

LEFLORE COUNTY FC

Coach Policies & Procedures Handbook



Welcome Coaches

Thank you for volunteering with Leflore County FC. Coaches play a vital role in providing a positive, safe, and enjoyable experience for our athletes. Our primary goals are player development, sportsmanship, teamwork, and community involvement.

By accepting a coaching position, you agree to follow the policies and expectations outlined in this handbook.

Coach Responsibilities

Before the Season

Coaches are expected to:

- Review league rules and policies.
- Communicate regularly with parents and players.
- Ensure all players are properly registered.
- Attend coach meetings when scheduled.
- Promote a positive and inclusive environment.

During the Season

Coaches are expected to:

- Arrive at least 10 minutes before games.
- Supervise players before, during, and after games.
- Maintain control of their sidelines.
- Encourage sportsmanship at all times.
- Respect officials, opposing coaches, players, and spectators.
- Report any injuries or incidents to league administration.

After Games

Coaches should:

- Ensure players are picked up by authorized guardians.
- Clean up team areas and benches.
- Report game scores if requested by league administration.

Coach Conduct

Expected Behavior

Coaches shall:

- Act as positive role models.
- Use appropriate language at all times.
- Teach respect, teamwork, and good sportsmanship.
- Focus on player development over winning.

Prohibited Conduct

The following behavior is prohibited:

- Profanity directed toward officials, players, coaches, or spectators.
- Arguing excessively with officials.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior.
- Threatening language or actions.
- Physical altercations.
- Discrimination or harassment of any kind.

Violations may result in warnings, game suspensions, or removal from coaching duties.

Communication Expectations

Parent Communication

Coaches should communicate:

- Practice schedules
- Game schedules
- Weather-related changes
- Team expectations

- Tournament information

Concerns & Complaints

If concerns arise:

1. Remain professional and respectful.
2. Attempt to resolve issues calmly.
3. Contact league administration when necessary.
4. Do not engage in arguments through social media.

Game Day Procedures

Arrival

- Coaches should arrive at least 10 minutes before game time.
- Ensure players are checked in and prepared.

Equipment Checks

Coaches are responsible for ensuring players have proper equipment.

Soccer

- Shin guards
- Appropriate footwear
- Team jersey

Game Start

Teams should arrive and be ready to play at their scheduled game time. Any changes to game times, including early starts, will be communicated to coaches by LeFlore County FC as soon as possible.

Repeated delays caused by a team may result in league disciplinary action.

Weather & Makeup Games

Weather Delays

League administration will determine whether games are delayed, postponed, or canceled.

Cancellations

Coaches should communicate league announcements to their teams as quickly as possible.

Makeup Games

- Makeup games are not guaranteed.
- Rescheduling depends on field availability, referee availability, and season timelines.
- Makeup games will occur on the last weekend of the regular season.
- LeFlore County FC will not schedule weekday makeup games. Any makeup games played during the week are the responsibility of the participating coaches to coordinate, including selecting a date, time, and field location.

Practice Expectations

Practice Scheduling

- Practices should be scheduled through league-approved facilities or fields.
- Coaches should communicate practice schedules in advance.
- Coaches are to utilize the provided Google Doc for scheduling

Player Safety

Coaches should:

- Monitor weather conditions.
- Ensure players have access to water.
- Stop activities if conditions become unsafe.
- Report injuries to league administration.

Tournament Procedures

Tournament Participation

Teams participating in the end-of-season tournament must:

- Follow all tournament rules.
- Maintain sportsmanship standards.
- Have players listed on official rosters.

Tournament Seeding

Seeding may be based on:

1. Regular season record
2. Head-to-head results
3. Goals/points differential
4. League discretion when necessary

Tournament Scheduling

- Tournament schedules may change due to weather or game delays.
- Coaches are responsible for communicating updates to families.

Protests

- Judgment calls by officials are not subject to protest.
- Rule interpretation concerns must be addressed immediately through tournament administration.

Referee Interaction Policy

One Head Referee will be on-site at all times to oversee game operations and assist with emergencies, disputes, or other situations that may arise during league play.

Head Referee: Brandon Bledsoe

Coaches should:

- Address officials respectfully.
- Request clarification calmly when necessary.
- Accept final decisions made by officials.

Coaches may not:

- Confront officials after games.
- Encourage players or spectators to challenge officials.
- Use abusive language toward officials.

Disciplinary Actions

League administration may issue:

- Verbal warnings
- Written warnings
- Game suspensions
- Tournament suspensions
- Removal from coaching duties

The severity of disciplinary action will be determined based on the nature of the violation.

Equipment

- League-owned equipment must be returned at the conclusion of the season unless otherwise approved.
- Coaches are responsible for the proper care and storage of league-issued equipment.

Acknowledgment

By accepting a coaching position with Leflore County FC, coaches agree to follow all league policies, procedures, and standards of conduct. The league reserves the right to modify policies as necessary to maintain a safe and positive environment for all participants.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____