

## **November Communication**

### **Fall Season is Wrapping Up**

As we are now approaching (for most teams) the final month of the season, I think it is safe to say that it has been a very successful season for LNSC by all metrics. We fielded more teams than ever this fall, and we have had fantastic results across all ages, genders and branches. While many teams still have a few games to play due to a wet fall, we are excited that many of our teams are on the cusp of promotion, and I look forward to outlining these successes in the December communication.

The Fall Classic is also just around the corner – the boys' and academy teams will participate Nov. 14 – 15 and the girls' teams will compete on Nov. 21 – 22. For most of our teams, this will mark the end of their fall campaigns; NPL teams will continue through December as some will be competing in NPL league matches (boys only in December) and Florida Showcases around New Years. If the Fall Classic marks the end of your team's season, then training will come to an end for the holidays and resume in early to mid-January.

### **Tournament Volunteers Needed**

As mentioned above, the Fall Classic is just around the corner – as this is a MAJOR event for the club (helps keep club fees down for all players), we are in need of many volunteers and ask that as many LNSC members (parents) as possible volunteer to participate as field marshals, registration assistants, etc. If you have not already been contacted by your team's tournament representative, you will be shortly – we need all hands on deck to make this a successful event and greatly appreciate everyone's time.

### **Player Evaluations**

Also, as the season wraps EVERY competitive player who played in the fall season for LNSC should expect to receive an evaluation from their coach with feedback, suggestions and future goals. While the evaluations may come in different forms (personally I like using different formats for different ages, different seasons, etc.), an open dialog between coach, player and parents is what we expect all of our coaches and players to participate in at some time between Thanksgiving and the New Year. I would also encourage players and parents to use this opportunity to ask questions so that they can maximize their understanding and growth for the coming season.

## **USSF Change to Birth Years in 2016-2017 Season**

As I mentioned in the last month's communication, the United States Soccer Federation has mandated that all soccer organizations in all states change to a birth year age grouping system for the 2016 – 2017 season. This means that, for example, all players born in 2002 (and later) will be eligible to play in the 02 age group – this is obviously quite a departure from the school year system that the United States has operated on over the past 40 years.

As a staff, we will begin making our plan for the change after the fall Classic and fall season has wrapped up. The state, just this week, announced their interpretation of the new age groupings, and answered many questions that we have been waiting on and admitted that there are some questions that they have not yet been able to answer. I expect to announce to the club in early February what LNSC's plan to deal with this change will be so that everyone has a good idea of what they can expect for their players in the future. This is an issue that every club in the state (really in the nation) has been dealing with and I have been in consult with several directors of some of the larger clubs in NC as we have exchanged ideas to adapt to the new paradigm.

## **College Fit Finder**

The College Fit Finder ("CFF") is now up and running. This is a free resource for all LNSC senior team players. The College Fit Finder is a powerful online resource and database that allows players and teams to collect their resume information and make it available for college coaches. Teams can build and generate team profile sheets and players can update their personal profiles in a real time manner. Also, through CFF, players can develop their own personalized college searches base on a number of parameters that they set to find schools that fit their wants and needs. This is a fantastic new tool for the club and another example of LNSC's commitment to excellence for all of our players, families and teams.

## **College Panel and ID Camp**

Last week, over 150 LNSC families gathered at the Mooresville Hilton Garden Inn to take part in our 3rd Annual College Panel. A number of college coaches from around the area representing men's and women's programs in NCAA Div. 1, Div. 2 and Div. 3 presented their viewpoints and experiences in college recruiting and offered their advices and answered questions. It was an informative evening for many of our future college players.

On January 18, 2016, LNSC will host its 3rd Annual College ID Camp for high school aged boys and girls. This camp is open to players from both within LNSC and outside the club. This is an all day event and a great opportunity for players to work with and play in front of a wide variety of college coaches in their home environment at Mazeppa Park. The registration is live; visit the LNSC website for more information and to register.

### **LNSC Alumni Shout-Outs**

Many LNSC Eclipse and Force alumni are having great season in college soccer. From all-conference selections to conference tournament finalists to nationally ranked programs vying for NCAA tournament berths, LNSC is well represented in college soccer. There are simply too many to put into this communication – check out a synopsis of LNSC’s former players’ seasons on the Lake Norman Soccer Club website!

### **Sideline Expectations**

Just a reminder to all parents, grandparents and other LNSC supporters – we all take great pride in the LNSC badge and our kids’ and teams’ accomplishments. We also take great pride in what that badge stands for – hard work, dedication and above all, sportsmanship. As the fall season enters its final weeks, I wanted to remind everyone of the standards that we expect from our teams, players, coaches and supporters. Sportsmanship should be valued and applauded at all times and in the end, never lose sight of the fact that we are participating in a game.

Supporters are expected to refrain from engaging in negative conversations with and comments towards the officials, team members, opponents and other team’s spectators. Also, in the best interest of the development and enjoyment of all of our players, supporters are expected to refrain from coaching players from the sideline – cheer, but do not criticize or instruct. These expectations are things that we take very seriously at LNSC.

This fall, with literally hundreds of games played, I think the club has done a fantastic job as a whole with how we have represented ourselves – let’s continue to show our class and respect for the game and each other throughout the remainder of the season.

## **A Friendly Reminder**

The last installment of club fees was due on October 1. Thank you to everyone who has taken care of this obligation. If it has slipped through the cracks, please be sure to take care of any outstanding balances as soon as possible. If you are unsure of your balance or have any issues with meeting this obligation at this time, please call us at the office. Any players with outstanding balances of 60 days who have not made some arrangements will have their cards pulled and not be able to participate in games or trainings – we do not want to have this happen to any of our players.

## **Mooresville Christmas Parade**

The 2015 Annual Mooresville Christmas Parade will be held on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. The parade features floats, marching bands, dance & tumbling troupes, all kinds of vintage and modern modes of transport, plus plenty of fun and entertainment for the family.

LNSC will be participating in this event and will feature a Christmas Soccer float! We invite all members of LNSC to join us and represent the LNSC Soccer family!

For more information please contact: Trish Hughes at [hughes@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:hughes@lakenormansoccer.com) or call 205-447-1285.

## **Limited Edition Grey Hoodies**

LNSC will be offering, for a limited time, grey LNSC hoodies – you may have seen some of the coaches wearing these and since we have received so many inquiries, we have decided to offer them for a short time. The hoodies have the LNSC crest on the front and say Lake Norman Soccer Club on the back – they are \$25 a piece. Orders will be accepted until December 1 and should be ready before Christmas. Cash or checks made out to LNSC will be accepted with completed order form and they must be delivered or mailed to the office before December 1.

Email [admin@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:admin@lakenormansoccer.com) with your order detailing the following: Name, Team, Cell Phone contact number and quantity for each size (youth medium, youth large, adult small, adult medium, adult

large and adult extra large). Checks can be mailed to LNSC, 532 Patterson Avenue, Suite 140, Mooresville, NC 28115. NO LATE ORDERS CAN BE ACCEPTED.

**Feedback?**

How are we doing? If you have any feedback – good, bad or just a comment, I would love to hear from you – please shoot me a quick email at [cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com](mailto:cmetzler@lakenormansoccer.com) and tell me how your season has been.

Thanks!

Chad Metzler

Executive Director, LNSC