



LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

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Providing each and every child with a fun filled experience in a soccer environment

Dear Penn Wynne Park Soccer Participant,

March 10, 2025

Thank you for signing up for our Spring Intramural Program. We will be playing every Sunday from March 30 through June 8th, except for Easter Weekend and Memorial Day Weekend. Each Sunday, the age groups will meet as follows:

Little All-Stars Boys	(2021 birth boys)	11:45 – 12:45		
Little All-Stars Girls	(2021 birth girls)	10:30 – 11:30		
Pee-Wees Boys	(2020 birth boys)	10:30 – 11:30	or	2:15 – 3:15
Pee-Wees Girls	(2020 birth girls)	9:15 – 10:15	or	1:00 - 2:00
Atoms Division	(2019 birth boys)	9:15 – 10:15 (Advanced)	or	1:00 – 2:00 (Novice)
Neutrons Division	(2019 birth girls)	11:45 – 12:45 (Advanced)	or	2:15 – 3:15 (Novice)

FIELDS - All divisions will play at Penn Wynne Park, 1298 East Manoa Road in Wynnewood.

LATE SIGNUPS - We will accept on site registrations during the season. If you have friends who would like to play, they may sign up online or then join us at the field for the next practice.

CHANGING DIVISIONS – Players may switch between the divisions as needed to fit their families' personal schedules.

STARTING EACH SESSION - We realize that there will be occasions when players won't be able to make a session or two. This is perfectly fine. We do ask however that if you are going to show up, **show up at least 5 minutes early** so we can get started **promptly**. If you show up late, we will not be able to get you put into the flow of things right away so you will have to stand around awhile. PLEASE get to the fields on time.

PARKING - Please be aware that the police will ticket illegally parked cars. The police will be coming around, as they do every season, and look to ticket all cars parked illegally.

NO DOGS OR PETS ARE ALLOWED AT THE PARK BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP!!!!

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROGRAM - Our primary objective at LMSC is to "provide each and every youngster with a fun filled experience in a soccer environment." We try to provide soccer for children of all ages as well as provide different competitive levels for each age.

IN THE EVENT OF RAIN - If games need to be canceled: LMSC will update the web page (www.lmsc.net) with a message saying that games are canceled. This will be posted as soon as possible. LMSC will also attempt to e-mail all players and coaches who we have an e-mail address for.

SKILLS CLINIC - At the beginning of each session, we will run a short skills clinic to teach the players the most basic of soccer skills. For that reason, we are asking that **players bring a size 3 ball to the field each week**. Please **Be sure to put your name on the ball in magic marker**. We will have extra soccer balls for players without their own ball. If you are interested in helping to coach, please let me know. We send out a weekly lesson plan to all coaches and referees several days before each session.

EQUIPMENT - Players **MUST** have shin guards, NO EXCEPTIONS. It is preferred that players have soccer shoes as opposed to sneakers. Players should have a dark pair of soccer shorts (preferably navy). Players are to wear their red LMSC jersey to all games (given out at the first Sunday). A filled, plastic water bottle is optional but recommended.

All these items can be purchased at most any sporting goods store.

ADULT CONDUCT - One item of great concern to us is sideline conduct at our soccer games. We have several rules for our spectators that we expect to be followed by **ALL** spectators:

- Do not yell at the referees or attempt to influence them in any way. Our referees are all travel team players and are under strict orders to only follow orders from the LMSC Directors.
- Remember that the coaches and directors are volunteers. Do not give them a hard time, do not yell at them, do not whine and complain to them about trivial things. If you have a problem, state it in a mature fashion to one of the LMSC officers.
- Do not smoke at the fields. We will remove your child from play if you smoke near our athletes.
- Dogs are not allowed at the fields by order of the Lower Merion Township.
- Keep comments positive to your child and all other children. We want to create an atmosphere where the children can enjoy themselves and not feel that they are "forced" to perform up to someone's expectations. Our coaches are instructed to make the number one priority of the program to allow the kids to have fun and learn to enjoy the game.
- Don't let your children or other children to climb on the soccer nets or hang from the goalposts.
- Keep baby strollers, cribs and reclining chairs away from the fields and away from the sidelines
- Do not expect the coaches to turn your child into a professional player, the children are only 5 and 6 years old. Over eager parents are asked to realize that the best way for your child to develop into a top notch player is to let him enjoy the game and develop a passion for the sport. They are too younger to understand the tactics of the game and too young to master the skills.
- Please keep younger children off the fields so they do not get hit by a stray ball.

While on the subject of sideline conduct, please take a few minutes to observe some of the other spectators. If they are acting crazy and out of control, do you think it is embarrassing to their child? If so, please figure out how your child would want you to behave.

INNER CITY SOCCER PROGRAM - LMSC is always collecting old, used soccer equipment, including cleats and balls, to give to underprivileged children in the city who play soccer. If you have equipment you'd like to donate, please bring it to the fields no later than May 17th so that we can forward your donations to the proper people.

COACHING VOLUNTEERS - One of our objectives at LMSC is to provide ample coaching material to our coaches. We have different coaching manuals for the different age groups in our program. All of this is in our budget because we believe that players will enjoy the sport more and develop faster if our coaches know the game and know how to coach it.

We realize that most parents did not play the game as a child. If you are interested in helping to coach, please volunteer. We will try to help you improve your knowledge of the game, no matter what your background. All we ask is that you do your best to make sure the children have fun, and you do your best to improve your soccer knowledge and your coaching skills. Please let us know if you are interested in helping coach your child's age group.

BEYOND THE SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM - The Fall Intramural Program offers 14 divisions for boys and girls ages 3-12. The season will start on the Saturday after Labor Day Weekend and run through mid-November. Games are played on Saturdays for all groups except for the Little All-Stars Division and the Pee-Wees Division which play on Sundays. **BELOW IS THE SETUP FOR OUR 2024 FALL SEASON:**

Boys Divisions

Little All-Stars	Boys born in 2022 (play on Sundays)
Pee-Wees Division:	Boys born in 2021 (play on Sundays)
Atoms Division:	Boys born in 2020
Bantams Division:	Boys born in 2019
Juniors Division:	Boys born in 2018
Intermediate Division:	Boys born in 2016 and 2017
Seniors Division:	Boys born in 2013 through 2015

Girls Divisions

Little All-Stars	Girls born in 2022 (play on Sundays)
Pee-Wees Division:	Girls born in 2021 (play on Sundays)
Neutrons Division:	Girls born in 2020
Microns Division:	Girls born in 2019
Quasars Division:	Girls born in 2018
Protons Division:	Girls born in 2016 and 2017
Electrons Division:	Girls born in 2013 through 2015

The Youngest Age Divisions (Little All-Stars, Atoms, Neutrons and Pee-Wees) will NOT be on set teams for the fall. Each week, the players will led through a skills clinic, which will be followed by small sided games.

The Middle Age Divisions (Bantams, Microns, Juniors, Quasars, Intermediates and Protons) will have the players placed on set teams for the season. Teams play two simultaneous games against their opposing team. Team standings will not be kept during the season.

The Oldest Age Divisions (Seniors and Electrons): Players are placed on set teams for the season and play games of 9 versus 9.

In addition, each fall we offer a **Special Needs Division** for youngsters ages 6-17 with physical and mental limitations. For more information on this program, please visit our web page.

If you have any questions, please feel free to send us an e-mail at soccer@lmsc.net . Thank you for your participation in the Spring Intramural Program, we are looking forward to yet another fun filled season.