**LRHS Soccer Handbook**

**Teaching and Coaching Philosophy**

#1. To create a disciplined and structured soccer program throughout all levels.

#2. Help players develop life skills that can be used on and off the field.

**Parent / Coach / Player**

**Communication Plan**

It is important there is a good line of communication between coaches and players, coaches, and parents.

**Communication You Should Expect:**

1. Expectations the coach has for your child and the entire team.

2. Locations and times of all practices, games, and events.

3. Team requirements (practices, equipment needed, policies, etc.).

**Communication Coaches Expect from Parents / Players :**

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.

2. Notification if athlete is going to miss practices, excused or unexcused

3. As your child becomes involved with our soccer program, they will experience some very educational and rewarding times. There may also be sometimes when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. Discussion with the coach is encouraged.

**Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches:**

1. Bullying/Hazing.

2. What you can do to help your player improve.

**Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches**:

1. Playing time

2. Team or game strategy

3. Play calling

4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach, parents, and student athlete. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

1. Set up an appointment by contacting the coach.

2. Never confront a coach directly before, during, or after a game or practice.

**Player Expectations**

**I.**  **Academic Expectations**

* Academics are a priority. Developing skills and habits to constantly improve in the classroom is the true reflection of a student-athlete.
* All academic grades will be monitored throughout the season. Players will maintain a 2.0 GPA. Players are not allowed to have any ‘F’s when grades are checked and not more than two ‘D’s.
* Players are required to follow the school and teacher policies regarding the make-up work for classes missed on game days. Players are not to ask teachers for extended time to complete assignments due to games or practices. If you know you are going to be gone, ask the teacher for the work ahead of time.
* All players are required to attend all classes. DO NOT BE TARDY.
* Classroom behavior is expected to be exemplary.
* Coaches will check in periodically with teachers and staff at LRHS.

**II.**  **Behavior Expectation**

* Being a member of this LRHS soccer program is a privilege granted to those who have earned a place on the roster.
* You will treat each other with **RESPECT**, **WE ARE ONE TEAM!** Build each other up using positive and encouraging language. You should always strive to strengthen team chemistry. Any negative, critical and or foul language is not acceptable at any time. There will be no hazing or bullying allowed. This will result in dismissal from the team.
* Team goals are of paramount importance. Individual goals and achievements matter when related to team goals.
* Everybody on this team is a leader and is an ambassador of the LRHS Soccer Program - both on and off the court. You will be expected and held accountable to demonstrate these leadership qualities in all phases of your life. Failure to meet this expectation will result in practice/game consequences.
* Any player in ISS or lunch detention will not participate in the next soccer match until his punishment obligation is fulfilled.
* Discipline referrals to the office and suspensions are unacceptable and will result in a team suspension whether a suspension is given by the school.
* Everybody on the team has a specific role and every team member is of equal importance in fulfilling his role.
* Players are expected to take part in the daily maintenance of the sports facilities/equipment we use. This includes, but is not limited to picking up trash on the field and around benches, moving goals, and setting up nets, etc. Everyone’s cooperation and efforts will be necessary to keep things running efficiently.

**III.**  **Communication Expectations and Absences from Practice**

* If you are not able to attend practice, you must notify the head coach or the assistant coaches **PRIOR** to the absence. All notifications must be by a text, and email, or other written communication. All players should strive to attend all practices to participate on game days. If a player misses practice without notifying the coach first, they will not be eligible to play in the next scheduled game.
* Absences from practice and/or games must be excused by the head coach of the program you are participating in (i.e., JV (Junior Varsity), Varsity). Excused practices must meet these criteria: illness, family emergency, school function, etc. Valid excuses for absences not listed will be determined as excusable or inexcusable by the coaching staff.

**IV.**  **Practice Expectations**

* Players are expected to be early and prepared to practice as they are scheduled.
* Practice sessions are closed sessions and are not open to anyone not on the team or involved in the program. To ensure maximum learning time and avoid distractions, this includes a player’s parents, siblings, relatives, or friends.
* Missing a practice, the week of a game may result in not participating in the game unless the missed practice is made up.
* If you are unable to practice due to an injury, you are still expected to attend practice sessions. If you are not feeling well, please attend practice and sit on the sideline to help keep in step with the instruction and new techniques introduced at practices.
* All injuries will go through the athletic trainer. Once an injury has been diagnosed, the player will need clearance from the athletic trainer to return.

**V.**  **Game Day / Travel Expectations**

* All players will be expected to stay at all games to support their LHRS teams. WE ARE MUSTANG!
* All Players are expected to serve their assigned duty for every home games.
* Parents and players are usually responsible for their own travel to and from games.
* A bus will be taken to certain games. Parents will be notified at the beginning of the year of those games.
* All players must take the bus home to those games unless pre-approved by the coach.
* Players are responsible for ensuring buses are clean following each road trip.
* All players are expected to be dressed appropriately for team travel.

**VII.**  **Social Media**

* It is a tool, not a toy.
* If you re-tweet or repost something, you own it. Do not get caught up in online arguments, especially with individuals in our school. Any rude or explicit post/tweet can exclude you from practice/games or even be cause for dismissal from the team.
* **Every tweet or post reflects who you are.**
* Post support for others, news, humor, discussions with those you respect/admire. You are building your personal brand. What will you be known for?

**VIII. Fundraising and Community Service**

* All players must participate in program fundraising activities. Raising money is necessary to help fund our program and its expenses.
* Parents may be required to donate time for fundraisers.

**IX. Game Day Expectations**

* Taunting or yelling at the opponents, fans, or referees is prohibited and may lead to a suspension of the player for games or practices.
* If an incident occurs on the court, all players are to remain on the bench.
* Player ejections will also not be tolerated. If a player is thrown out of a game, they will have a one game and one practice suspension. If a player is thrown out of a second game, they will be dismissed from the team. All player ejections will result in a player meeting with the coaching staff before returning to practice.
* Parents will demonstrate appropriate behavior in the stands. Taunting or yelling at the opponents, coaches, fans, or referees is prohibited and may lead to a ban on attending games.
* Any misbehavior will be considered unsportsmanlike and may be reported to FHSAA, resulting in a fine for the school and the team. Appropriate behavior is the utmost responsibility of the team members, including parents, especially when we are representing our school at any events.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Cut out form below and return to coach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Signatures for Lakewood Ranch High School Soccer Handbook**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Player’s Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Player’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Phone number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / Email\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_