



# LAKESHORE PREMIER SOCCER CLUB

A Partnership of the Fruitport Soccer Club, Muskegon Lakers Soccer Club, Sailors Soccer Club and the Tri-Cities Strikers

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Updated 9-1-2011

### 1. How is youth soccer in Michigan organized?

Much of competitive youth soccer in Michigan is overseen by the [Michigan State Youth Soccer Association](#) (MSYSA). Organized soccer leagues such as the [Grand Valley Soccer Association](#) (GVSA) belong to and are obliged to take direction from the MSYSA. Clubs such as the Sailors Soccer Club, Muskegon Lakers, Fruitport Fire, and Tri-Cities Strikers, and now Lakeshore Premier SC, in turn are members of the GVSA.

### 2. What are the different levels of organized Youth Soccer?

- **Recreational:** This experience encompasses many of the youngest and some older players for whom the opportunity to play the game is more important than the competition or skill development offered at higher levels.
- **Select:** Is a competitive soccer experience that can start as young as U8. Players find clubs, attend tryouts, and are typically placed on teams based on skills demonstrated in the tryouts. This level of soccer requires a greater commitment, and is often more expensive, than recreational soccer.
- **Premier:** This experience comprises the “best” players from U13 and above who are on a development path to play high-level soccer in high school and possibly beyond. It requires a greater dedication by players and parents because of the more extensive game, training and travel time. This level of soccer can be more expensive than Select, but encompasses greater player development opportunities that are not typically part of a Select experience.

### 3. What organization oversees Premier soccer and how are teams organized for league play?

Premier soccer teams play in the Michigan State Premier Soccer League (MSPSL) which is governed by the [Michigan State Premier Soccer Program](#). Currently there are over 450 teams from across the state playing in the MSPSL.

At U13, teams are randomly assigned divisions for the fall season. When that season is complete, the team records determine placement for the following spring. At the conclusion of each successive season, teams are relegated or promoted to the various divisions based on their records.

Teams can be placed in the following divisions from highest to lowest competitiveness.

- Premier 1
- Premier 2

- **Classic 1**
- **Classic 2**
- **Classic 3**

#### **4. What makes Premier-Level soccer different than Select-level?**

- Commitment – More time can be required for practice, training, number of games, tournaments and travel.
- Quality of Coaching – Higher level coaching credentials are required to coach Premier teams
- Competition – Teams comprise the best players at their respective age groups.
- Player Development – Because Premier teams play more soccer, have higher-quality coaching and play against more competitive teams, Premier-Level players enjoy greater development opportunities.
- Cost – Because of all the above, the cost to participate in Premier soccer can be more than Select.

#### **5. What is the Lakeshore Premier Soccer Club?**

Lakeshore Premier Soccer Club (LPSC) is a partnership of the Muskegon Lakers, Fruitport Fire, Sailors Soccer Club and Tri-Cities Strikers.

Early in 2010, representatives of these clubs began discussing what it might take to offer Premier-level soccer along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Each club has players for whom the Michigan State Premier Soccer League (MSPSL) represents the “next step” in their soccer development journey.

LPSC seeks to satisfy this demand as a club where these high-level players can be “pooled” locally, allowing the four clubs to field competitive teams in the MSPSL at a *reasonable* cost to families.

LPSC is an *independent* club, with an Executive Committee comprised of two representatives from each of the partner clubs. One of those representatives is a sitting board member to insure the club develops as intended.

LPSC seeks to offer players the opportunity for Premier-level play with a local club at a competitive price because in the past many former players from the four partner club would travel great distances, pay more money and sacrifice a great deal of family time in order to play on Premier teams in Grand Rapids and beyond.

#### **6. Is Lakeshore Premier SC open to players from outside its Partner Clubs?**

Absolutely! Currently we have players on our teams from Holland to Fremont. LPSC is looking to build strong teams with players who attend the tryouts. We accept players regardless of club affiliation!

#### **7. What does it cost to play for Lakeshore Premier SC and what does that include:**

There are several levels of pricing for LPSC depending on the age group of the players. These packages include

- **U12 - \$680\* (full year)**
- **U13/U14 - \$775\* (full year)**
- **U15/U16/U17/U18 - \$495\* (half-year)**

\*These costs are for the 2011-12 year.

The **LPSC U12** teams will start play in the GVSA U13 2<sup>nd</sup> Division. The fee for these age groups includes:

- **GVSA Team Fee**
- **Referees**
- **Coaching Fee**
- **Summer Training Camp & Technical Training Shirt**
- **Team Fees for 2 Tournaments (excludes personal travel and lodging)**
- **Coach tournament lodging & travel**

The **LPSC U13/U14** teams will play spring and fall in the MSPSL. The fee for this age groups includes:

- **State & GVSA Team Fee**
- **State Cup Fee (all GVSA Premier Club-sponsored teams are required to play State Cup)**
- **Referees**
- **Coaching Fee**
- **Summer Training Camp & Technical Training Shirt**
- **Team Fees for 2 Tournaments (excludes personal travel and lodging)**
- **Coach tournament lodging & travel**

The **LPSC U15 and above** Girls teams will play in the MSPSL in the fall, and **LPSC U15 and above** Boys teams will play in the MSPSL in the spring. The fee for this age groups includes:

- **State & GVSA Team Fee**
- **State Cup Fee (all GVSA Premier Club-sponsored teams are required to play State Cup)**
- **Referees**
- **Coaching Fee**
- **Summer Training Camp & Technical Training Shirt**
- **Team Fees for 1 Tournament (excludes personal travel and lodging)**
- **Coach tournament lodging & travel**

## 8. What is State Cup and how many games might comprise a regular season?

State Cup is a tournament-like competition that begins at U13 and determines who is the State Soccer Champion at a particular age group. All teams entered into the State Cup will play 3 games in a pool with the winner of the pool advancing to the Quarter Finals. Teams will play a minimum of 3 games and maximum of 6 games during State Cup. State Cup for all boys teams and U13-U14 Girls teams is in the spring. U15-U19 girls play state cup in the fall. With another tournament and the regular season, an LPSC team will play from 15-20 games in any given fall or spring season. LPSC teams sometimes choose to participate in an additional tournament in a season when they are not playing State Cup

## 9. What other costs are there?

At this point, all players will be required to purchase a basic uniform for a cost of approximately \$150 which consists of:

- **2 Jerseys**
- **2 Pair of Shorts**
- **1 Pair of Socks**

There will be optional items to purchase as well including warm-ups, backpacks, etc.

Other costs might include some form of Winter Training (depending on coach), and personal travel to games.

## 10. How do these costs compare with other Premier clubs/teams?

One goal of the LPSC is to offer Premier-level soccer at an *affordable* cost to families. We invite you to compare the cost of participating in the LPSC versus what it may cost to play at other clubs. With LPSC being a local club, the costs to travel to twice-weekly practices are reduced as well. Remember U13-U14 teams play in *both* the fall and spring. U15-U18 teams play in *either* the fall or spring.

Grand Rapids Crew Jrs.	\$1,885* (U13-U14)
	\$1,365* (U15-U18)
Michigan Wolves/Hawks – GR	\$1,745* (U13-U14 plus \$340 mandatory uniform kit)
	\$1,245* (U15-U18 plus \$340 mandatory uniform kit)
Alliance FC	\$1,295‡ (U13-U14)
	\$845‡ (U15-U18)
Georgetown Rangers	\$1,385* (U13-U14)

	\$695* (U15-U18)
SCOR	\$1,300* (U13-U14)
	\$650* (U15-U18)
TNT West	\$1,025* (U13-U14)
	\$520* (U15-U18)

\* Parents are encouraged to view the websites for these clubs to compare what is offered for the cost. These prices do not include uniforms which range from \$125 - \$340 per player for the teams listed.

‡ Complete information on what fee includes is not viewable on club website.

## 11. How much travel is involved?

LPSC teams can be expected to play teams from primarily the major metropolitan areas of the state. The Team Manager is involved in scheduling games, so teams could play several games in a weekend that are geographically close to help minimize travel.

## 12. Is there a league higher than the MSPSL?

Yes. Very successful Premier teams can be promoted to the [Midwest Regional League](#) (MRL) where they play against the very best teams in the Midwest and perhaps, the country!

## 13. Who will be coaching in Lakeshore Premier SC?

The roster of Coaches for LPSC is continually updated. Go [here](#) to learn more about our team coaches.

## 14. When are Tryouts and what do I need to know about them?

***Saturday, June 16, 2012 Location is TBA***

***9 am – 11:30 am (Check-in at 8:30 am)***

*U13 & U14 Boys/Girls*

***12:30 pm – 2:30 pm (Check-in at 12 noon)***

*U15 & U17 Boys/Girls*

***Monday, June 18, 2012 Location is TBA***

***5:30 pm – 8 pm***

*U12 Boys & Girls*

*U13/14/15/17 Boys & Girls (Makeup if Needed)*

Players selected for a Lakeshore Premier SC teams at U13 and above will be expected to sign the Player Registration Form at the conclusion of tryouts. This form commits the player to a Lakeshore Premier SC Team.

Players must not wear any item to tryouts that can be identified with a particular youth soccer club!

Players interested in LPSC tryouts are strongly encouraged to participate in their respective club's Select-level tryout as well to insure placement on a team next season!

## 15. Where are home games played and practices held?

LPSC teams play and practice on the fields of our partner clubs in Muskegon, Norton Shores, Fruitport and Grand Haven.

## **16. Do I need to register for tryouts?**

Yes! LPSC will be posting on-line registration link approximately six weeks prior to the tryout.

## **17. How do I contact Lakeshore Premier Soccer Club**

You can email the club at [lakeshorepremier@gmail.com](mailto:lakeshorepremier@gmail.com) or call 616-318-9085.

## **18. Is there more to learn?**

This FAQ will be updated regularly to reflect questions that parents have about the LPSC. Check back often!