



**Levittown Soccer Club  
Program Handbook and Code of Conduct  
2023-2024**

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## **ABOUT LEVITTOWN SOCCER CLUB**

Levittown Soccer Club is a community-based soccer organization. Since our inception in 1976, the Levittown Soccer Club has developed players who have represented our club at various levels of the NCAA, Premier Development League, and MLS youth academy.

Our youth development programming consists of many levels including First Touch, Academy, Interleague, Travel and Elite. Our curriculum is based on age-appropriate technical and tactical exercises that encourage creativity. Our priority is for players to grow to love the game.

## **COACHING STAFF**

The Levittown Soccer Club has partnered with the New York City Football Club Training Programs to assemble an elite coaching staff committed to player development, sportsmanship, professionalism and teaching creative and positive soccer. The Travel Program is composed of club volunteers that have been selected by the Board of Directors to coach teams. All other coaches are provided by the New York City Football Club Training Program or are employees of LSC. All coaches in all programs are required to complete a background check and other safety requirements and licenses as per ENYYSA.

## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

Player development is the focal point of all LSC programs. First Touch, Academy and Interleague are all programs that include training and game play for two seasons each year (fall and spring). The Elite program is a ten-month youth program dedicated to properly developing players that represent the top talent on Long Island. Each program is part of a larger club pathway that is intended to develop players throughout their soccer career. The hope is that a player will complete each phase and progress to the next with better technical and tactical skills based on their age and ability level.

The NYCFC and LSC Coaching Staff will work within our programs to develop players with the technical, tactical, physical, and psychological elements needed to compete.

Travel teams create independent schedules for training and tournament play. The amount of training is determined by the head coach and varies by team.

## **TRAINING CURRICULUM**

The training curriculum for LSC Programs incorporates the 5 phases of development in an age-appropriate setting that provides a good balance of challenge and success. The 5 phases of development include:

- Motor Skill Development
- Technique and Skill Development
- Individual Tactics
- Group Tactics
- Team Tactics

**FIRST TOUCH (ages U4-U5):**

The official start of the First Touch program is in September. Players will be introduced to the game of soccer through storytelling.

Players participate in a fall and spring season which consists of one (1) session per week which includes both training and game play.

**ACADEMY (ages U6-U8):**

The official start of the Academy Program is August. There is no player evaluation process required to enter the Academy Program. The program is divided into two (2) phases.

Phase One will introduce players to a regular training/game schedule and continue to focus on technique and skill development. The program will consist of one (1) training session and one (1) game per week in both the fall and spring seasons.

During Phase Two, players will be introduced to more individual tactics as the coaches continue to focus on skill development. This phase of the program is designed to help prepare players for the LSC Interleague and LSC Elite programs. The program will consist of two (2) training sessions and one (1) game per week in both the fall and spring seasons. At the completion of Academy Phase Two, team formation recommendations for the following year will be made by the coaching staff.

**INTERLEAGUE (ages U9 and older):**

The official start of the Interleague Program is August. There is no player evaluation process required to enter the Interleague Program. It is a developmental training program available to all players aged 9 and older and does not require a player evaluation to participate.

The Interleague Program is to assist each individual player in improving and advancing their soccer skill level. The emphasis will be on continued skill development and the introduction of individual and team tactics. The program will consist of two (2) training sessions and one (1) game per week in both the fall and spring seasons.

**ELITE (ages U9 and older):**

The official start of the LSC Elite program is in August. Players are continually evaluated throughout the year and are recommended by the coaching staff to join or continue in the program. This is a ten (10) month development program that will include tournament play in all three (3) seasons.

**Fall Season**

The fall season will consist of two (2) team training sessions per week. Teams will participate in competitions as determined by the coaching staff. This could include one or two weekly games which will be held on Saturday and Sunday. Game and training schedules are provided at the beginning of the season.

**Winter Season**

The winter season focus is technical/individual skills. Teams will have indoor training sessions once per week and will incorporate some principles of futsal.

### **Spring Season**

After working on vital technical skills during the winter, the spring season resumes with outdoor team training two (2) times per week. Teams will also resume weekly match play on the weekends.

### **TRAVEL (ages U12 and older):**

The official start of the LSC Travel program is in August. Players are continually evaluated throughout the year and are invited by the coaching staff to join or continue in the program. Teams create independent schedules for training but typically participate in two (2) training sessions and one (1) game per week in the fall and spring season.

Training, tournament and league play in the summer and winter seasons are scheduled at the discretion of the coaching staff of each team and can vary between age groups.

## **TRAINING CAMPS & CLINICS**

The Levittown Soccer Club may provide training camps and clinics throughout the year. LSC players are strongly encouraged to participate in LSC camps and clinics. Some camps and clinics may be sponsored by Levittown Soccer Club and others may be offered at an additional fee.

## **COMPETITION & TOURNAMENTS**

Participation by Academy and Interleague teams in any competitions outside the program curriculum must be approved by the Program Director.

LSC Elite and Travel teams may attend various winter and summer tournaments in addition to the program curriculum. Player attendance is not required but encouraged. Tournaments and other competitions will be coordinated by the team coach and administrator and require additional fees. Tournament fees and coaching fees/expenses (if applicable) are divided by the total number of players that attend a selected tournament.

No team may participate in any event and represent LSC without the consent of the LSC Board of Directors.

## **PROGRAM FEES**

The annual fee for the LSC Programs is listed below and represents a **per player cost**. This fee includes, but is not limited to administrative fees, player registration fees and insurance, and some facility costs.

<b>Program Fees</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
First Touch (U4-U5)	\$300.00	At the time of registration
Academy Phase 1 (U6-U7)	\$400.00	At the time of registration
Academy Phase 2 (U8)	\$585.00	At the time of registration
Interleague (U9 and older)	\$450.00	At the time of registration

Travel (U12 and older)	\$300.00	At the time of registration
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- Fees for First Touch, Academy and Interleague programs include the game day uniform.
- Fees for the Travel program do not include the uniform, training fees, indoor or outdoor tournament events or indoor leagues.

<b>Program Fees Elite</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
Payment I	\$435.00	Due Upon Acceptance
Payment II	\$165.00	August 15, 2023
Payment III	\$165.00	September 15, 2023
Payment IV	\$165.00	October 15, 2023
Payment V	\$165.00	November 15, 2023
Payment VI	\$165.00	December 15, 2023
Payment VII	\$165.00	January 15, 2024
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$1,425.00</b>	

- Fees for the Elite program do not include the uniform, indoor or outdoor tournament event or indoor league entry fees and/or coaching fees.
- Parents have the option to pay the full annual fee (at a discounted rate). Parents may also make payments based on the payment schedule above.
- Payments will be auto drafted each month on the due date. It is the parent’s responsibility to make sure all payment information is current.
- Past due payments will result in a player not being permitted to train or participate in games and/or tournaments – no exceptions!

**UNIFORMS**

One training jersey will be provided to each player by Levittown Soccer Club enrolled in the Academy Phase 2, Interleague and Elite programs. Additional training jerseys are available for purchase at any time.

All players in the First Touch, Academy and Interleague programs will receive one (1) uniform jersey, shorts and pair of socks.

For the 2023-2024 season, the Travel/Elite teams will be fitted in Adidas Uniforms. All Travel and Elite teams are required to purchase a new uniform every two (2) years in the odd numbered year regardless of when you last purchased. Uniforms are purchased at Massapequa Soccer Shop.

<b>Mandatory Apparel TRAVEL/ELITE</b>		
<b>Apparel</b>	<b>Home</b>	<b>Away</b>
Jerseys	Blue (1x)	Grey (1x)
Short	Blue (1 x)	
Socks	Blue (1 x)	
<b>Optional Apparel ALL PROGRAMS</b>		
Club Warm Up Jacket	Available any time	
Club Warm up Pants	Available any time	
Player Backpack	Available any time	

Additional Socks	Available after initial club ordering period is completed
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**CLUB GUIDELINES**

Providing a professional learning environment for players is critical for overall individual and team development. To ensure the relationship between players, parents and coaches within the Levittown Soccer Club remains in good standing, the following Club Guidelines have been developed:

**APPAREL (DRESS CODE) & EQUIPMENT**

- Players are required to wear club issued apparel for all games (proper game uniform) and training sessions (training jersey) unless permission is received from the coaching staff.
  - First Touch players will wear their uniform to all events.
  - Academy Phase 1 players will wear their uniform to all events (training and games).
  - Academy Phase 2 players will wear their training jersey to all training sessions and their uniform to all games.
  - Interleague Players will wear their training jersey to all training sessions and their uniform to all games.
  - Elite players will wear their training jersey to all training sessions and their uniform to all games.
  - Travel players will wear appropriate training attire as per their coach and the LSC travel uniform to all matches.
- Players will always wear shin guards. Players will bring proper footwear to all matches and training. Players must provide a properly inflated soccer ball at all training sessions and games.

**APPOINTMENTS**

- It is the player’s responsibility to check the schedule for all team functions and to be aware of any team events including training sessions, matches, tournaments, etc.
- If a conference is necessary between the coach and an individual player/parent, the Club Program Director must be informed once it has been scheduled.

**ATTENDANCE**

- Players only improve when they attend training sessions regularly. All players are asked to commit to training and games and attend as much as possible.
- The Elite Program expectation is that players make a commitment to attend all training sessions and games. If a player is attending less than 85% of scheduled events, he or she may be removed from the LSC Elite Program.
- No refunds will be made for any player who is removed from the LSC Elite Program for failing to meet attendance expectations. No program will be prorated to accommodate attendance issues.

**GAMES**

- Sportsmanship is the number 1 priority. Respect the game, the opponent, the referees, and your teammates.

- Players must only warm up with their teammates and coaches.
- Player acknowledges that he/she represents the Levittown Soccer Club and as such, will conduct him/herself at all times in a responsible manner.
- During the games, parents should refrain from coaching or making any comments to the game officials.
- Parents are not permitted to approach the coach after the game for discussions regarding playing time, playing position, etc. Conferences should be scheduled for another time to take place off the field.
- Players or parents may not publicly criticize referees, teammates, coaches, or opponents at ANY TIME.

## **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

- Only players who have been properly registered and satisfied all registration requirements and fees will be eligible for participation in LSC programs.
- Players currently participating in the LSC Academy or the LSC Interleague Program may be invited to join the Elite or Travel Program in which case they will need to satisfy the registration requirements of that program.
- Only players who have been evaluated by the coaching staff will be invited to participate in the LSC Travel or Elite Program.
- Players must be in good standing with USYSA, ENYYSA, and all other USSF affiliates to participate in LSC programs.
- Players in the Elite Program will not be permitted to register with other USYSA or USCS teams outside of Levittown Soccer Club effectively making the LSC Elite Program a “second team” (refer to the attendance policy). Any player that is found to be participating in an additional league-based program, regardless of affiliation, may be removed from the program. No refunds will be issued for violating this guideline.

## **MEDICAL & INJURIES**

- Players must inform the Parent Administrator (who will in turn notify the coaching staff) in the event of sickness, injury or lateness preventing the player from complying with training and / or games. **ALL** injuries must be reported immediately to the head coach.
- If a player is injured, a doctor’s note must be submitted stating the date of injury and the date cleared to fully participate in athletics.

## **PARENT GUIDELINES**

- **Sportsmanship and Respect are values extremely important to LSC.**
- **DO NOT coach** from the sideline.
- Be a positive influence on your child and the team; Support all players on your child’s team.
- Player development is the primary focus, not results.
- **Do not criticize** anyone including the coach, teammates, opponents, or other parents.
- Absolutely no negative posting on internet/discussion groups.
- Encourage your child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect.



- Parents are not permitted to step on the field to talk to the coach or the players at any time during training and/or games.

## **PLAYER CONDUCT**

The coaching staff will handle conduct detrimental to the team. If cases arise that are not addressed by the Club rules, the coaching staff will respond to each situation individually. In response to unacceptable behavior the coach will address the player and the parent. Depending upon the situation the coach may choose to have a conference with the parent or the Program Director to act regarding the behavior. Examples include:

- Inappropriate behavior
- Bullying of any form will not be tolerated.
- Late to practice without consent or knowledge.
- Missed practice without consent or knowledge.
- Late for team meetings without consent or knowledge.
- Missed meetings, etc. without consent or knowledge.
- Late for scheduled departure on road trips.
- Missed scheduled departure on road trips.
- Late for reporting to the game.
- Missed game.
- Poor practice attitude or lack of individual effort.
- Violation of any other published team, club, or league rule.

## **ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY**

The “Zero Tolerance” policy regarding youth referee abuse is now in effect. Use common sense and tolerance toward our children who are learning the game as novice referees. Referee abuse will not be tolerated. Any report of referee abuse by anyone including coaches, parents or players will result in immediate action by the Levittown Soccer Club Board of Directors. Players, coaches, parents and other spectators may face sideline suspension. The decision of the LSC Board of Directors in all matters regarding referee abuse will be final.

## **PAYMENT POLICY**

- Any Levittown Soccer Club player who is delinquent in payment **will not** be eligible for training sessions or games.
- Review the refund policy as posted on the registration website.
- Refunds for Travel will not be issued under any circumstances including injury. There is no exception to this policy.

## **TRAINING**

- Levittown Soccer Club will stipulate when training occurs. It is the responsibility of each player to know the time and location of training sessions (Coaches & Administrators will do their best to communicate the schedule to all players).
- Players must arrive at the field at least ten minutes prior to practice time.

- Players must bring a properly inflated soccer ball and shin guards to all practices, games, and tournaments.
- Players must adhere to the LSC dress code.
- Players must supply their own water for training and games.
- Parents are not allowed to step on the field to talk to the coach or the players.

## **TEAM TRAVEL (ROAD TRIPS)**

- The itinerary shall be given to all the players by the coach or administrator before departure for any out-of-town tournament or game.
- If the team is still playing in the tournament, players are required to follow the itinerary (ex. meet at a designated area, participate in team-related activities such as meals, walks etc.)
- Players must follow the curfew as per the coaching staff.
- Every person associated with the Levittown Soccer Club must follow the rules of the hotel in which they are staying.
- Every person associated with the Levittown Soccer Club will be held accountable to the code of conduct as outlined in this Handbook as representatives of LSC when traveling regardless of location.

## **PLAYER REGISTRATION FOR TRAVEL AND ELITE PLAYERS**

Players and coaches will be registered through the Levittown Soccer Club with ENYYSA. Should any league issue player and/or coaches passes, these passes are the property of the Levittown Soccer Club and will remain in possession of the coaching staff, administrative staff, or designated parent administrator. Passes will not be released to players for use in competition outside of LSC activities.

## **TEAM ADMINISTRATORS**

Parent Administrators will have positions within the First Touch, Academy, Interleague and Elite programs. Parent Administrators are volunteers but will receive a small discount in exchange for their work with the team. The Parent Administrator position is a one-year commitment that may or may not be renewed as per the Levittown Soccer Club Board of Directors.

**First Touch:** The Parent Administrator will complete all the administrative duties required for the position. The administrator will also assist the assigned coaches with training and game management as requested by the assigned coach.

**Academy Phase 1 and Interleague:** The Parent Administrator will facilitate games for all teams in these programs as well as complete all the administrative duties required for the position. Game management will be conducted based on recommendations from the assigned coach to the team as well as follow the club philosophy as it relates to game management and playing time guidelines within that program.

**Academy Phase 2 and Elite:** The Parent Administrator will complete all the administrative duties required for the position. Regardless of a Parent Administrator's soccer experience or coaching certification, they are not designated as part of the Levittown Soccer Club or New York City Football Club Coaching Staff. The Parent Administrator does not have permission to engage in

pregame, post-game, or sideline activities during training, tournaments, or other matches. Their role is strictly administrative. Although Parent Administrators are essential for each LSC team, there is no benefit associated with an administrator's child for volunteering their services to the Levittown Soccer Club. All decisions regarding playing time, position, training curriculum, etc. are the sole responsibility of the head coach.