



**2026 Summer**

**Kick Start Soccer League  
Coach Packet**

Recreation Supervisor:

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# Welcome to the 2026 Summer Kick Start Soccer League!

Thank you for volunteering to coach for the upcoming Fall Kick Start Soccer League season! We are excited to get the season underway! But before we do, make sure to read through this packet as it contains all the information for you to coach in the upcoming season. If you still have questions after reading through this packet, do not hesitate to contact me by either calling the office at 815-485-3584 or emailing me at [tmcmahon@newlenoxparks.org](mailto:tmcmahon@newlenoxparks.org)

## Coach Expectations

As a coach you are looked upon as a teacher, leader, role model and parental figure by the players on your team. Do not underestimate the effect and influence (positive and negative) you can have upon a child. In coaching young players, winning or losing should be the least important thing for both you and the players. Soon enough, children will be exposed to the competitive nature of sports. Your goal should be to teach the children about the actual sport and instill upon them a love for the game. If your players enjoy themselves and want to play again next season, you should consider yourself a SUCCESSFUL coach.

## COACH CODE OF CONDUCT

As a coach within the New Lenox Community Park District Fall Kick Start Soccer League, you agree to follow the code of conduct below:

- As a coach, I understand I am a role model and will be held accountable to a code of behavior.
- Place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of a personal desire or external pressure to win.
- Provide a safe playing environment for all children.
- Lead by example by demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all involved.
- Provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and abusive/inappropriate language.
- Respect the game and communicate with league officials in an appropriate manner.
- Be knowledgeable of the league rules and regulations.
- Encourage team members to play by the rules and respect the rights of other players, coaches, fans, and officials.
- Be responsible for my own behavior and the behavior of my team members, their parents, and fans.

***Failure to comply will result in disciplinary actions being taken to resolve the issue. Actions may include but are not limited to verbal warnings, ejections and/or suspensions. Incidents will be handled as the staff deems appropriate based on the severity of the incident.***

## Coach Responsibilities

As the coach or coaches for the team you are responsible for the following:

- Being present at every game or coordinating with another parent or coach to take your spot.
  - If you are unable to find a replacement, contact me right away. I will help you by contacting the team to find you a replacement. If no one steps up, an NLCPD staff member will coach the team for the day.
    - If you are listed as the only coach for the team, ask the rest of the parents to help you out. Parents typically help as the season goes along once they see how easy it is.
- Coaching the team on game day and teaching the basic skills.
- Knowledge of the league rules. These rules are posted on the Team Sideline website.
- Communicating with the rest of the team for league details.
- Please let me know if there is a player on your team with any behavior issues.

## Summer Kick Start Soccer League Rules

As the coach you are responsible for knowing the rules for the league. The rule book can be found on the Team Sideline website under the "Downloads" tab.

## Team Information

Team Rosters will be emailed to the coaches. **The New Lenox Community Park District staff will contact families to let them know of team assignments by Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>.** I ask that each team send out a welcome email from the coaches with the following information:

- Team Number & Name – listed on the Team Roster Sheet
- Give them the contact information for the coaching staff.
- Confirm they have read the "2026 Summer Kick Start Soccer League Parent Packet". This can be found in the "Downloads" tab of the Team Sideline website. This will also be sent out in an email to the entire league.
- **Please don't share the contact information from the roster with the entire team. The information on the roster is just for the coaches.**

## Uniforms

I will notify you when the jerseys can be picked up from the Administration Building (701 W. Haven Ave). Coaches will need to pick up the jerseys for the entire team, parents should not be picking up their child's individual jersey. On the first day of the program, coaches will pass out the team uniforms. Each jersey will have the child's last name on the jersey. Sizes for each player is also listed on the roster. If a player is not present, return the jersey back to the NLCPD staff and tell them whose it is. The families can pick up jerseys the next week before practice/games.

## Parent Meeting

At the first day of the program, you as a coach should conduct a Parent Meeting during your team's scheduled start time. Parent Meetings are vital to a successful season as it makes you more approachable as a coach and the parents can feel more connected to the team. At this parent meeting, here are some details to go over:

- Introduce yourself to the parents and let the parents introduce themselves to the team
- Set up a group chat with the team
  - This will make it much easier to communicate with everyone.
- Explain your values of a coach and your goals for the season
- This is a great time to ask for more help!
- Many teams start a snack rotation for the players after their game. (This is not required!) But this a good opportunity to discuss it and any dietary restrictions or allergies that the players may have.

## Game Day Information

The league will be held at Walker Country Estates Park, 401 Lenox St., New Lenox, IL 60451.

The league schedule will be posted on the Team Sideline website. To access this, go to the New Lenox Community Park District website, [www.newlenoxparks.org](http://www.newlenoxparks.org), and click the orange button at the middle of the page titled "Team Sideline". Once you are at the Team Sideline website, there will be a link on the left side of the page for your division's game schedule. To access the Time Sideline website, you can also use this link:

[www.teamsideline.com/sites/newlenoxparks/home](http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/newlenoxparks/home)

Here is the layout for the Game Schedule:

### **Ages 3-4 Kick Start Soccer League**

- League starts June 19<sup>th</sup> and ends July 31<sup>st</sup>
- No games July 3rd
- Game Times
  - 4:15-5:00pm or 5:00-5:45pm
- In case of cancellations, the final make-up date will be August 7<sup>th</sup>

### **Ages 5-6 Kick Start Soccer League**

- League starts June 19<sup>th</sup> and ends July 31<sup>st</sup>
- No games July 3rd
- Game Times
  - 5:45PM-6:30PM or 6:30PM-7:15PM
- In case of cancellations, the final make-up date will be August 7<sup>th</sup>

The schedule will provide a field number for your game. When arriving, there will be field numbers staked into the ground to label each field.

On game day, there will be NLCPD staff in neon yellow shirts that can answer any questions that you may have. The staff can often be found by the table behind the playground.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Program**

The first day will consist of a 45-minute session that will include the following:

- Parent Meeting
- Passing out Team Jerseys
- Team Practice

During the practice, each team will have half a field to work on the fundamentals of the sport.

After the first day of the program, teams will have a 10-minute warm-up and then play two 15-minute halves with a 5-minute halftime. During the 10-minute warm-up, focus on easy fundamental drills to get the most out of your time.

### **Game Day Equipment**

Soccer balls will be brought out to the field each day. Make sure to put the soccer balls back into the goal after your game. If any ball is flat, notify the NLCPD staff member on site so we can fill it up.

### **Weather Cancellations**

In the case of inclement weather, cancellations will be posted on the following platforms:

- NLCPD Facebook Page – [www.facebook.com/NLCPDPage](http://www.facebook.com/NLCPDPage)
- NLCPD Team Sideline website – [www.teamsideline.com/sites/newlenoxparks/home](http://www.teamsideline.com/sites/newlenoxparks/home)
  - It will be listed under the “Cancellations” logo

Due to the high number of players within the league, phone calls for cancellations will **not** be made. Depending on the time of the cancellation, an email may or may not be sent. If a cancellation occurs, we ask the coaches to send a group text to the team, so everyone is notified.

Games will be played in light to medium rainfall. If you hear thunder or see lightning while at the field, notify the staff immediately. If there is extreme heat or consistent rainfall, the game may be shortened if both coaches agree.

## **Picture Day**

**Picture Day is scheduled for Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at Lion's Den Park.** The schedule for your team's picture time will be emailed prior to this.

A link to order pictures will be sent to all parents. All pictures will be shipped to the address listed on the order.

## **Trophies/Medals**

Trophies or medals will not be given out to the players at the conclusion of the season. We ask that you do not do this on your own either as it creates confusion for other players and parents that they were given by the Park District. If you would like to do your own end of season celebration, please do this off-site.

I'm looking forward to a great season!

Let me know if you have any questions!