

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE LOUISVILLE SOCCER PROGRAM

TEAM DEVELOPMENTAL OBJECTIVES

- Louisville Soccer is about **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT** and we will do all we can to help anyone who wants to play the game we all love.
- The Louisville Soccer program begins at the age of 2 or 3 with the Under 4 Division and its “Learn to have Fun with Soccer” program and continues through our Over 30 program that helps to keep our coaches and parents fit and involved. Each age group involved with the Louisville Soccer program has specific developmental objectives that our coaches will teach their teams.
- Our competitive program is the link between our developmental program and our adult programs, college soccer or even professional play for some.
- We will use tournaments in the early years to help develop “individuals”. As the players approach college recruiting age we will use tournaments to showcase our “individuals” in their team environments.
- Coaches will be selected that can help players develop appropriately and at a “normal” pace. Louisville Soccer will always strive to create an enjoyable environment for its players and coaches first over all other objectives. This means that all players will be encouraged to have fun as they learn.
- We will develop individual players first and begin to mold them into a team between the ages of 10 and 13. Winning and losing are much less important than proper player development until the age of 13. The USYSA does not offer a National Tournament until our children are under 14, and Louisville Soccer will not be focused on winning until that time. It is important to be patient and allow our players to have fun, grow and mature and become the best they can be at their own pace.
- Michael Jordan was not selected for his high school team until he was a junior and Women’s National team regular Kristin Lilly was unable to make her State team. It is never too late to learn or to try to develop a love for this game. We encourage anyone and everyone to tryout for a team.

TRYOUTS

There are regularly scheduled tryouts at the end of the previous season in late June or early July and at the end of the High School season in November. These tryouts are published in the newspaper and can be found at www.louisvillesoccer.com. In addition, a player may contact the club or a specific coach at any time and arrange for the player to practice/tryout with the team during the season. Although a roster spot may not be open until the following fall, new players are welcome to train with the team.

IMPORTANT DATES AND SEASONAL SCHEDULES

The Louisville Soccer seasonal year begins on September 1 and runs through August 31. Teams in the Under 4 division through the Under 14 division, as well as adults, will play all year. Teams in the Under 15 through Under 23 level will only play in spring. Fall practices and games usually begin in early August and continue through the end of October. The spring season begins on March 1 and continues into early June. If a team wins the State Tournament, play will continue into July.

FEES

Fees for our program are developed on a team-by-team basis. Many factors go into the determination of the cost for our teams. Our fees are generally all inclusive and include two uniform tops, one pair of shorts, one pair of socks, coaching equipment and related expenses, league fees, player registration fees, field expenses and one tournament entry fee per ½ of year. Typically the only additional costs will be for added tournaments. Fees look like this:

Under 9	\$250 fall \$250 spring
Under 10	\$325 fall \$325 spring
Under 11 through Under 14	\$460 fall

\$460 spring

Under 15 through Under 17

\$525 spring only

Under 18 and above to be determined by duration and number of players.

PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

All players are required to be at practice, prepared to play; at the time practice is scheduled. Players should be at games prepared to warm up at least 30 minutes prior to kickoff or at the coach's direction. For practice a player must have a ball, shin guards, shoes, water and any other relevant equipment. Because player safety is of the utmost importance, players will not be allowed to participate without proper equipment. For games, each player is responsible for his/her own water and uniform. Both jerseys **MUST** be brought to each game.

INDIVIDUAL PRACTICE FREQUENCY AND DURATION

During normal conditions each team will be assigned field time for two practices during the week that will last between 1 hour and 1½ hours depending on the age of the soccer student. On some occasions practices may be extended to work on specific details before games, etc. There may be special weekend practices called if there are long gaps in a team's game schedule. The intent is to insure that each player is receiving instruction a minimum of three times per week.

GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS

Each team from Under 11 and up is entered in an appropriate Competitive League and, along with a couple of scrimmages, averages 10 -12 games in the fall and 10 -12 in the spring. In addition, teams are entered in one tournament per ½ season. Some teams depending on age may do many more tournaments and have a significantly increased number of games scheduled as "friendlies".

COACHES, MANAGERS & ASSISTANTS

Each team will be assigned a coach. The coach is selected by Louisville Soccer's coaching director and is qualified to manage the objectives established by the club. The LSA and LSC Board of Directors and its management team have spent many years developing our player philosophies and programs and our coaches are specifically selected to carry out these programs. Each team will require several volunteers. Each team can use up to 2 volunteer assistant coaches to assist with training and to help at games in the event the head coach is unavailable. Each team will also need a manager to help with scheduling and communication and a field coordinator to help with nets and game day setup.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Louisville Soccer is a non-profit organization that fosters a love for the sport of soccer and develops athletes of all ages by facilitating physical and mental growth and bringing each player to their peak individual potential in a team atmosphere. Louisville Soccer's diverse and highly qualified coaching staff welcomes players of all races, cultures, and economic backgrounds to one of Louisville's most dedicated athletic clubs.

COACHES MISSION STATEMENT

Our "coaching" mission at LSA/LSC shall be to provide a teaching plan that allows our players to become free thinkers and decision makers and to become great players through the process of creating the perfect game.