

PRE-YOUTH ACADEMY



www.chargerssoccer.com



Introduction



The Lakewood Ranch Chargers Soccer Club provides soccer opportunities to players throughout the Lakewood Ranch community and covering all sides of Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Our club draws players mainly from the Lakewood Ranch area.

The Lakewood Ranch Chargers Soccer Club has approximately 28 competitive teams and calls Premier Sports Campus home.

Our mission also includes:

- Bringing our youth closer together through common interest in sportsmanship and competition
- Instill the values of education and importance of behaving at school and home
- Acquaint the players with the fundamentals of the game rule
- Teach sportsmanship, teamwork and accountability; build character and discipline and love of the game while keeping the youth busy and away from situations that lead to bad behavior
- Encourage players to maintain satisfactory grades in school and to emphasize the importance of keeping a proper relationship and balance between scholastic and athletic endeavors



PRE-Youth Academy

The Pre-YA (Pre-Youth Academy) is open to players born in 2016 who are interested in advancing their technical and physiological soccer abilities. Guided by an age-appropriate training curriculum and by only certified coaches, our goal is to develop each player's technical understanding of the game through a fun and challenging training and game environment. Our focus is strictly in each individual player technical skill's development.

The Pre-YA is a good fit for players who want to learn more in order to further and enjoy their soccer experience and gain the necessary technical skills knowledge and potentially enter the Youth Academy Program. The training is designed to improve a player's familiarity with the ball, mastery of technical foot skills, and development of the motor skills.





Selection Process

Many of the players in the Pre-YA played in our LWR Chargers SC recreational soccer program. Players are invited to join the Pre-YA program through an evaluation process. Players are selected based on skill level, athleticism, soccer IQ, motivation, and **concentration**.

Our Pre-YA Coaching Staff oversees the selection process of all potential Pre-YA players. Once selected into the program, players will begin official academy style training late in August (one training session per week) and will play in our LWR Chargers SC recreational league.

Players will be shuffled and mixed for various games over the course of the year with the flexibility provided by the academy style format. There are no fixed teams in the Pre-YA Program.





Benefit of the Program

PLAYING FOR FUN

The most important element of the Pre-YA Program is FUN. Our coaching staff will create a FUN and exciting atmosphere for players as they learn new skills and make new friends. Having a love for soccer will allow players to improve at a faster rate. **Winning is never placed above development, learning or FUN.**

DEVELOPING INDIVIDUAL TECHNIQUES

As players improve their individual soccer techniques they will, in turn, grow in confidence and creativity. It is vitally important that any young soccer player develops their individual techniques, as they are the building blocks for all soccer development.

DEVELOPING MOTOR SKILLS

Our Pre-YA Program Curriculum helps players motor skills development, coordination, balance, and agility.

DEVELOPING TEAM WORK

Soccer is a team sport and while the majority of the Pre-YA Program is based on individual technique development, our coaches will encourage players in small groups and team interactions. Our aim is for each player to apply his or her individual techniques in a small group or team environment.



Key Development Steps

Our club does not believe there is one correct method that can lead to success. However there are some critical aspects that will move the club forward in the right direction. There are some proven characteristics which can lead to the development of a very successful club. Below are listed some of these characteristics.

- **PROGRESSIVE PLAYER DEVELOPMENT CURRICULUM** – Our club proposes a year by year standards of expectations for players and their coaches and its families.
- **CONTINUOUS COACH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** – Our coaches go through continuous development. Licensure courses are a must. Clinics, discussions, conventions, books, videos, game analysis sessions are a big part of our coach's development.
- **MINIMUM LICENSING STANDARDS** – Our coaches are first of all educators. Our club has a minimum licensing standard for all coaches in our program.

Methodology



FOUR major development stages of the Pre-YA (Youth Academy) curriculum

Stage 1	Ball Mastery	Relationship Between Body and Ball - Learn how to use both feet and multiple feet surfaces while dribbling by encouraging players to perform turns, various tricks to help develop technical confidence and composure with the ball.
Stage 2	Motor Skills	Overall Body Development – Help develop balance, agility and coordination while still enjoying developing the body-ball relationship throughout the development of the ball mastery phase.
Stage 3	Small-Sided Introduction	Game like Environment - Introduction of 1v1 situation allowing players to experiment and maximize development through multiple contacts with the ball and also to create real game like scenarios.
Stage 4	Free Player Thinking	Problem Solving - Encourage players to think for themselves and solve soccer problems with the skills acquired. Guide players to the answers by asking questions rather than telling them the answer. Help create quick thinkers.

Logistics



Players	Selection of 18 to 22 players through an evaluation process.
Format	Training once per week. Games on weekends during Fall and Spring recreation soccer season.
Dates	Begins: End of August – Ends: End of April (season 2022/23)
Training	Training from 6:00PM - 7:00PM Fridays
Games	Games on weekends during Fall and Spring recreation soccer season. Saturday Mornings. 5v5 with Goalkeeper. Intra-squad games or play against recreational teams.
Location	Premier Sports Campus
Cost	\$500 (9-month program) ** Extra includes training jerseys kit – approx. \$75



Difference - Recreation & Pre-YA

The following are Similarities and Differences between Recreational Soccer and Pre-YA Program.

Programs	Recreational Soccer	Pre-YA Academy
Age Groups	U7	U7
Main Objective	Recreation/Fun	Player Development
Brief Description	Recreational Soccer is primarily meant to be a fun program for players. Scores and standings are not recorded for the younger age groups. All players are generally, required to play each game.	The Pre-YA Program focuses primarily on individual skill development and basic field/space awareness and prepares players for the Youth Academy Program. Players generally play the same amount of time in each game. Players are also exposed to different positions on the field. Pool players training format is used.
Team Selection Process	Open Registration	Evaluation Process
Focus on Competition	Low - Above Average	Strictly on Player Development
Regular Season	Fall and Spring	Nine month program (August – April)
Amount of Travel	None	None
Coach/Trainer Background	Parent Coaches	Experienced and Certified Coaches



Parent Support

POSITIVE

Positive support is vital during times of disappointment, not just when things are going well. The ups and downs are a natural part of a young soccer player's developmental process if handled appropriately. Positive parental support does not include coaching your child from the sidelines.

ENCOURAGING

Positive encouragement from parents is vital in helping young soccer players succeed and enjoy the game. The job of the parents is to be their child's biggest fan. Positive feedback and encouragement should outweigh constructive criticism. This allows players to grow in confidence, which is a key to success in soccer, or any other sport.

POSITIVE COACHING

Positive coaching from our coaches is very important to our players' development. We must ensure that our players are instilled with confidence, understand the coach's instructions, and also have the ability to handle constructive feedback from the coach. Encouragement at this level is a massive motivational tool to making our players successful, creative and well-rounded soccer players.

LWR Chargers Soccer Club Contacts & Social Media



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