

## 2017 Spring Soccer Program Information

Welcome to the 2017 LCRD Youth Spring Soccer Program! The goal of this program is to promote health and physical fitness, good sportsmanship, learning of fundamentals, and to provide a fun and worthwhile leisure activity for participants, coaches, and parents. We hope that the following information will answer most of your questions. Call LCRD at 876-5359 for additional information.

1. **FORMING TEAMS:** Evaluations will be conducted for each league for the purpose of dividing teams as evenly as possible. It is critical that each participant attend the Evaluation for their age division. Evaluations will be conducted at the James Brown Park as follows:

**8-9 YEAR OLDS- 5:30pm, Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Soccer Complex**

**10-11 YEAR OLDS- 6:15pm, Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Soccer Complex**

**12-14 YEAR OLDS- 7:00pm, Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Soccer Complex**

**\*Players should wear clothing and shoes appropriate for playing soccer.**

**\*Younger groups will report to the Shuman Center to meet their coach as follows:**

**4 YEAR OLDS- 5:30pm, Tuesday, February 28**

**5 YEAR OLDS- 6:00pm, Tuesday, February 28**

**6 YEAR OLDS- 5:30pm, Wednesday, March 1**

**7 YEAR OLDS- 6:00pm, Wednesday, March 1**

**\*This will not be a team practice, please do not wear cleats.**

2. **UNIFORMS:** Each participant will be issued a jersey, shorts, and socks. Each participant must wear shin guards, which may be purchased from LCRD. Shin guards must be worn under team socks. Complete uniform must be worn to all games. Uniform issue will be coordinated through the team coach. Participants may keep the uniform, including shorts. **Beads or any other hair accessory item that may be deemed a safety issue, are not allowed. Cleats must conform to soccer regulations and may not include a cleat in the front.**
3. **TROPHIES:** A single elimination tournament will be conducted at the end of the regular season to determine League Champion and Runner-Up in the 8-9 and older age divisions. Trophies will be awarded to the first and second place teams at the end of this tournament. Leagues for 4-7 year olds are for training only, with no score or standings kept and no end of the season tournament. Participation certificates will be issued to all participants.
4. **PRACTICES AND GAMES:** Teams are allowed to meet no more than 3 times per week, including games. Practices are not to exceed 2 hours in length. Games will be played on weekday evenings, starting in mid-March. The season will end late April. Game schedules will be issued to the team by the coach prior to the start of the season. **Unexcused absence(s) may result in reduced or no playing time at games.**
5. **SPORTSMANSHIP:** Learning good sportsmanship is an important part of the sports experience for children and is a very high priority at LCRD. Players, coaches, and spectators will be required to demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times. **Taunting or yelling at opposing players, teams, or the officials will not be allowed.** Adults must serve as good role models by exhibiting good sportsmanship as spectators.
6. **ALL-STARS:** There will be no All Star teams formed from this program.

Parents should remember that coaches are volunteers and not necessarily experts on the game of soccer. They may make mistakes but at least they are willing to sacrifice their time to work with the children. If there is a serious problem with your child's coach, please notify the LCRD Director. For additional information go to [www.lcrd.net](http://www.lcrd.net) and follow us on Face Book.

## **LCRD SPRING SOCCER PROGRAM INFO FOR PARENTS**

There are two very important ingredients for a successful experience in this program:

**COOPERATION and COMMUNICATION!** For example, let the coach know if your child is going to miss a practice or game, if not beforehand, then at least afterwards. Understand that every child cannot play the most desirable position on the field at all times and that some children are more skilled at this point in time than others. Realize that coaches are volunteers with jobs and other commitments. If you need to talk to the coach, approach him/her either before or after (never during) games or practices and always treat the coach with respect. Do not criticize the coach in front of others, especially your child. These are just a few examples of ways to be a cooperative and supportive parent. Remember, you can help make the difference whether or not your child has a good or bad experience.

We hope that each child has fun and wants to continue to play in the future. Since youngsters are not able to play the game in the same manner as adults, many rules are adapted to meet their skill level. The following information should help you better understand the program.

**\*Note the following information is subject to change based on number of participants.**

4 & 5 year olds play 6 minute quarters with 5 players per team on the field and use a size 3 ball  
6 & 7 year olds play 10 minute quarters with 7 players per team on the field and use a size 3 ball  
8 & 9 year olds play 25 minute halves with 8 players per team on the field and use a size 4 ball  
10 & 11 year olds play 30 minute halves with 8 players per team on the field and use a size 4 ball  
12-14 year olds play 30 minute halves with 11 players per team on the field and use a size 5 ball

The schedule for uniform issue will be provided by your team coach. Game schedules will be issued along with uniforms. Forfeit time for games is 5 minutes from scheduled starting time. **All players should be present at least 5 minutes prior to game time.**

Only the head coach and assistant coaches are allowed on the side lines. All others must stay in the area designated for spectators on the opposite side of the field.

Scores and league standings will not be kept in 4-7 year olds leagues. The following point system will be used to determine standings for all other leagues: **Win = 3 points, Tie = 1 point, Goals = 1 point(maximum of three per game), Shutout = 1 point, Red Card = minus 3 points.**

In the event of bad weather, the decision to cancel games is not usually made until mid-afternoon. You may call the LCRD Office (876-5359) after 4pm if necessary.

The schedule for team pictures will be included on the game schedule. The picture order form can be found at [www.lcrd.net](http://www.lcrd.net). Please make every effort to be at the designated place on time, with the form and correct amount of money. All players should be present for the team picture even if they do not want to purchase pictures.