

LET KIDS FLY SOCCER

INFORMATION GUIDE

WHY LKF?



CHARACTER – COMMUNITY – CULTURE



CHARACTER - COMMUNITY LET KIDS FLY

LET KIDS FLY SOCCER offers a unique soccer experience for children in the Lake Country Area. We deliver the vital elements that are commonly missing in the youth soccer landscape, while providing the largest benefits for children who participate in youth sports.

FUN



Soccer should be fun and offer a positive life experience for all. The LKF experience is designed to bring (or return) the joy of playing soccer to each child.

FAMILY



Sports should not be a strain on the family unit. We keep play close to home, reduce the cost, and allow families the scheduling flexibility that other youth sports organizations simply don't care to provide.

PLAY



Our soccer experience promotes health through play and helps children acquire the essential tools for a healthy adulthood. In doing so, we offer a unique value to children in the Lake Country community.

CHARACTER



*Our approach (and all decisions we make) is based on our values pyramid and come from 20+ years of teaching, parenting, and coaching experience. LKF is led by educators who believe **Character + Community = Culture.***

OUR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE



Our mission is to put the correct pieces of youth sports together.

An Educational Experience

CULTURE

"TRANSFORMATIONAL"

An Educational Experience

CHARACTER

"OUR ROCK"

An Educational Experience

COMMUNITY

"BE THE CHANGE"

An Educational Experience

COMMUNICATION

"RELATIONSHIPS AND CONNECTIONS"

An Educational Experience

CONDITIONS

*"BUILT BY TEACHERS,
LED BY FACILITATORS"*

An Educational Experience

COMMON SENSE

"THE BIG PICTURE"

CHARACTER - COMMUNITY

LET KIDS FLY



A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE

As MANY as possible, as LONG as possible and as GOOD as possible!



OUR DEVELOPMENTAL TARGETS

As Many As Possible

An overwhelming amount of kids are being “priced out” of youth sports. Kids are being labeled as early as six years old with words such as “rec”, “premier”, and “elite” These prices and labels are not helpful to children and the game. Part of our mission is to provide a positive sport experience for ***as many as possible***. We don’t label kids and believe the game belongs to all in equal proportion.

As Long As Possible

Kids are dropping out of youth soccer and sports at unprecedented rates. According to the National Alliance of Sport, 70% of kids stop playing sports by the age of 13! Part of our mission is to help kids stay in the game for ***as long as possible***. We believe soccer is one of the best ways to teach character to children and connect them with their community. This cannot be done unless children stay in the game!

As Good As Possible

The foundation for any successful player is developing a love of the game. Finding joy and in turn a passion for soccer is becoming ever more difficult in the current youth sport environment. Our developmental model may not be “traditional”, but it’s clear the “traditional” model does not work for most kids. Part of our mission is to help our players become ***as good as possible*** and we believe that this happens with a player centered and play based approach.



LET KIDS FLY SOCCER

Development Opportunities for our players and groups!

- ❑ Games Based, Free Play and Player Development Methodology
- ❑ Game intelligence vs. being trained in automatism.
- ❑ Multiple **Overloading** and **Underloading** opportunities
 - ❑ Flexibility allowing movement of players up birth years to form competitive teams.
 - ❑ Deliberate Practices / Inhouse Games / Tournament Teams
- ❑ Tournament Teams rotations based on development level.
- ❑ Video Tape Analysis & College Advising
- ❑ Soccer Specific Strength & Conditioning
- ❑ Brookfield Indoor Soccer Elite League
- ❑ **TOVO** Institute Trip (Barcelona, Spain) – every two years!
- ❑ Competitive events such as the Grand Park (Indiana), Madison 56ers (Wisconsin Dells), Wisconsin United (Appleton) Tournaments, USA Cup (Minnesota).
- ❑ Additional Trainings in preparation for competitive events.
- ❑ Additional Age based and situational leagues (7 v 7 summer leagues)
- ❑ Comfort and relaxation of joy that comes from **FUN** while playing the game!





***“The opposite of play is not work.
The opposite of play is depression.”***



WHY WE FOCUS ON PLAY?

*Productive **Play** as Children, Fuels Well Developed Adults*

- ❑ Play is “how” the absolute best athletes in the world transformed their sport. Pele, Cruyff, Michael Jordan, Wayne Gretzky, etc.
 - ❑ [*In Search of Greatness*](#)
- ❑ Play is a Human Right!
 - *UN Bill of Human Rights*
- ❑ Play is a Health Issue
 - *Smoking, Heart Disease, etc.*
- ❑ Play is Happiness and Fun!
- ❑ “Play is the most cost effective, self-directed, authentic form of learning there is.”
- ❑ Play is Common Sense.
- ❑ Play is a Social System.



CHARACTER - COMMUNITY LET KIDS FLY

How We Focus on Play

Unique Play Environments

Our facilitated free play involves many different environments. We utilize balls of varying sizes and weight, which allows for experimentation, learning, and most importantly fun!



Inflatables



Small Sided



Beach Style Soccer



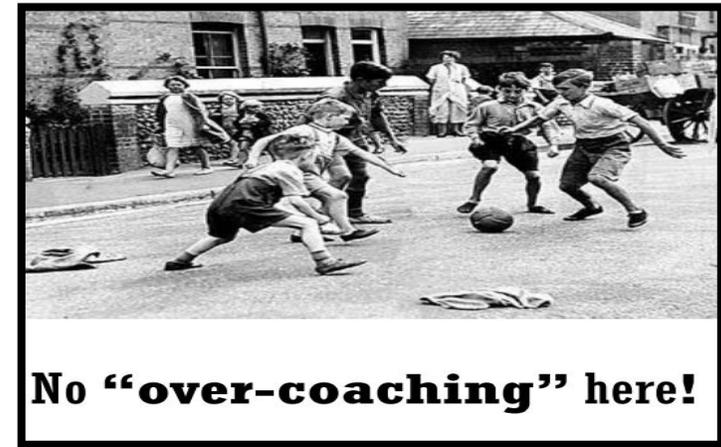
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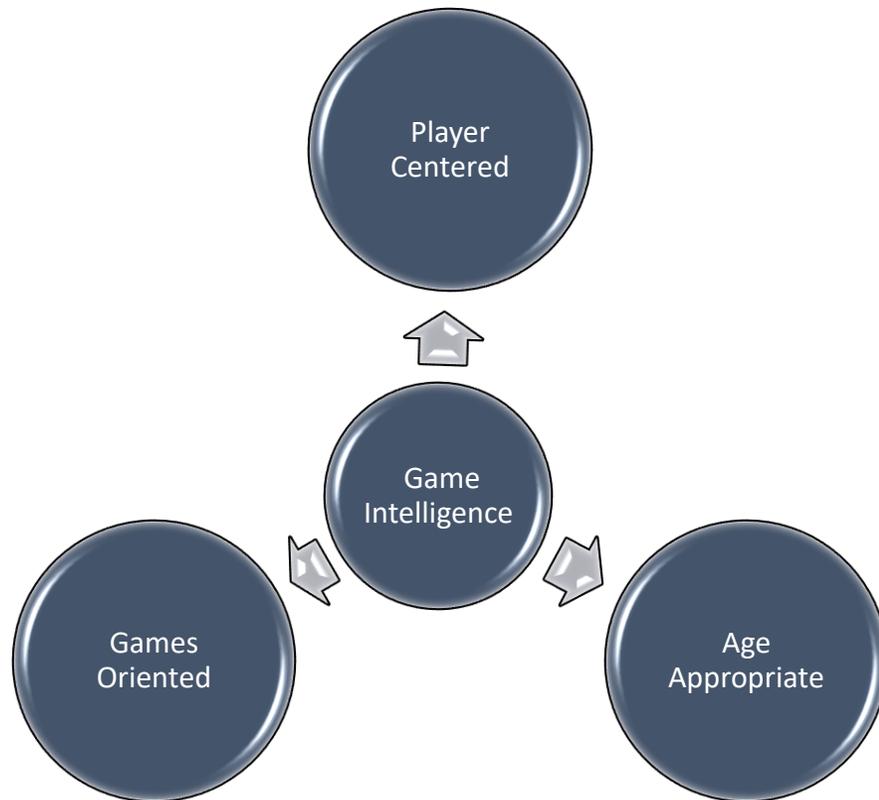
Gymnasium Floor



Tennis Courts



DEVELOPMENT FROM PLAY



Coach Centered (Traditional Soccer "Club")	Player Centered (LKF Experience)
Players are "empty vessels"	Players are full of potential
Coach is source of all knowledge	Players participate in their learning
Dictator style instructions	Engagement/Guided Discovery
Conditioning drills	Interactive learning and games
Controlling	Empowering
Dehumanizing	Motivating

We value this...



over this...



THE LOST LANGUAGE OF PLAY

We believe play is a developmental model. Play is more than “Just” Fun.” It’s how we “practice” the key skills we need to be successful people: **Critical thinking, competition, communication, creativity, coordination and more.**

Let Kids Fly was created as a pathway for kids to acquire the skills necessary for adulthood, not just in soccer, but also other disciplines of life!



You will never see this at LKF!



PLAY REMOVES THE ADULT EGO

“One of the crucial defining characteristics of play is that it's directed by the children or players themselves. It's self-directed.

Adult-directed games like sports, or activities in school where a teacher is telling children what to do, is not play by my definition.

We are living in an age that might be thought of as a play deprivation experiment.”

-Peter Gray





Intentional Leadership / Teamwork training infused into training!

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

*When a youth sport program says they build character, look carefully!
Of course they do! All sports inherently build CHARACTER!*

*LKF intentionally builds our players Character and Leadership skills!
LKF uses the CHARACTER STRONG curriculum to build productive
members of society! We are building the next generation of leaders!*

Patience – Kindness – Honesty – Respect
Selflessness Forgiveness – Humility - Commitment



Club wide Character building activities like "Build a Ball"



Club wide Character building activity of Design a Jersey!



WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT? FROM LKF PARENTS...

A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE



“Our whole family has truly enjoyed the experience that we've had thus far, and we're excited for our boys to continue in the program. We were a little apprehensive when we registered for LKF. We've enjoyed seeing how our son has grown on the field and the support, encouragement, and instruction that he's received. I am grateful that he has been allowed to play through and learn from mistakes when other coaches at his level would not be as tolerant. We've seen his love for the game and his confidence soar.”

“More importantly, we are so happy to be involved with a club that approaches the game with core values and a philosophy that are more than just lip service. We appreciate the character lessons, guest speakers, free play opportunities, and all the ways that the LKF values have been put into practice. I also enjoy that we have coaches, parents, and fans that treat one another and the officials with respect. Our LKF sidelines are always well-mannered - something that seems to be rare in youth sports. We couldn't be happier.””

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT? FROM LKF PARENTS...



A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE

“I wanted to say thank you for an excellent soccer experience. I appreciate the passion for teaching kids all aspects of being part of a team. The LKF organization is exactly what our family was looking for when it comes to sports in the Lake Country Area. Thank you for all of your work!”

“I love the philosophy behind LKF about making the game fun and building character. I’m so glad we signed him up for it this year!”

“I truly appreciate the program you have put together. It is second to none! Thank you for your attention to detail, your communication and your love for the community and kids you serve.”





A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE



WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT? FROM LKF PARENTS...

"I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude regarding the amazing experience LKF has provided these last few seasons. While the coaching and overall soccer experience has been top-tier, your vision has taken it a step further focusing on community and character. We would not hesitate to recommend LKF to any family considering an upgrade from their current club."

"Our family has been so impressed with LKF. We have 4 kids in the program and they have never been more excited to go to soccer. There is a great balance between challenging the kids athletically while also making it fun. LKF is about developing players not just in soccer, but in teaching them about character and the community. The strong leadership is evident in all the coaches' philosophies and in the communication and organization that goes out to families!"



WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT? FROM LKF PARENTS...

A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE



“Prior to LKF, my son’s experience with “organized” soccer was not very good at all. After each practice he would get into the car and complain about running for a long time without ever touching a ball and how the “elite” coach would just yell and scream the entire practice. After spending four consecutive weekends in hotels across different states, it was clear that he needed something different and less toxic.

The change in him and those around him after this year has been truly amazing to see. He loves the music at practice and having the ability to just “play” soccer and have fun. He is enjoying the game again, trying new things, and has a sense of confidence that didn’t exist before.”



WHAT'S THE BUZZ ABOUT? FROM LKF PARENTS...

A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE



“Let Kids Fly has exceeded our expectations. We love the free play concept that allows the kids to excel by challenging each other and supporting each other. We also like the mixing of older kids mentoring younger players on the field. Good for both sides. This program is so much more than winning. It is building stronger kids who love to play soccer and in return they become better soccer players. Most importantly it builds strong kids!”

“Our thirteen-year-old has been playing select soccer since his U10 season. This year at LKF, we’ve watched our son not only become a better, more well-rounded player, but a more confident kid on and off the field. By consistently celebrating hard work, sportsmanship, leadership, and being a good teammate, the coaches and leaders at LKF prioritize taking the time to teach and encourage positive character development and the importance of community. It’s been an incredibly successful year for the 2007/2008 team and our son is having more FUN on the field than ever!”



A POSITIVE SPORT EXPERIENCE

What's the buzz about?

From LKF Parents...



“LKF is the best all-around soccer program you will find. The coaching staff is the best I’ve seen and supportive to kids and families. They want to see kids work hard, improve, and still have fun together. What has impressed me most though are the important life lessons of community service, gratitude and sportsmanship. These are things I also want my children to learn through sports and LKF understands that. I would highly recommend this soccer program to anyone.”

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BIG FISH
CONTRACTING
COMPLETE EXTERIOR & INTERIOR RENOVATIONS

CHARACTER - COMMUNITY - CULTURE