**March 2017 Communication**

**Race City Classic is Our Biggest Ever**

We are making final preparations for our largest ever Race City Classic, set to take place this coming weekend. Most LNSC teams are set to join a field of over 180 teams from WV, SC, NC, GA and TN. A big thank you to all of the LNSC staff and volunteers who have worked overtime the past few weeks to make this a tremendous event. I would like to wish all of our teams a successful and healthy weekend – I am looking forward to catching as many games as I can.

**Elite Program / Senior Girls Tryouts**

We are very excited to kick off our new Elite program, officially beginning June 1. This is a comprehensive program that will expose our most competitive players to a new level of training and competition, and we look forward to watching our players and teams compete on a national stage in the coming years. We recently held our senior girls tryouts and have formed Elite teams in all ages U16-U19 as well as Blue and Black level teams in most age groups. Our senior girls Eclipse program continues to grow in both numbers and quality. We will be holding pre-tryout meetings in April to explain and discuss next year’s plans for all age groups as well as separate meetings to go through plans for Elite teams in the rising U14 and U15 age groups.

**New Staff**

We have recently added some exceptional new staff members to the LNSC family. We are fully committed to bringing in as many highly qualified and energetic coaches and directors as possible. In the coming months we will be making additional announcements about some big hires as we are conducting a national search to find the best and brightest to help make LNSC the premier soccer club in the region. Over the winter we added Greg Ashton (former Davidson women’s coach, coaching our 02 Force Blue this spring) and Jimena Rojas (former Costa Rican professional team and national team staff, coaching our U10 Burn and working with our OSL, ETA Jr and Future Stars program) – their information was shared in the February director’s communication and their bios can be found online. In continuing this trend of bringing in the highest quality coaches, I would like to welcome the following two staff members:

Stephen Sweeney – staff coach

Stephen joined LNSC this past month and has jumped in with both feet. This spring he can be seen coaching U10 academy girls, U11G Impact, U12B Swarm and U14B Venom Black. Stephen holds his English FA Youth license and has previously coached in Manchester City’s youth academy and at Old Dominion FC in northern Virginia.

Robyn Horner – goal keeper coach

Beginning next week, Robyn will be working with our goal keepers in a variety of weekly goal keeping sessions. Robyn is the current head women’s coach at Pfeiffer University. Previously, Robyn played both semi-professionally and professionally in the W-League with Philadelphia Union, NJ Sky Blue and Western NY Flash, becoming a finalist for the 2015 W-League goal keeper of the year. She has also been named W-League Eastern Conference goal keeper of the year and twice Southeastern Conference goal keeper of the year.

**Golf Tournament**

The annual LNSC Golf Tournament is set for March 31 at the newly redesigned Mooresville Municipal Golf Course. Under the guidance of Director of Operations Trish Hughes, we expect for this to be our best tournament ever. We are seeking foursomes to attend and play for numerous prizes and pride. We will have a 1:00 shotgun start with lunch included. The cost of the tournament is $80 per player or $300 per foursome.

For more information on the event: [http://www.lakenormansoccer.com/content/tournaments-events\_annual-golf-tournament](http://tracking.oasyssports.com/tracking/click?msgid=_OcxlejORV56z2QhhCJGWQ2&target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.lakenormansoccer.com%2fcontent%2ftournaments-events_annual-golf-tournament&v=gqXYqpB7_VM95zEwkyrj7g2)

**LNSC Vision – An Update**

We have been working hard as a staff this year to instill a new vision for LNSC. I feel like we have tremendous buy-in from our staff and I am very pleased with the progress that we have made. Still, there is much for us to do to become the most comprehensive, player-driven club in the region. I can assure everyone that this is our sincere goal and we are constantly working hard to achieve this vision.

In a nutshell, the LNSC vision is this:

We want to create a club that serves every member’s needs and wants. We want to create an environment that challenges every member to help them reach their individual goal, and provides for every soccer player’s needs and wants. We do not want a player or family to say, “ I love LNSC but need to go somewhere else to achieve my goals.” We want to build a true community based around competitive soccer, but rooted much deeper.

To help us work towards our vision we have invested a tremendous amount in coaching, made changes when necessary, and created numerous programs to add to the overall experience of each player. We have slowly added in consistent standards and expectations and the success that we have seen in the past year reflects this increased attention to detail. New programs, such as the revolutionary Elite program (I truly feel like this is the best program in NC) have added to what we are able to offer. We have work to do, and in the next few months we will be making some major and exciting announcements. I hope that everyone can see our commitment and focus on providing a special club to all of our members. If there is something that we can do to make this experience better, please let us know.

**Additional Training Opportunities**

This spring we have introduced a number of additional training opportunities for players who want to take their game further. Additional Champions sessions (outlined below), 02 Eclipse OSL, ETA Jr and Future Stars are examples of extra opportunities for LNSC players to take advantage of this spring.

*02 Eclipse OSL* – Designed for 02 players in their “off season”, high school freshman and 8th graders are encouraged to continue playing club ball this spring in a lower commitment environment that allows players to manage school ball and still train and play in the club environment. Currently, we have over 35 OSL players participating in our OSL pool, which feeds two OSL teams. Anyone interested in learning more about the OSL should contact Chad Metzler: [cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com)

*ETA Jr.* – Beginning next weekend, players U11-U14 (there is also a U9-U11 group) can participate in an extra technical training session with a professional coach. There are several times and days offered – players sign up for an 8 week course designed to push their personal level of fitness, technique and ability in a small group setting. Players interested in signing up should follow this link:[http://www.lakenormansoccer.com/content/programs\_eta-jr](http://tracking.oasyssports.com/tracking/click?msgid=_OcxlejORV56z2QhhCJGWQ2&target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.lakenormansoccer.com%2fcontent%2fprograms_eta-jr&v=87GwUsk5uzP_VkEmqPtR1g2)

*Future Stars* – Future Stars is a bridge level program designed to offer additional technical training for academy and SISA recreational players ages 6-10. Future Stars is a 10-week program in which players play games and participate in drills with a professional coach. For more information on the Future Stars program, follow this link: [http://www.lakenormansoccer.com/content/programs\_sisa-lnsc-future-stars](http://tracking.oasyssports.com/tracking/click?msgid=_OcxlejORV56z2QhhCJGWQ2&target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.lakenormansoccer.com%2fcontent%2fprograms_sisa-lnsc-future-stars&v=ZR473ZbIOlwGzkkxuGaJ_g2)

**Champions Sessions**

Our official sports performance partner, Champions Speed School, will be offering numerous free sessions for LNSC players U11-U19 on a weekly basis. These sessions are offered to LNSC players at all levels and will be allotted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Players interested in signing up for Champions sessions should follow this link: [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f4fa8ab2da2fd0-champions](http://tracking.oasyssports.com/tracking/click?msgid=_OcxlejORV56z2QhhCJGWQ2&target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.signupgenius.com%2fgo%2f30e0f4fa8ab2da2fd0-champions&v=Gu2UdDRzWLp_FOD56_HJ_w2)

We ask that players attend Champions sessions in their LNSC training attire. We also ask that players do not attend more than one session per week, and in the event that a player cannot attend a session they signed up for, please go online and cancel your sign up as another player may wish to take that spot. This is an incredible value for players offered exclusively to LNSC players.

**Class of 2017**

Last month, many of our college bound LNSC seniors signed their official letters of intent to play college soccer. We are incredibly proud of this year’s class, as it is our largest group of college bound players ever. These young adults have worked hard for years and are now about to transition to their next stage of life. They have and will represent LNSC well. Congratulations!

Hannah Beard - Barton College

Skyler Chillson - UNC Asheville

Danielle Donovan - Catawba College

Adam Spencer – Brevard College

Clark Farriss - Pfeiffer University

Seth Furman - Johnson & Wales University

Elise Gallo - Tusculum College

Lissi Gordon - Liberty University

Annie Habeeb - Flagler University

Andy Hall - Belmont-Abbey University

Dondre Hillocks - Belmont-Abbey University

Ryan James - Methodist University

Carson Jones - Elon University

Grace Kwiatkowski - UNC Asheville

Nick Drewno – Lenoir-Rhyne

Seth Furman – Johnson & Wales

Aaron Madison - Belmont-Abbey University

Annie Miller - North Greenville University

Taylor Ouellette - UNC Pembroke

Morgan Everett – University of Louisville

Dalton Parnell - Methodist University

Abbey Rainwater - Catawba College

Adam Spencer - Brevard College

Stephanie Westaway – Samford University

Cassidy Wheaton - Anderson University

Ashley Whittaker - Austin Peay University

**WPSL Tryouts – ETA Summer Program**

Tryouts for all players interested in playing for the Lake Norman Eclipse this summer in the Women’s Premier Soccer League will be held on April 1, at 5:00pm at Mazeppa Road Park. All players who are interested in trying out should pre-register online:[http://www.lakenormansoccer.com/content/programs\_wpsl-tryouts/eta](http://tracking.oasyssports.com/tracking/click?msgid=_OcxlejORV56z2QhhCJGWQ2&target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.lakenormansoccer.com%2fcontent%2fprograms_wpsl-tryouts%2feta&v=adUD_lg9Jowal9MeVcWadg2)

Those who cannot make tryouts but are interested in being considered should send an email and a soccer resume to Chad Metzler:[cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com).

Current LNSC players who will be 16 as of May 1 are eligible to tryout as are all current and former college players.

In conjunction with the WPSL team, we will also offer the Elite Training Academy as a training platform for the most serious players who are born in 02 and earlier. The ETA will train along side the  WPSL team and serve as its reserve player pool.

**Dick’s Family Appreciation Weekend**

This coming weekend, in conjunction with the Race City Classic, our partner, Dick’s Sporting Goods, will offer 20% off of all purchases at the Mooresville location for all LNSC families. I have attaches a pdf coupon to this email that is necessary to receive the discount. This offer is good only on March 4 and March 5, and only at the Dick’s in Mooresville.

**Questions, Comments, Concerns?**

As always, I would love to hear from anyone who has a question, comment or concern. Please email or call me with whatever is on your mind.

Chad Metzler

LNSC Executive Director

704-453-8567

[cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com)

**Thank You to Our Sponsors**

Below is a list of our current LNSC Sponsors. We would like to say thank you to these organizations and individuals for continuing to sponsor LNSC programming and encourage our members to consider using these businesses and services. Please be sure to mention that you are with LNSC when you do.

If you or your business would like to be a sponsor of LNSC, please contact Trish Hughes, [thughes@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:thughes@lakenormansoccer.com) to discuss the many opportunities.

OrthoCarolina

Sonacare Medical

Dick’s Sporting Goods

Mooresville Convention and Visitors Bureau

Champions Sports Performance

DeBotech In. – Carbon Fiber Extreme

Nike

Eurosport – [Soccer.com](http://Soccer.com)

Orangetheory Fitness

Carolina Specialty Care

Busby & Webb Orthodontics

Charlotte Independence

Denver Health & Fitness

Lancasters BBQ

Our Town Cinemas

The Pain & Rehab institute – Dr. VanNess

Walgreens

Blue Harbor Bank

Home Run Markets

Elements Hair Studio, Inc.