

**CLUB RULES  
OF THE  
LEXINGTON F.C.**

**RULE 1 - TEAMS**

- 1.1 LFC competitive teams will be formed by birth year according to Kentucky Youth Soccer Association (KYSA) and United States Youth Soccer Association (USYSA) rules, beginning with U-10 and extending through U-19.
- 1.2 For the U-9 age group, there is an LFC Academy that has been initiated to train and develop young soccer players.
- 1.3 The names of all teams and changes thereto shall be approved by the LFC Executive Committee.
  - a. All team names shall be assigned according to established Club policy.

Current policy is that, for each age group, the number of teams to be formed is determined by the number of competitive level players available.

Team names in order of competitiveness shall be:

**BOYS**

Premier (most competitive)  
Classic  
Legend  
United

**GIRLS**

Premier (most competitive)  
Classic  
Legend  
United

- b. The formation and names of any additional teams shall be approved by the Executive Committee.
- c. Each team shall have a coordinator or team manager assigned, who shall be responsible for the administrative duties of the team. The LFC team coordinator handbook describes the overall duties and procedures. A copy of the LFC Coordinator Handbook can be obtained from the LFC website or from the LFC Office.

## **RULE 2 – TEAM TRYOUTS**

Tryouts are critical to the function and success of a select soccer club. They assure that teams are formed from the most competitive players available and that the program offered by the club is available to all youths on a fair and equal basis. Tryouts are also stressful to players and their parents, and the mishandling of tryouts can undermine respect for the club among the soccer public.

- 2.1 All competitive players will be required to try-out for their positions annually. In addition to its annual try-out, the club may hold additional try-outs at any time to fill roster vacancies. In order to fill player vacancies, players may be promoted to a higher level team (e.g. from the Legends to the Classic). However, no player will be moved to a team at a lower level during the year unless the player requests such a move in writing and without coercion. Under normal circumstances, player transfer during the course of the year is discouraged. Under extraordinary circumstances, at the discretion of the Director of Coaching, a change may be allowed provided all coaches are notified prior to the change.
- 2.2 Try-outs will be open to all youths.
- 2.3 Try-outs will be conducted according to policies established by the Executive Committee and will be supervised by appointed club members.
- 2.4 Annual try-outs will be publicized in advance of the try-out date/s.
- 2.5 In order to provide a tryout format that is consistent among club teams and that assures, to the extent feasible, that players will be treated fairly and forthrightly in the process and in order to provide the policies called for by Rule 2.3 of Club Rules, the Executive Committee adopts the following as policies for team tryouts. It is expected that these policies will be followed by team coaches and coordinators and that adherence to these policies will be observed by the club's Director of Coaching.
  - a. No prospective player for a club team will be offered a place on the team prior to tryouts. At the discretion of the Director of Coaching, and under special circumstances (e.g. injury or other mitigating circumstances), an established player may be excused attendance at a tryout with the express understanding that his or her suitability for a team will be assessed on level of performance in the preceding season.
  - b. Tryouts will be conducted by club coaches and other qualified evaluators appointed by and under the direction of the Director of Coaching. The content of the tryout shall be determined by the coaches of the team(s) for which the tryout is being conducted. Depending on the number of players seeking placement and in order to provide for the adequate evaluation of each player, tryouts may be extended over two or more days.

- c. At each age group, tryouts for competitive teams will be conducted according to a sequence from the most to the least competitive team (e.g. Premier, Classic, Legends, United).
- d. At each try-out, all players shall be assigned a number, and coaches shall refer to players during the try-out only by their numbers.
- e. Final decisions regarding placement of players on teams shall be made by the coaches after careful consideration of the recommendations of all coaches and qualified evaluators participating at the try-out. While try-outs are the primary vehicle for evaluating players, coaches may observe players in game or practice situations outside of tryouts which may serve as input into the assessment.
- f. No player will be informed of placement on a team at a try-out.
- g. Players shall be informed of their status following tryouts according to the following procedures. Players and alternates selected for a Premier team, or as alternates for a Premier team, will be informed within 24 hours of the tryout, unless tryouts take place prior to the end of the season. The Director of Coaching will make the determination of when the announcement will be made if there is need for extension. Alternates and players not invited to play for the Premier team, i.e. those who do not receive an invitation within 24 hours or within the announced date, are automatically invited to return for the tryout of the Classic team in their age group. Players and alternates selected for a Classic team, will be informed within 24 hours of the Classic tryout unless tryouts take place prior to the end of the season. The Director of Coaching will make the determination of when the announcement will be made if there is need for extension. Alternates and players not invited to play for the Classic, i.e. those who do not receive an invitation within 24 hours or within the announced date, are automatically invited to return for the tryout of the Legends and, depending on the number of players available, the United team in their age group. All players not selected for a team will be informed (by telephone, website listing or letter) of their status normally within 48 hours of the final tryout unless the announcement date is extended.. The Director of Coaching has final review right on final team selection.

There are certain age groups where a “pool” tryout is implemented. In this situation, Premier and Classic players are selected. The same guidelines for notification (i.e., generally within 24 hours unless different announce date is communicated by Director of

Coaching) as for Premier and Classic tryouts are followed.

- h. Players offered places on a club team shall have 24 hours from the date on which the offer is made to accept placement on the team. After 24 hours, if placement has not been accepted by the player, that place may be offered to an alternate player at the discretion of the Director of Coaching.
- i. Trying out for a team represents an implied commitment to play for that team if selected. Players are not committed to try out for the most competitive team. They may elect to try out for a less competitive team. A player who tries out for a team, is offered a place on that team, and declines to play for that team, is no longer eligible to play for a less competitive team.

2.6 Tryouts for Academy players (U9) will be conducted at the same time as the competitive teams. The intent is for all players to be selected. However, if there is a situation where too many players try out and the necessary recourses (e.g., coaches, facilities) are not available, there will be a selection process established. This process will be determined and then communicated by the LFC office.

### **RULE 3 – COMPETITIVE TEAM PLAYER SELECTION**

- 3.1 Player selection will be made solely on the basis of player skill, attitude, performance and potential.
- 3.2 Rosters for full sided teams will normally be limited to 16 players including no more than two (2) goalkeepers. Full sided teams may carry a roster of up to 18 players including no more than two (2) goalkeepers. Rosters for small sided teams shall be in accordance with state and USSF guidelines.
- 3.3 Players will be required to play on a team of their age group as determined by USYSA. To obtain a waiver of this rule (granted only under exceptional circumstances), players must annually request permission from the Director of Coaching to try out for a team above their age and class (generally, a younger birth year player will be allowed to play up if with his/her school class). In exceptional circumstances where a player wishes to play up, the Director of Coaching will meet with the player and the player's parents and may meet with the coaches of both age group teams to determine what is best for the player, teams and club. USYSA and KYSA rules will be followed for any limitations for playing up for an age group and class above the official age group of a player (e.g., U8 players playing in U9 age group).

### **RULE 4 - REGISTRATION**

- 4.1 Initial team registration must be completed prior to any scheduled game play. Player registration will be completed immediately following final player selection. The method for player registration will be announced by the registrar.
  - a. Players will be asked to provide two copies of their birth record and their membership fees to the LFC Office at registration. The LFC team for which the player is assigned shall be provided with one of the copies of the birth record, a recent photograph (full face, approximatel 1-1/2" X 2") for the player card, and a signed and notarized (with seal) medical release form.
  - b. Initial registration forms will be forwarded immediately to the Registrar of LYSA, and registration fees to the Treasurer.
  - c. Players will be required to acknowledge/sign a commitment form for the year (both Fall and Spring seasons as applicable).

## **RULE 5 - MEMBERSHIP FEES**

### 5.1 Membership fees:

- a. Are set by the Executive Committee and are due at the time of player registration. The Executive Committee may elect to allow payment installments instead of requiring the full payment at the time of player registration.
- b. Will cover the unexpired portion of the playing season.
- c. Are not refundable. Refund Policy: No refunds will be given except in cases of season ending illness or injury documented by a physician and prior to the season's first game. A \$50 processing fee and cost of uniform, if purchased, will not be refunded.
- d. Will be assessed for each season in which the player participates.
- e. Do not include individual team assessments.
- f. Do not include uniform costs, although these may be collected at registration time.

### 5.2 The cost of player member registration with the USYSA and KYSA will be paid from membership fees.

## **RULE 6 – PRACTICES**

- 6.1 Organized practices for younger teams (U-14 and below) will normally be limited to two a week, not to exceed two hours a practice. At the discretion of the coaches, additional practices may be scheduled under specific circumstances (for example, just prior to participation in a major tournament). At the discretion of each team coach, practices for older teams (U-15 and above) may be more frequent.

## **RULE 7 – PLAYER PARTICIPATION**

- 7.1 Players must be prepared to make a major commitment to soccer. They must be committed to attending all practices and games unless there are good reasons for the absence. Given the club focus on teaching, practices are viewed as equally important as games. Players who miss practices may lose playing time. At the discretion of coaches and by prior arrangement, players may participate in other sports or competitive activities subject to the following guidelines:

- a. A soccer game shall take precedence over a game or event in another sport or competitive activity.
- b. A soccer practice shall take precedence over a practice for another sport or competitive activity.
- c. A game or event in another competitive activity may take precedence over a soccer practice.

Lexington F.C. understands that especially for U-14 and younger age groups that children may want to play other sports and have other activities outside of soccer. Lexington F.C. strives to be more flexible for this young age group concerning this policy. Concerns with a coach's adherence to this policy should be directed to the Director of Coaching.

- 7.2 Scheduled school and faith-related events are an exception to paragraph 7.1 (a) through (c) above. For school and faith-related events, the player will furnish the coach and team coordinator a schedule (when possible) and must notify the coach of the intent to miss team practices/games *in advance of each occasion*.

## **RULE 8 – PLAYING TIME**

- 8.1 It is in the best interest of the club and its teams to afford each player as much playing time as possible. This will provide the opportunity for player development and advancement in the club. While playing time may vary from game to game, for U-14 and under teams, coaches will ensure that each competitive player receives a minimum average playing time across the season of approximately one third of each game. Playing time shall be determined by the coach and may be regulated by the coach for reasons such as:
- a. Unexcused absence.
  - b. Lack of participation in practices, poor physical condition.
  - c. Player attitude.
  - d. Unsporting conduct.

For the conditions above, coaches are encouraged to advise the player that playing time may be cut.

- 8.2 Concerning Academy playing time: The goal of the Academy is to focus on player development, therefore, maximum playing time is critical for this goal to be achieved. It is the intent of the Academy to provide play dates that will give each player this opportunity. Each player can expect playing time to be approximately 75-85% of the

time.

- 8.3 If player assessments are not paid, it is up to the discretion of the LFC Executive Committee to make a determination on whether a player is eligible to play. Coaches may be directed to act in accordance with the Executive Committee recommendation.

## **RULE 9 - SUSPENSION**

- 9.1 Players may not be dropped involuntarily in contravention of KYSA rules.
- 9.2 A player, parent, coach or Club member may be suspended from Club activities by the Executive Committee, pending a formal hearing in accordance with KYSA guidelines. Acts or conduct of parent/guardians and members that reflect unfavorably on the Club, that do not promote club policy and objectives, that create dissension and disharmony within the membership are also subject to sanctions.

## **RULE 10 - PLAYER ASSESSMENT**

- 10.1 Improvement in the game of soccer is enhanced by feedback. Consequently, ongoing evaluation and feedback is a central and ongoing part of the training process. In addition to such feedback, U-15 and above players are invited to request a more formal assessment from their coach at the end of each season.
- 10.2 A coach may use an evaluation format of his/her choice.
- 10.3 The Club requires that coaches of U-14 and below teams routinely provide a formal assessment of each player at the conclusion of each season. Coaches of these teams will use a written standard evaluation form. These forms will be placed in the player's file.
- 10.4 The Director of Coaching will monitor the evaluation process in order to ensure that all players in the Club receive appropriate feedback.

## **RULE 11 - UNIFORMS**

- 11.1 The design and standards for the player uniforms will be determined by the Club.
- 11.2 Uniform colors shall consist of the following colors in a combination approved by the Executive Committee: red, navy, white.
- 11.3 Changes to uniforms may not be made without prior Executive Committee approval.

## **RULE 12 - REFEREES**

12.1 All Lexington F.C. games are to be officiated by United States Soccer Federation (USSF) certified referees and are to be covered by three (3) referees or in accordance with Kentucky or League guidelines for small sided age groups. In circumstances where either one or two officials fail to appear for a game in which three (3) referees are required, "club assistant referees" may be selected at the discretion of the senior official present. However, club assistant referees may not be pre-assigned.

## **RULE 13 - COACHING**

13.1 The Director of Coaching shall appoint, assign, and discharge Club coaches.

13.2 The Director of Coaching:

- a. The Director of Coaching shall be appointed and reviewed on an annual basis by the Executive Committee.
- b. Qualifications for selection of the Director of Coaching:
  - i. Substantial experience in the game of soccer as a player and coach.
  - ii. National level licensing by the USSF and/or the NSCAA.
  - iii. A reputation for excellence in coaching and for exemplary behavior, good sportsmanship and positive role-modeling.
- c. The Director of Coaching shall serve as an ex officio member of the Club Executive Committee, as Director of Tryouts and as a member of the Tryouts Committee.
- d. The Director of Coaching shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and his/her salary shall be set by them.
- e. As the education and training of coaches and players is viewed as one of the most important functions of the Club and a primary responsibility of the Director of Coaching, the following represents expectations of the Executive Committee for the Director of Coaching:

- i. Conduct himself/herself in professional manner consistent with LYSA's mission statement and goals.
- ii. Abide by LYSA's rules and bylaws.
- iii. Abide by all local, state, and federal laws.
- iv. Attend all LFC executive committee meetings.
- v. Attend LYSA board meetings and coordinator meetings when requested by the LYSA Board or Director of LFC or by the Executive Committee.
- vi. Select and develop coaches
  - a. Establish and lead a coach selection process
  - b. The Director of Coaching will interview new coaches and explain Club policies and philosophy
  - c. Encourage and facilitate licensing of coaches
  - d. Evaluate and recommend coaching and training educational information.
  - e. Evaluate and monitor coaching to insure age appropriate standards
  - f. Approve all trainers for LFC teams
  - g. Develop, communicate and enforce "Coaches Code of Conduct" and ensure that procedures and guidelines of the Coaches Handbook are followed. The Coaches Handbook can be obtained from the Director of Coaching, as applicable.
  - h. Mentor coaches and trainers
  - i. Determine payment of coaches in accordance with expertise, experience and performance within LFC operating budget and in accordance with LYSA rules and policies.
- vii. Provide for player development
  - a. Work with coaches to establish "age appropriate training".
  - b. Establish a system to evaluate team and player development.

- viii. Active participation in tryouts and team formations.
  - a. Serve as overall Director of Tryouts to ensure all tryouts are held in fair in equitable manner.
  - b. Make good faith effort to attend all tryouts for LFC teams.
  - c. Resolve issues and disputes pertaining to player assignment within the framework of LFC rules and subject to the appeal of to the Executive Committee.
  
- ix. Promote Community Relations
  - a. Actively promote LFC within the Lexington community
  - b. Represent LFC with KYSA, USYSA and USSF in all coaching matters.
  - c. Facilitate college scholarships for players via appropriate contacts and personnel involvement.

All coaches are required to complete forms for a background check before being allowed to coach. This must be completed prior to the start of each playing season.

13.3 Coaches for U-14 teams and below are required to complete and sign formal, written player evaluation forms for each player for each season. These signed copies are to be kept in player files.

#### **RULE 14 - CONDUCT**

14.1 All members of the LFC, including players, parents, officers, directors, coordinators, and coaches, are expected to conduct themselves in a sporting and civil manner in connection with any Club related activity, including matches, tournaments, practices, meetings, and other Club functions. In particular, all members of the LFC are expected to support referees' efforts to officiate and control conduct on and off the field at club matches.

14.2 Coaches and coordinators are jointly responsible for the conduct of all LFC members and their guests during and immediately before and after all matches. Every LFC member (parents, coaches, players, officers) is expected to share in this responsibility equally and support others in the enforcement of appropriate conduct. A code of conduct for parents is contained in Section 14.7.

14.3 Coordinators shall report to the Executive Committee and the Chair of the Conduct Committee any conduct of LFC members affiliated with their team that results in a red

card, match termination, or other exclusion from participation in or observation of play. Such reports shall be in writing and provided to the Executive Committee within 48 hours of the alleged misconduct.

- 14.3.1. Those conduct issues not covered in Paragraph 14.3 (e.g., those in violation of a specific Code of Conduct – Parents, Coaches, Players) are expected to be resolved by the LFC team involved.
- 14.3.2. LFC realizes that there are some instances where there are serious enough violations of the code of conduct that need to be escalated to the Executive Committee and the Conduct Committee. Any LFC member may report these violations in writing to the Executive Committee within 48 hours of the alleged misconduct. Pertinent information to include are, at a minimum: date of incident, description of issue, who (individual, teams, witnesses) involved. Processing of these requests will be in accordance with Paragraph 14.5.
- 14.4 There shall be a Conduct Committee consisting of no more than five members of the LFC, one of who shall serve as Chair, who shall be approved by the Executive Committee.
- 14.5 In the following instances the Chair shall convene a meeting of the Conduct Committee to review allegations of misconduct by a member of the LFC:
  - a. When the KYSA or another soccer related entity/league has forwarded to the Executive Committee a report of misconduct regarding a member of the LFC and a request for Club action;
  - b. When the Executive Committee has received a written report from a coordinator under paragraph 14.3 which indicates an instance of misconduct of a member of the LFC; and
  - c. When the Executive Committee has received other reliable, written information alleging that a member of the LFC has committed a substantial violation of the conduct standard stated in Paragraph 14.1.
- 14.6 When any matter is referred to the Conduct Committee by the Executive Committee under paragraph 14.5, it shall meet within a reasonable time (normally within 7 days) to consider the allegations against the Club member. In all such instances the Conduct Committee shall follow the guidelines of LYSA, KYSA and the USYSA. The Conduct Committee shall:
  - a. Determine in cases of violations of paragraph 14.3 whether a sanction should be imposed upon the member accused of the misconduct. Such

sanctions shall be agreed to by a majority of the committee and may include:

- i. A letter of reprimand;
  - ii. A suspension from Club activities;
  - iii. Expulsion from the Club; and
  - iv. Any additional conditions deemed reasonable in the circumstances.
- b. Report its actions in writing to the Executive Committee and inform the sanctioned member in writing within a reasonable time (normally within 7 days) of the right to appeal to the Executive Committee and, where appropriate, authorities beyond the club, subject to LYSA and KYSA rules and appeals procedures.

14.7 The Lexington F.C. has adopted a parent's code of conduct as follows:

- I will remember that Youth Soccer is for youth – not adults.
- I will do my very best to make soccer fun for my child.
- I will place the emotional and physical well being of my child ahead of my personal desire to win.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning. In this way my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other related event. I will refrain from making negative remarks to referees, my own team's players, opposing players, or opposing fans.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will expect that my child's coach be familiar with and upholds the Coaches' Code of Conduct.
- I will respect and support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to provide an enjoyable experience for all. I will maintain a positive attitude and provide assistance to the team whenever needed.

## **RULE 15 – APPEALS**

All protests concerning games/matches should be dealt with directly with the appropriate governing body. This will not be dealt with at the LFC level.

### 15.1 Form of Appeal

- A. Appeals or protests pertaining to the interpretation and enforcement of the LFC Constitution, by-laws and General Rules must be made in writing, addressed to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee, and postmarked or delivered to an official of LFC within seventy-two (72) hours of the incident in question and/or notification thereof, except as otherwise noted in these rules.

### 15.2 Consideration of Appeals

- A. Only violations of the LFC Constitution, By-Laws or General Rules shall be proper subjects to be considered for action.
- B. Should any LFC member desire to appeal a decision of the LFC Conduct Committee, they may do so to the full LYSA Board. Decisions of the LYSA Board may be appealed to the KYSA arbitration Council. The decision of the KYSA Arbitration Council may be appealed to the KYSA Board and then to the USYSA Region 2B Appeals Committee.
- C. Should any hearing body choose not to hear an appeal, that body may, if they desire, refer the matter directly to the next higher authority.

#### 15.2.1 Appeals pertaining to the interpretation and enforcement of the LFC Constitution, By-Laws and General Rules made by a coach, referee, parent or guardian, official of LFC will be decided by the LFC Executive Committee.

- A. Decisions of the Executive Committee shall require a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee members.
- B. Any decision rendered by the Executive Committee may be appealed to the full LYSA Board. Such appeal must be postmarked within five (5) days of receipt of the action decision being appealed. The president shall set a date for the hearing of the appeal to the Board. Such date shall be within two weeks of the date of decision rendered by the Appeals Committee.

- C. The purpose of the LFC appeal procedure is to provide a fair consideration of matters in dispute within LFC. Nothing in this procedure shall take precedence over the Rules of LYSA, KYSA, USYSA and of USSF. Appeals beyond this level must be made by LYSA. (Refer to KYSA State Rules.)

### 15.3 Enforcement of Rules

- A. The Appeals Committee may ratify, reverse, increase, or reduce all disciplinary actions properly brought before the Committee as it pertains to LFC.

## **RULE 16 - CONFLICTS OF RULES**

- 16.1 When any LFC rule is contrary to a LYSA, KYSA, USSF or USYSA rule, the LFC rule shall be void and the applicable LYSA, KYSA, USSF or USYSA rule shall control Club action.

## **RULE 17 – BANNERS AND LFC LOGO**

- 17.1 Teams' banners are subject to Executive Committee approval.
- 17.2 The use and placement of LFC logos on any clothing or other items are subject to Executive Committee approval.

## **RULE 18 - SPONSORSHIP**

- 18.1 The Club shall encourage sponsorships.
- 18.2 The form and placement of sponsor logos must be approved by the Executive Committee.
- 18.3 Major sponsorships (over \$5,000) must be coordinated with and approved by the Lexington F.C. Executive Committee and the LYSA Board.

## **RULE 19 – PLAYER SECURITY**

- 19.1 It is the policy of LFC to exclude from all programs any person with a documented history of molestation, sexual abuse, exploitation, physical abuse or other crimes against persons. The policy applies to coaches, assistant coaches, employees, the Executive Committee, coordinators or rostered adults who come into direct contact with players.
- 19.2 There are times, especially when players travel, that they are outside the presence or custody of their parents or guardians. These occasions may be when a player travels to a tournament with another family or Club. The following rules exist for LFC directed

programs:

- a. All coaches, assistant coaches and others in positions of responsibility who interact directly with the children of LFC (e.g., coordinators, rostered adults) must have an Background Check form on file with the LFC.
- b. It is recommended that the person hosting the player have a Medical Release form with them at all times. This is the responsibility of the parent who sends their player with another parent.
- c. Players are not permitted to leave LFC activities without the express permission of the coaches. In the event that a coach is not available, the team coordinator or his/her designee may provide permission for a player to leave LFC activities.

## **RULE 20 - SAFETY**

20.1 LYSA, including LFC, has a specific lightning policy that must be followed. Reference LYSA rules for details. There will be zero tolerance with regard to any violations of this policy.

### 20.1.1 Background

Lightning is the most consistent and significant weather hazard that may affect outside athletics. Within the United States, the National Severe Storms Center estimates that each year lightning causes 100 fatalities and 400-500 injuries requiring medical treatment. Data from NOAA indicate that from 1959-1995 there were **80** lightning deaths and **182** lightning injuries in Kentucky. National statistics show that males in their teens and 20s are the most likely to be killed by lightning and that most deaths occur in open fields...near or under trees or around water. Eighty percent of the fatalities occur between the hours of 10:00am and 7:00pm.

A lightning flash may be two or three hundred feet long. Sometimes it is much longer...as much as five or more miles. The flash may look quite wide but most of what is seen is glowing air. The flash itself may be only as wide as a pencil. It is very hot. Sometimes temperatures reach 30,000 degrees Celsius that is five times hotter than the sun!

Prevention and education are the keys to lightning safety and are the basis of the LYSA policy.

### 20.1.2 LYSA Policy

It is the policy of LYSA that any LYSA activity shall be stopped and possibly terminated due to the presence of severe weather. Severe weather shall include but is not limited to:

1. The sighting of lightning.
2. The hearing of thunder.
3. The sighting of a funnel cloud.

If any of these conditions are present during a game, then the referee in charge shall stop the game and instruct everyone to clear the field and seek shelter. After a wait of at least 30 minutes with the absence of any severe weather, the game may be resumed. If after 30 minutes the severe weather continues, the referee may terminate the game.

If any of these conditions are present during a practice or a scrimmage where no referee is present then the coach or coaches are responsible for stopping the practice or scrimmage and instructing everyone to clear the field and seek shelter. After a wait of at least 30 minutes with the absence of any severe weather, the practice or scrimmage may be resumed. If after 30 minutes the severe weather continues, the practice or scrimmage shall be terminated.

In the case of multiple games, practices or scrimmages occurring at a single location, if there is a person or persons on site who have been vested the LYSA Board with the authority for the whole site, such as is the case of a tournament director, then the individual referees and coaches will be subordinate to that site authority's determination of the presence of severe weather and whether the activities should be stopped or terminated.

Any modification of the 30 minute wait time may only be made by the LYSA Board.

If there are no severe weather conditions present but in the opinion of the referee or the site authority the threat of severe weather is sufficiently real then the referee or the site authority may suspend or terminate a game at their discretion.

If at any time during any LYSA game, practice or scrimmage a parent or guardian feels that conditions are dangerous or constitute a possibility of a threat of severe weather that poses a risk to their or their child's safety, then that parent or guardian has the responsibility to remove their child from the game, practice or scrimmage even if the game, practice or scrimmage continues. In that event there shall be no penalty to the parent or child for such an action but consequences such as forfeiture of a game may result.

If the Fayette County area is under a severe weather warning then no LYSA activities shall be permitted to start or continue while that warning is in effect.

This policy was created after reviewing information found at the following sources:

- National Severe Storms Laboratory website at [www.nssl.noaa.gov](http://www.nssl.noaa.gov) .
- National Lightning Safety Institute website at [www.lightningsafety.com](http://www.lightningsafety.com) .
- National Collegiate Athletics Association website at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) (search for "weather guidelines")

as well as reviewing policies of individual organizations such as:

- The current Lexington FC and LYSA weather policies at [www.lysa.org](http://www.lysa.org) .
- The severe weather policy of the Georgetown (Texas) Soccer Association at [www.georgetownssoccer.org](http://www.georgetownssoccer.org) .
- The severe weather policy of the city of Louisville, Colorado at [www.lightningsafety.com/nlsi\\_pls/lsvl\\_plans.html](http://www.lightningsafety.com/nlsi_pls/lsvl_plans.html)

20.2 No dogs will be permitted at Lexington F.C. fields while matches are being played or during LFC practices. All Lexington F.C. members are asked to help enforce this rule.

Lexington F.C. Rules.doc  
March 10, 2009