



**2011-2012**  
**PLAYER/FAMILY**  
**INFORMATION**  
**PACKET**



Dear Player and Parents-

Welcome to the Texas Longhorns Soccer Club and the new soccer season! We appreciate the confidence you have shown in us by selecting our organization.

Established in 1968, we are the oldest soccer club in the Southwest, and the purpose of the organization is to promote the game of soccer by providing an environment whereby boys and girls who are interested in competitive soccer, can participate as teammates in leagues composed of highly competitive classic level teams. To that end, we offer a highly qualified staff who teach and evaluate players as they develop their individual skills within the framework of the team.

In **addition to the development of individual skills on the field, competitive soccer teaches life management skills, social interaction and time management skills** as well as the **appreciation of and respect of adult and player leadership**. The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club is a traveling club. Your player will learn the skills necessary to travel with his/her team and will, therefore, mature both on and off the field.

The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club needs and desires your support and participation in team and Club activities. Fundraising opportunities will be available on the team and club level. Every parent is expected to give his/her time to make the team and the organization stronger. Our primary tournament, the Spring Classic Invitational held during the Easter week-end, will necessitate a four hour commitment from each player's parent per player who plays for TLSC. Without each parent, this event cannot happen and it would not be the outstanding event that it has become. We are counting on you! We hope that your family will take advantage of all the programs TLSC has to offer:

- **Weekly team training, skills clinics, goalkeeper training**
- **Summer soccer camps**
- **Tournament travel**
- **Club social events and more**

The Longhorns is a club structured to provide excellent support, coordination and communication. Please contact your team manager or the TLSC office, 972.480.9340, if you have any questions. **Have a GREAT YEAR with the TEXAS LONGHORNS SOCCER CLUB!**

**1219 Abrams Road, Suite 118 / Richardson, Texas 75081 972.480.9340 /  
972.480.0424(fax) / [www.longhorns.org](http://www.longhorns.org)**



## **CLUB PURPOSE & HISTORY**

*It is our intent as an organization to promote honor, integrity, teamwork, perseverance, confidence, and sportsmanship both on and off the soccer field.” – Texas Longhorn Soccer Club Purpose*

Founded in 1968 in Dallas, Texas, the Texas Longhorns Soccer Club is the oldest select soccer club in Texas and the southwestern United States. The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club will celebrate its 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary this year. The club is a 501c.3, or non-profit, organization. The club continues its philosophy of developing individual players within a team framework while playing in the most competitive leagues available in the Dallas metroplex. The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club has fielded teams for boys since 1968 and for girls since 1989. In fact, the Texas Longhorns Soccer Club was the first select soccer club in the area to successfully add girls' teams to an established boys' club organization. TLSC has strived to field teams for both boys' and girls' sides in the U11 through the U19 age groups. In the spirit of ongoing growth and development of our players, the club offers year-round training, both indoor and outdoor matches, and travel to tournaments throughout the United States and abroad. Soccer in the North Texas State Soccer Association is among the most competitive in the United States, and we feel this atmosphere enhances our soccer program and the players who emerge from it.

The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club (TLSC) has won numerous local league and tournament championships, the North Texas State Cup Championship, the USYSA Southern Regional Championship, and USYSA National Championship placement. TLSC teams have competed in the McGuire Cup, the Niotis Cup, and the Dallas Cup. TLSC has also produced soccer players who have gone on to achieve success in the professional soccer arena. Most noted among these is Clint Dempsey, a member of the US Soccer Team. He played in the 2010 World Cup for the United States.

The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club founded and hosts the **Spring Classic International Tournament** . This tournament runs over Easter weekend, and teams from Academy age and U11 through U19 age groups participate. Each year, the tournament generally fields approximately 160 teams from the Dallas area, from regions throughout the United States, and additionally has had teams from Canada, South America, Australia, New Zealand, and other foreign countries. The **Spring Classic** is a major source of income for TLSC. Visit the Spring Classic website at [www.springclassic.net](http://www.springclassic.net) or through the website link on our home page to learn more about this tournament.

The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club is committed to providing opportunities to showcase prospective college-bound student/athletes, to assist in the education of players and parents in the process of obtaining soccer athletic scholarships, and to support players in their efforts to achieve placement in college soccer programs through the college recruitment system.

The Texas Longhorns Soccer Club is a family experience. In addition to regular practices, scrimmages, league and tournament play, our families participate in several all-Club events such as the hosting of our tournament and several all-club functions. The club also promotes participation in community charitable activities and works with our players to earn community service hours for their schools.

**More than soccer skills, techniques, and tactics, our program teaches hard work, discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, commitment, and a sense of community spirit while establishing friendships that for many are life long.**



## **FINANCIAL BREAK DOWN**

The following is a break down of what your player's fees cover. Hopefully this list will prove helpful in answering any questions you may have regarding how fees are spent.

### **Salaries**

- Coaching Staff
- Club Administrator
- Skills Coach
- Accountant
- Goalie Coach

### **League Tryouts**

- Bye Fees
- Ads
- Club Fact Sheet
- Printing/Postage

### **Team Equipment**

### **League Registration**

### **Home Association Registration**

### **Website**

- TLSC Website
- Team Web Pages

### **Administration**

- Office Rent
- Telephone
- Insurance
- Printing/Postage/Office Supplies

### **Player Insurance through NTSSA**

### **Referees**

### **Awards**

### **Club Events**

### **Medical Supplies/Kits**

### **Club Pins/Pennants**

### **Fields: Rental/Usage/Upkeep**

### **Club Publications/Printing**



## **TRAVEL AND CHAPERONING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

The Texas Longhorns are a traveling club making at least one out of town trip each year. TLSC teams who travel during the year must follow the policies and procedures statement that is listed in the addendum of the Coaches and Managers Manuals. The policies are as follows:

### **ITINERARY**

- It is the responsibility of the Coach and Manager of each team to provide in writing a detailed itinerary of travel plans and tournament schedules to the TLSC office and the appropriate Director of Coaching at least one week prior to travel. The Coach/Manager will provide a detailed itinerary to parents and players prior to departure.
- The following information should be contained in the travel itinerary:

### **HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS**

- All team members, coaching staff, and parents stay at the same location during the tournament. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- Team members may stay in team rooms supervised by the Coach and Manager of the team. Parent volunteers are expected to aid in the chaperoning.
- or
- Players may stay in parent rooms in the same hotel rather than team room. Players may not make any other arrangements for accommodations.
- TLSC Coach determines the team itinerary for the tournament.

### **CHAPERONING**

- Coaches and managers and parents are responsible for the behavior of the team at all tournaments.
- Coaches, managers, players, and parents are representing the TLSC at ALL TIMES; therefore, appropriate behavior is expected at all times during the trip.

### **COACHES**

- It is the responsibility of the Coach to oversee the entire trip. TLSC does not look at tournaments as a vacation for the coaching staff.
- At no time is the coach to delegate his responsibility to any other person except in the case of an emergency.
- Coaches should address the following issues:
  - Pre-departure meeting to outline expectations in order to review the itinerary with parents and players.
  - All team members and parents should be informed of the stated policies and procedures prior to each trip.
  - Pre-game practice schedules/times
  - Meal times and places (Coach always eats with the team)
  - Room assignments when applicable
  - Curfews/penalties for not meeting same
  - Conduct periodic room checks when team stays in team rooms
  - Check rooms upon arrival and departure from the accommodations
  - Plan all activities and free times
  - Enforce proper TLSC dress code

### **UNIFORMS**

- TLSC has approved uniforms which players purchase. It is the responsibility of the coach to be sure that all players are in approved uniforms for all games.
- TLSC official colors are orange, white, and navy



## **POLICIES & PROCEDURES** **FOR THE CONDUCT OF MEMBERS,** **STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**

Texas Longhorns Soccer Club, Inc. ("TLSC") and its members, staff, and volunteers (with the members, staff, and volunteers collectively hereafter referred to as the "Adults") shall fully comply with the following:

### **Child Abuse and Reporting**

1. The TLSC acknowledges that a child needs to feel appreciated and acknowledged in order to fully develop into a peaceful and caring adult. However, the extent of the physical contact which an Adult should have, and is permitted to have with a TLSC child or teenager is limited to touch that encourages a child or teenager to develop self-esteem and security. Touch that is initiated by an Adult for his or her own self-gratification or touch that exploits a child or teenager is prohibited. Furthermore, any words or actions toward a child, for the purpose of sexually exploiting the child or teenager, is prohibited. If any Adult has any doubt about the propriety of touching, he/she should refrain.
2. Abuse of children is not tolerated. Abuse includes but is not limited to verbal abuse, sexual abuse, physical abuse, mental abuse, and neglect.
3. No person shall ever leave a child unsupervised.
4. At no time during TLSC activities may an Adult be alone with a single child where others cannot observe the situation.
5. All Adults are prohibited from being alone with children they meet in TLSC activities outside of TLSC sponsored activities. This includes sleepovers, babysitting, and inviting children to one's home.
6. Suspicions of child abuse must be reported to the Executive Director of TLSC ("Executive Direct") at the TLSC office, 1219 Abrams Road, Suite 118, Richardson, Texas 75081-5592; telephone 972-480-9340.
7. The Executive Director will report the alleged incident in accordance with relevant state reporting statutes (and, where applicable, local reporting statutes). The TLSC will fully cooperate with any legal authority involved.
8. The Executive Director shall promptly notify the President of the TLSC and the parents or legal guardian of the child(ren) involved in the alleged incident. Such notice shall comply with the notice requirements of the relevant state or local agency.
9. If the reported incident(s) involves a TLSC member, staff member, or volunteer, the President of the TLSC reserves the right to suspend the TLSC member, staff member, or volunteer from any and all activity with the TLSC. If the reported incident(s) involves a TLSC staff member, the suspension will be without pay.

10. The suspended TLSC club member, staff member, or volunteer will be reinstated only after the TLSC Executive Director and the TLSC President are satisfied that all allegations related to such party are cleared. (Back pay due to such reinstated staff member will be paid upon reinstatement.)
11. Because of the sensitive nature of allegations of child abuse and child sexual abuse and because of the need to protect the child and the reputation of any TLSC club member, staff member, or volunteer who is falsely accused, TLSC members, staff and volunteers who come aware of such allegations should only discuss the allegations with the Executive Director or his/her designate.
12. All of the TLSC's full-time and part-time staff and volunteers must read and agree to follow this policy by signing the Statement/Release by Applicant document.

### **General**

1. All adults are responsible for reading and abiding by the policies of North Texas State Soccer Association, of the associations in which they register (home), of the leagues in which they play, and the Texas Longhorns Soccer Club.
2. All persons are expected to treat each other with consideration and respect, treating everyone equally, regardless of sex, national origin, citizenship, religion, race, color, or culture.
3. All persons are expected to employ positive techniques of encouragement, reinforcement and redirection.
4. All persons are expected to portray positive role models.
5. All Adults will abstain from public display of intimate affection.
6. Inappropriate language or profanity is prohibited.
7. All Adults are prohibited from dating TLSC players who are 19 years of age or younger.
8. Possessing, manufacturing, distributing, using, or being under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol on TLSC premises or at TLSC functions is prohibited.
9. The TLSC encourages all parents to determine transportation arrangements for practices and other TLSC team and club events well in advance. Emergency procedures should be in place.
10. All players, parents, staff and volunteers are expected to attend all TLSC team club activities, athletic or social.
11. Policies and procedures of the TLSC may be amended as needed by the TLSC Board of Directors (the "Board").
12. TLSC players may not "guest" with other teams without prior approval of the team coach.
13. TLSC players who violate TLSC club rules when traveling may be sent home.
14. Fines, appeals, or other administrative financial matters incurred by TLSC players, coaches, or teams are the responsibility of the TLSC team and not of the TLSC.
15. The TLSC colors are orange, white, navy. Only uniforms approved by the Board of Directors will be worn.

### **Players – Staff – Volunteers**

1. The TLSC will not tolerate any abuse of a player. Abuse includes but is not limited to verbal abuse, sexual abuse, physical abuse, mental abuse, and neglect.
2. No TLSC player should be left unsupervised. This includes, but is not limited to, practices, league games, and tournaments.
3. The TLSC does not encourage player-staff relationship outside of organized TLSC team or club activities.
4. The TLSC expects all players to respect their parents, their coaches, their teammates, game officials, and their opponents.
5. TLSC players may not "guest" with other teams without prior approval of the TLSC team coach.
6. TLSC players who violate team/club rules when traveling may be sent home.

## Parents – Staff

1. Communication is encouraged among staff, parents, and players. To this end, phone calls and/or requests for conference should be handled in a timely manner away from practice or games.
2. During practice or games, a TLSC coach's first responsibility is to his/her players.
3. TLSC parents and coaches are immediate role models for players and set the tone for expectations on the field.
4. Please support the manager of your TLSC team. Assistance with equipment, communication, travel, and special events is greatly appreciated.
5. As TLSC is the host of the Spring Classic soccer tournaments each spring during the Easter week-end, each TLSC parent is expected to participate in some volunteer capacity, including housing, if requested. Dates of these events are announced at the beginning of the soccer year so that all parents and players will be available during this time.
6. Each TLSC parent is responsible for 4 hours of volunteer work per player per team during the Spring Classic Soccer Tournament held Easter week-end.
7. Under no circumstances (practices, games or tournaments), is the manager or parents to substitute for a coach. Any substitute should be determined by the Coaches Administrator or his/her designate.

## Financial

1. No player contract is valid unless accompanied by the requested payment.
2. All TLSC rostered players and/or their parents are expected to meet all financial obligations.
3. If financial obligations are not met in a timely manner, the TLSC has a **NO PAY, NO PRACTICE, NO PLAY, NO TRAVEL, NO TRY-OUT POLICY.**
4. No refunds of TLSC fees will be considered.
5. The TLSC is considered a "traveling" club. The TLSC players and parents are expected to participate in all team tournaments and travel after signing with the team and through June 30<sup>th</sup> of the soccer year and to meet the additional financial requirements thus incurred.
6. Because tournaments attended by the TLSC teams are considered TLSC team events, all TLSC players on the team roster shall equally share tournament fee expenses whether or not each player on the TLSC team roster participates in the tournament. However, all other tournament expenses, including coach's expenses, are shared by those players, including guest players, who do participate. NOTE: Graduating seniors may be excused from participation in June tournaments only with advance permission of the team coach and only if such non-participation does not affect the eligibility of the remaining team members to participate in said tournament. Graduating seniors who are granted such permission must contribute the usual tournament fee obligation incurred by a team event.
7. No tournament assessments will be reassessed due to change of plans of any single player. Refund for trips will be made at the sole discretion of the Board.
8. A player may not participate in local or out of town tournaments, receive permission to be a guest player, or participate in individual or team try outs for the ensuing soccer year unless all fees and other financial obligations have been met in full.

**Violations of any part of this Policies and Procedures for the Conduct of Members, Staff and Volunteers is grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination, and prohibition from engaging in membership, staff, or volunteer activities.**