



La Conner Youth Soccer Association Code of Conduct

All LCYSA participants (Board members, Coaches, players, parents, and other spectators):

- You are expected to be respectful of all USSF-licensed Referees at all times (also applies to any other person acting as a Referee for a match). **Abuse and/or harassment of referees will not be tolerated by LCYSA.** It does not matter whether or not you agree with a referee's decisions, they are final. The referee often has a different viewing angle of the play on the field and may see things differently than you do. Soccer is a contact sport. Just because a player is on the ground, does not necessarily mean that the Laws of the Game have been infringed upon. Remember that the referees are also human and are capable of making a mistake.
- Please remember that this is **recreational** soccer. The players are here to learn and have **FUN**.
- Good sportsmanship is expected at all times. Win gracefully, not boastfully. Lose without being negative. Remember that kids learn by example.
- This is a "family oriented" event. Foul or vulgar language is not to be used by anyone.
- Coaches, substitute players, parents, and any other spectators are expected to remain 2 yards (yes, that is 6 feet!) from the field boundary lines.
- Remember that **they're just kids and it is just a game.**

Parents/guardians:

- You will be held responsible for the conduct of yourself, your child(ren), and any other persons/spectators who attend LCYSA events on behalf of your child(ren). You are responsible for ensuring that any other persons who attend LCYSA events on behalf of your child(ren) are informed about this Code of Conduct and its content.
- Cheer and support the whole team. Always be supportive of your child, their teammates and Coaches.
- Never badger the opposing players or argue with their supporters. Be appreciative of good play from both sides.
- Let the Coach do his/her job. Remember that the Coach is also a volunteer. Please treat him or her with respect. We wish that we had enough trained Coaches for all teams. But the reality is that this almost never happens. In fact, some Coaches may not be very knowledgeable about the game of soccer. But they agreed to volunteer when everyone else (yourself possibly included) said "no". If you are unhappy with the Coach, volunteer to be a Coach next season. We are almost always looking for Coaches.
- Remember, your Coach is volunteering their spare time. He/She is not paid for doing this. The practice schedule is at the discretion of the Head Coach. You are not "entitled" to any specified number, frequency, and/or duration of practices. You are neither promised nor guaranteed any specified amount of the Coach's time. As has already been stated; if you are unhappy, volunteer to help.
- Parents are not allowed onto the field during a match for any reason. Parents who enter the field may be asked, by the Referee, to leave the premises immediately. Other penalties may also be assessed by LCYSA and/or its sanctioning authorities. If your child is hurt / injured, it may be instinctive to want to rush out to help them. Please refrain from doing this. If the Referee determines that the player needs care / assistance, the Coach will be summoned onto the field to address this. You can help your injured player after the Coach removes him or her from the field.

Players:

- Treat other players as you wish to be treated, and encourage your teammates.
- Be respectful towards your Coach and Referees.
- Play clean and fair and follow the Laws of the Game. Don't cheat.

Coaches:

- Make fun your top priority.
- Do your best to learn the Laws of the Game.
- Teach your players to play fair and follow the Laws of the Game. Do not teach deliberate unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Never place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of the players.
- Teach good sportsmanship to your players, win or lose.
- Remain off the playing field at all times during the match. The only exception to this is if the Referee calls for you to enter the field to attend to an injured player.
- Any issues/complaints regarding Referees are to be resolved through the Referee Coordinator.

Grievances / Complaints:

- Anyone having a grievance/complaint regarding any LCYSA event/match shall present or communicate such grievance/complaint **only** to the LCYSA Board of Directors and Coordinators.
- Grievances/complaints will **not** be directed or sent to persons from other clubs / organizations.
- Grievances/complaints will **not** be posted to social media web sites and/or any other form of public forum. This applies regardless of whether the posting is to a "Public" or "Private" page/site.

General:

- For all matters that are under the direct jurisdiction of LCYSA, it shall be agreed that all decisions made by the LCYSA Board of Directors and Coordinators and/or its individual officers are binding and final. Any abuse and/or disrespect towards LCYSA Board Members will not be tolerated. These people are volunteers and their time/effort should be appreciated.
- There is not an appeal process for any such decisions. Any attempts to disregard/circumvent this and appeal to other organizations and/or individuals (thus needlessly wasting the time of our volunteers) may result in disciplinary sanctions being imposed by LCYSA.
- Any such disciplinary sanctions can vary, but may include banning the offender from any/all LCYSA events and refusal, by LCYSA, to accept player registrations from the offending party in future years.
- Violations of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action being taken by the LCYSA Board of Directors and Coordinators. Depending on the severity of the violation, a variety of sanctions are available and may be utilized to ensure compliance. On the "minor" side, the offender may receive a verbal warning/caution. On the "severe" side, the offender may be removed for the remainder of the season and, possibly, barred from any future involvement with LCYSA. In the event that this occurs, the information will be shared with all other soccer clubs within the Skagit Valley Youth Soccer Assn (SkVYSA) and may be sent to Washington Youth Soccer as well.

Date: _____

Child(ren) Name(s): _____

Parent Name (Printed): _____

Parent Signature: _____