (NSCAA Youth National, LIJSL C, B, A, NSCAA National, and Advanced National) are structured to be progressive in nature, and due to the amount of course material, the Coaching Academy now requires that at least one season lapse before a coach can proceed to the next level of licensing. We feel very strongly that all coaches must digest and use the newly acquired material with their teams for at least a season and then proceed to the next level as their team develops. EXEMPTIONS: Your instructor can recommend that a coach move to the next level of licensing based on past playing experience and/or coaching experience. In all cases, permission must come from the Coaching Academy.

College Bound Players: A program offered to assist seniors in choosing a college.

Convention: The LIJSL annual convention is held the first full weekend in March. There are exhibitors, clinics and mandatory coaches meetings. Admission is free.

Exceptional Seniors: The Exceptional Senior games are held the first Saturday after Thanksgiving. You can see some of the best LIJSL HS seniors on the field ?games run all day. There is an admission fee.