



Windsor Croatia Soccer Rules, Regulations and Policies

Updated: October 1, 2017

Windsor Croatia Soccer (WCS) is an active, integral and key part of the Croatian National Sports Club (CNSC) “Croatia” Windsor. The following Rules, Regulations and Policies have been established to provide clarity, fairness and guidance to all those associated and involved with Soccer at CNSC “Croatia” Windsor.

The ultimate goal of WCS is to develop athletes, both physically and mentally through soccer.

1. All registered Players, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Trainers and Team Managers must agree to and support the Rules, Regulations and Policies mentioned in this document.
2. WCS will support and follow the guidelines of the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) and Ontario Soccer (OS) and their platform of Long Term Player Development (LTPD).
3. It is WCS’s objective to field a maximum of one (1) team per age division for Boys and Girls from the ages of Under 8 (U8) to Under 18 (U18). The age division targets will be based on the structure of the Essex County Soccer Association (ECSA) and Essex County Soccer League (ECSL). If an opportunity for a second team in the same age division and gender arises a full review of the situation is to be conducted by the CNSC Board of Directors with a decision made by vote.
4. Anyone wanting to start a new team to play at WCS must apply to do so. The following information must be submitted to the CNSC Technical Director or the CNSC Youth Soccer Manger:
 - a. A request to join or start-up a team, in writing, specifying the age group and gender.
 - b. A resume of the person wanting to be the Head Coach of the team.
 - c. A list of committed players, consisting of 80% of the ECSA / ECSL allowable maximum roster size for the particular age group and gender.

Upon review of the information received a decision will be made by the CNSC Board of Directors by vote.

5. Teams are only allowed to register the total maximum roster amount of players allowable as per the ECSL / ECSA Rules and Regulations which are based on OS’s LTPD Guidelines:
 - a. U8 – Max 10 players
 - b. U9 and U10 – Ideal 9 / Max 12 players
 - c. U11 and U12 – Ideal 12 / Max 16
 - d. U13 to U18 – Max 18
6. All teams must register a minimum of 80% of the allowable maximum player roster size set out by the ECSL / ECSA Rules and Regulations. Teams should not plan to rely on consistently bringing up and using younger players from other WCS teams.

7. All team player registrations are due by October 31 for the following playing years registration. The cut-off date for a new team, which must have the minimum roster requirements paid and registered, is December 31. If the minimum requirements are not met by this date then the team will not be registered in the ECSL and refunds will be given to all players.
8. Teams can only register younger players as per the ECSL, OS and LTPD Guidelines.
9. Each team registered with WCS will be run by a Head Coach. It is not a necessity for a team to have an Assistant Coach or Team Manager. It is up to the Head Coach to decide if they would like to have an Assistant Coach or Team Manager to support their team. A Head Coach will take full responsibility for the actions of an Assistant Coach and the Team Manager, both on and off the field.
10. Anyone wanting to join the Club as a team Head Coach must apply to do so by submitting a resume to the CNSC Technical Director or the CNSC Youth Soccer Manger. The team and gender applying to be coached must be clearly stated in the resume.
11. All Coaches must possess all of the required OS and ECSL coaching certifications by January 1 of the calendar year in order to coach. A first year Coach will be given an extension of time until June 1 of their first year of coaching in order to obtain the necessary coaching certification. It is the responsibility of all Coaches to obtain re-certification as is necessary and called out by OS and the ECSL.
12. All WCS Head Coaches, and appointed Assistant Coaches, must obtain a local municipality Police Clearance and submit this to the CNSC Technical Director or the CNSC Youth Soccer Manager by September 30, prior to the start of indoor training with any team. WCS will reimburse Coaches the cost of obtaining a Police Clearance if one was paid by a Coach.
13. WCS will reimburse coaches a total of up to \$300 for coaching certifications after a coach has coached a team in the Club for 3 full years.
14. WCS will reimburse assistant coaches a total of up to \$200 for coaching certifications after an assistant coach has supported a team in the Club for 3 full years.
15. WCS will not provide any compensation to Team Managers however a team's Head Coach or Assistant Coach can offer a portion of their own compensation to a Team Manager after the Head Coach or Assistant Coach have completed their full 3-year tenure as mentioned above.
16. A child playing on a team, of which one of their parents is the Head Coach, will not pay any registration fees to the Club.
17. A Head Coach can be removed from coaching any team within WCS if:
 - a. The Head Coach does not abide by the Rules, Regulations and Policies as set out in this document.
 - b. The coach gets suspended from the OS, ECSA or ECSL more than once in a calendar year season.
 - c. The parents of a team hold a meeting and vote to remove the Coach. A minimum of 77% of the player's families vote in favor for removal. (only 1 vote per family) Prior to the parents coming forward to inform the Club of their vote and decision, a new certified Coach must be presented to the Club on behalf of the parents. The application process of the new coach will take place with a final decision made by the Board of Directors by vote.
18. All Coaches and teams are expected to support Essex County's L1, L3 and OPDL teams. Coaches should encourage and support players with a stronger than L5 soccer ability to play for or give an L1, L3 or OPDL organization a go.

19. For the months of October and November, all Coaches are expected to participate in internal WCS Coaches Training Sessions, if sessions are able to be scheduled.
20. All Coaches are expected to provide equal playing opportunities to all players from U8 to U12.
21. All Coaches are expected to force players, U8 to U10, to play in different positions throughout a season, exposing them to all positions on the field.
22. For U13 to U18: Teams are not allowed to use guest players or call-up players if their team already has 3 active substitutes from their current roster dressed to play in a game.
23. If a Coach is in need to use a younger player within WCS, the Head Coach must first contact the younger teams Head Coach and request permission to do so.
24. There is no “poaching of players” allowed within WCS and the CNSC Board of Directors discourages Coaches from “poaching players” outside of WCS. Any Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches or Team Managers found to have been doing so will be removed from their role on any team in WCS.
25. WCS advises all Youth Soccer Coaches to coach during practices and allow players to play and learn during games. There is no need for Coaches to be constantly giving directions or “Yelling” instructions during a game. Game notes should be recorded and reviewed when players come off the field or during practices.
26. All teams are expected to plan for and attend the annual Croatian North American Youth Soccer Tournament held on or around the July 1 date. Teams are expected to play in the tournament even if they are placed in an age group one year older or possibly one year younger.
27. Through player registrations, all teams will be given an opportunity to have the use of a local Elementary or High School gymnasium during the months of November 1 to April 30. Gym scheduling will be managed based on the youngest to oldest teams getting the smallest to largest gyms. WCS will make all possible attempts to avoid scheduling 8:30-10:30 pm time slot gym rentals for U15 teams and younger. An example of school gym scheduling is:
 - i. U9 Boys --- 3,000 sq. ft gym --- Mondays – 6:30-8:30pm
 - ii. U10 Girls --- 3,500 sq. ft gym --- Tuesdays – 6:30-8:30pm
 - iii. U14 Boys --- 4,000 sq. ft gym --- Wednesdays – 6:30-8:30pm
 - iv. U16 Girls --- 5,500 sq. ft gym --- Wednesdays – 8:30-10:30pm
 - v. U11 Boys --- 3,600 sq. ft gym --- Thursdays – 6:30-8:30pm
 - vi. U17 Boys --- 6,000 sq. ft gym --- Thursdays – 8:30-10:30pm
28. Outdoor playing fields at Croatia Park for league games will be given priority to the oldest teams first, down to the youngest. In situations where there are two teams of the same age needing a field, the team that has been with the Club the longest will have first choice. This rule is to take precedence over a league scheduled game.
29. Appendix A provides a matrix of general information for anyone associated with soccer in Essex County. Many times questions arise about the different levels of soccer in Essex County and where WCS fits in. WCS supports the information in this document and recommends that Head Coaches support this and share it with players and families if need be.

Appendix A

**Essex County Soccer Information for Coaches, Parents and
Players**

LEAGUE	House League	ECSL - "L5"	WRSL - "L3"	OPDL	Open Men / Women
COMMUNICATIVE DESIGNATION	"House League - Fun"	"Competitive"	"Travel - Regional"	"Travel - Provincial"	"Semi-Pro / Pro"
CLUB(s)	Windsor Soccer Club Tecumseh LaSalle Belle River, etc.	Most Local Clubs	Windsor TFC Windsor Nationals Eastside Kickers	Tecumseh	Windsor TFC
REGISTRATION FEES	\$80 - \$200	\$350 - \$600	\$800 - \$1,500	\$2,500 - \$3,000	\$0
EXTRA COSTS (estimated)	\$0	\$0 - \$200	\$500 - \$1,500	\$500 - \$2,000	???
WEEKLY TRAINING - IN SEASON	0-1 session	1-2 sessions	2-3 sessions	3-4 sessions	3-4 sessions
WEEKLY TRAINING - OFF SEASON	0	1 session	2 sessions	3 sessions	tbd
TOURNAMENTS ENTERED	0	1-2	5-Apr	2-Jan	tbd
PLAYING SEASON	4 Months	8-10 Months	10-12 Months	12 Months	12 Months
U.S. LEAGUE PLAY (non-summer)	No	No	No	No	No

(all of the above details are estimated from 2017 information received)

Windsor Croatia Soccer (WCS)

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