

# 2023 LSC KinderKickers Soccer Program

Girls & Boys 4 Years old (on or before October 1<sup>st</sup>) to Kindergarten

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## REGISTER for Fall-23 by Aug 15, 2023

### Answers to Your Frequently Asked Questions:

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### 2023 Sessions

Sept	09
Sept	16 (NO GAME)
Sep	23
Sep	30
Oct	07 (NO GAME)
Oct	14
Oct	21
Oct	28
Nov	04
Nov	11 (Hold)

Season  
Starts  
Sept 9th

Season has 7 planned sessions.  
Weather and Field Condition  
related cancellations may not be  
made up.

### **Do we have a Spring Program?**

Please log on to the LSC website for information. <http://www.lsclub.com>. The LSC KinderKickers program as described here is only a Fall program **and the above email is not monitored off-season.**

### **How do I register – for the Fall program?**

Please log on to the LSC website to register. <http://www.lsclub.com>. You will find a button for registration on the home page and a link "Click Here to Register" under KinderKickers.

### **What is the Livingston Soccer Club's KinderKickers Program?**

LSC KinderKickers is an enjoyable non-competitive program, led by professional trainers from **Go2Soccer**, designed to help our youngest soccer players develop basic soccer skills through participation in fun-filled soccer-oriented children's games and basic physical education activities.

These professionally designed games and activities are formatted to introduce children to fundamental soccer skills while having fun with a soccer ball. The Livingston Soccer Club believes that early emphasis on skill development in this manner will enhance each child's overall ability and enjoyment for the sport of soccer. LSC KinderKickers does not involve competitive team play, rather emphasizing frequent contact with a soccer ball as the method of developing fundamental skills. *LSC KinderKickers does not teach player positioning or team tactics, as such instruction is a more advanced skill more suitable for older children.*

**LSC KinderKickers is not a "drop off" program** and parents and or guardians are expected to stay with their children on the sidelines and be present to take them home upon end of session.

### **How Does the LSC KinderKickers Program Work?**

Each participant in the LSC KinderKickers program is placed on a "team" of approximately 12-16 kids. Teams will meet for one hour each week on **Saturday mornings at Harrison Elementary School** rotating weekly through the 2 time slots of **9.00-10:00 and 10:30-11:30**. The teams are separated into two age groups: Pre-K and kindergarten, by gender (all girls or all boys).

Each team is assigned a parent volunteer **KK Team Manager** who will be the liaison between the parents and club. Team Managers will e-mail their teams with weekly practice time reminders and other brief announcements. Managers also coordinate team matters and minor issues with the KK Program Director. Team Managers are not expected to coach but may be asked to help set up fields by the SDA coaches.

Weekly session's lesson plans have been developed by the Sports Domain Academy in conjunction with the Livingston Soccer Club. These lesson plans have been thoroughly reviewed and updated to reflect the latest coaching techniques. The lessons teach basic soccer skills, while masquerading as children's games. The plans are specifically designed so that each child is constantly kicking his or her own soccer ball, having "maximum touches on the ball."

As previously mentioned, leading these sessions will be professional soccer coaches from the Sports Domain Academy. The Livingston Soccer Club has a long-standing relationship with the Sports Domain Academy, utilizing their professional trainers for most of our competitive travel soccer teams. We believe this will better prepare our players for first grade soccer and beyond. As of 2012, LSC KinderKickers teams are no longer coached by parents or Team Managers.

**Note to Team Managers:** You are volunteers and parents, so please take the time to enjoy as your own kids are on the field. You should only volunteer for this great opportunity to serve the young kids of our community, if you are able to handle duties, solve problems with little or no prior instruction, expeditiously coordinate with KK Program Director or the Club and stay calm in all situations especially when involving our kids.

### **Who, What, Where, When and Equipment?**

The LSC KinderKickers program begins in early September and runs for seven (7) Saturdays (see dates at top of the page). This is a Fall Program only.

There are TWO sessions each Saturday: the 1st session runs from **9:00 AM to 10:00 AM** and the 2nd session runs from session runs from **10:30 AM to 11:30 AM**. Teams will be assigned to each session on a rotating basis and a team's time session will alternate week to week. LSC KinderKickers takes place at **Harrison Elementary School, 148 North Livingston Avenue**.

**In late August or early September**, you will be contacted by a Team Manager who will inform you about your team, schedule, contact information and field location at the Harrison School. Every week you will report to the same field at your rotating scheduled time. Please do not panic if you have not heard from a KK Manager, even if you have heard from your older child's coach. Because our program is the only one in the Livingston Soccer Club that continues to accept late registrations up until the season begins, we are still tweaking rosters until the last minute. As a result, rosters are not sent to KK Managers until the last week of August. Keep in mind that due to family vacations, it is also possible that your team manager may be away at the time that rosters are released; if this is the case, then you will be contacted upon their return.

At the first session of the LSC KinderKickers program, each child will receive his or her very own official genuine LSC KinderKickers soccer ball and Team t-shirt.

Parents: **PLEASE ... DO NOT write your child's name on the soccer ball** (it is easier to come to the field with one ball and leave with one rather than be looking for a specific one at the end of each session) and remember to bring it back each week. If you should lose a soccer ball, a limited amount of replacement balls are available for \$10.00 (fee payable by check to the Livingston Soccer Club).

Your child should be dressed in shorts or other weather appropriate pants and may wear sneakers, tennis shoes or cleats. Children MUST wear shin guards to protect them against the kicks from other players. Also, for your child's safety, please remove all jewelry--including earrings-- prior to each session. Additionally, each child should have an ample supply of water based on weather conditions.

Information about Picture Day will be distributed to you by your Team Manager as soon as it is available.

### **Jewelry Policy? What about My Child's New Earrings?**

For safety reasons, jewelry of all types is not allowed to be worn. Please be mindful that **NO JEWELRY OF ANY KIND is to be worn on the field.** This includes earrings, necklaces, bracelets, friendship bracelets, rope bracelets, soft bracelets, metal bracelets, nose rings, or tongue piercings. Medical bracelets are the only exception. Sweatbands are allowed, but they are not to be used to cover up any, you guessed it, bracelets. Tape covering earrings will not be allowed.

We recognize that it is a common occurrence for children of KinderKickers age to get their ears pierced. To avoid a potential conflict with our Jewelry Policy, please either wait until after the soccer season ends to get your child's ears pierced, or leave enough time before the season begins for the earrings to be removed for the one hour of play. There is no exception to this policy. If one of the trainers or KK Coordinators reminds you at a weekly session, keep in mind that it is not their rule, and they are following the policy that has been made publicly available numerous times.

### **You had Mentioned a Team Manager--What is That?**

Each team will have a Parent Team Manager volunteer or two. This person will be your contact with the LSC KinderKickers program and, for example, will e-mail you when there is a weather cancellation. Please address any questions to your Team Manager, who will contact you the last week of August once the rosters are released. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at [KinderKickers@LSClub.com](mailto:KinderKickers@LSClub.com) or enter that interest while registration. Team Managers are not expected to coach. We use ATSC coaches at these age group (prof coaches).

We need volunteers as Parent Team Managers. What are typical duties:

Pre-season start (Last week of August):

- Pick up team T-shirts and balls from the KK Program Director to bring to the field on Session 1.
- Once you get the team roster from KK Program Director, reach out to the parents and introduce yourself via email and make sure they know how to get the schedule, rotations and field information.

In Season:

- Parent Team Managers have NO coaching or assist coaching responsibilities. We enroll professional ATSC Coaches – among the most well-known NJ clubs and academies.
- Session 1 is a little chaotic as it's the first-time people are finding fields etc. Gather your team, and take them to the field location (many team managers make a poster or carry a marked balloon or such to facilitate this on session 1)
- Be the conduit of communications between Parents and KK Program (generally one or two mails / week)
- Maybe, establish a snack rotation for your team.
- Manage no jewelry, mandatory shin guards for your team members. Keep parents off the fields.
- Help on Picture Day (if one is held) and the last session for distribution of trophies.
- Own it.

### **Parking and Specific Safety Concerns?**

The parking at Harrison School is very tight. We urge you to arrive early and to carpool when possible. The parking lot can be accessed either from North Livingston Avenue or from Ashwood Drive. Ashwood Drive is a residential street just north of the school. Street parking is permitted on Ashwood Drive, and the street has nice sidewalks. Since this is a residential street, we ask that you remind your children to be respectful of the neighborhood.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE do not allow your children to play or dribble soccer balls in the parking lots, sidewalks or streets. Please ensure that your kids hold their soccer balls while not on the field.

### **What is the Rainout Procedure?**

If LSC KinderKickers is canceled because of inclement weather, you will be notified by your Team Manager of that fact. Also, rainout information is available generally the morning of play, on the Livingston Soccer Club website.

LSC and the program will try, and schedule make up dates for rained out sessions, but is not obligated to. At this age, the safety concerns are paramount and make up dates in mid-November become unrealistic due to cold temperatures.

Please note that there are no refunds after the season starts and particularly none for rainout days.

### **Can I request my child to be on a team with a friend or play at a specific time?**

Through our on-line registration system, you will be able to request that your child be placed on a team **with one friend**. We will do our best to see that you are placed with this choice, but LSC KinderKickers **cannot guarantee the teammate request unless it is a) mutual, and b) the players are in the same grade and gender**. Putting together the team rosters is a very difficult and time-consuming exercise. Other than for extraordinary and unforeseeable reasons, roster changes will not be made.

**Teammate requests for late registration is unlikely to be honored as most of the rosters have been established.**

As with all LSC teams and programs, game times vary from week to week. As a result, there are no requests accepted for specific times.

### **Miscellaneous: When is the registration and refund deadlines? Tell me about the weekly giveaways? Who cleans up all the garbage we leave behind? What if my child needs to use the bathroom?**

Late registration for KinderKickers is permitted (if space is available) on a first-come, first-served basis all the way through the first week of the season. Please send an e-mail to [president@lsclub.com](mailto:president@lsclub.com) if you'd like to register your child. Teammate requests cannot be guaranteed for late registrants.

After August 1st there will be no refunds of fees.

Children may receive a special giveaway during the season as well as a variety of smaller weekly giveaways (first week it is the soccer ball). We find that this premium encourages attendance, **but only those that are in attendance will receive the weekly giveaway**. At the last session, all participants will receive a participation award.

Please help us keep the fields clean by picking up all your belongings and disposing of your trash. Take advantage of this teachable moment to encourage your children to be responsible and to leave Harrison School a cleaner place than the way we found it.

Typically, there is a port-a-john on site by the Harrison School playground. Livingston Soccer Club is not responsible for this amenity and therefore cannot guarantee its condition. Please make sure that your child has used the bathroom at home before coming to the field.

If you have any further questions send an e-mail to

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