

LAKE NORMAN SOCCER CLUB MEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT

I. INTRODUCTION

The Lake Norman Soccer Club's (LNSC) youth soccer activities are governed by its Bylaws and the Constitution and Bylaws of the NCYSA, except where superseded by our affiliation with the USYSA, USSF, and US Club Soccer. The Code of Conduct is a guide to the principles and expectations of behavior within LNSC. These expectations will apply to all persons involved in LNSC activities regardless of their role or affiliation. These guidelines include any spectator at an LNSC match or other organization function.

II. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

This Code of Conduct is to be read and understood by LNSC players and parents before the beginning of each season. Compliance with the Code of Conduct is indicated by the initials and signatures on the LNSC Intent to Play and Financial Contract (separate document).

III. EXPECTATIONS

LNSC expects our members (players, coaches, parents, and spectators) to conduct themselves in a manner that displays good sportsmanship, tolerance, and respect for others at all times.

IV. UNACCEPTABLE CONDUCT

Players, coaches, parents, and other spectators at any LNSC sponsored or LNSC-related function are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with both the Laws of the Game, and consistent with the spirit expressed within. The following actions or activities are unacceptable, and persons who participate in these activities are subject to disciplinary actions as provided in the LNSC Bylaws, and other applicable NCYSA regulations.

- A. Harassment of any kind, including, but not limited to sexual, verbal, gender, and cyber harassment by any LNSC player, coach, parent, official or any person associated with LNSC to any other player, coach, parent, official or referee is prohibited.
- B. Physical violence or threat of violence directed toward anyone including referees is unacceptable conduct. In addition, there will be no tolerance for encouraging others to act with physical violence. The encouragement of violent behavior will be given the same discipline as conducting the action themselves. Physical assault is physical contact initiated by anyone to, a player, coach, referee, team official, spectator, elected officer or appointed official. Purposeful violent, dangerous, or other aggressive behavior including but not limited to kicking, tripping, striking, pushing, or spitting at or on another person, are prohibited.
- C. Consumption of any alcoholic beverages and noticeable impairment by any coach, assistant coach, or player is not acceptable conduct. This expectation will be enforced while in and around the playing areas before, during or after a youth match or team practice including traveling to and from match destinations.
- D. Any use of illegal drugs, prescription drugs or other medications or substances for non-medically authorized purposes, will not be tolerated.

- E. The distribution of any over the counter drug, dietary supplement, or herbal preparation or remedy without the consent of the player and/or the parent/guardian of the player if the player is younger than 18 years of age is prohibited.
- F. Use of tobacco products by any player, coach, or team official in and around the playing area before, during, or after a youth match or team practice is prohibited. LNSC spectators are expected to adhere to facility rules concerning tobacco use and are discouraged from using tobacco products at all LNSC matches, trainings, and events.

VII. CONSEQUENCES for LNSC Code of Conduct Violations.

The following protocol will be enacted in the case of reported violations to the LNSC Code of Conduct:

- 1) The violation will be immediately reported by those witnessing to the team coach, an LNSC Director, or any LNSC official.
- 2) LNSC shall present a written notice of alleged Code of Conduct violation. This notice will be presented within seven (7) days after the specific complaint.
- 3) The Executive Director and/or appropriate director will investigate by speaking with all witnesses to the alleged violation, including the accused subject of the violation.
- 4) The Executive Director may take appropriate action, including suspension and expulsion, as deemed necessary.
- 5) The violation may be appealed by the individual to the LNSC Board of Directors. If the violator is under the age of 18, their parent(s)/or guardian(s) must be involved in the appeals process with the child. A hearing may be requested according to LNSC Bylaws.
- 6) If the Board of Directors affirms the decision of the Executive Director, the appropriate sanction will be enforced immediately.

*Sanctions may include but are not limited to suspensions from training and/or games, sideline bans, and expulsion from the club.

**In the event a player violates the code of conduct within the frame of a match, including but not limited to verbal or physical abuse or violent conduct, the player may be liable for league issued sanctions. LNSC reserves the right to defer to these sanctions or add on additional sanctions as deemed appropriate.

***In the event a player/parent is expelled from the club, that player is responsible for all remaining Club Fees.