



JANUARY 2022

MONTHLY UPDATE



What a Kick!

GET YOUR MLSA INFO FAST & RUN WITH IT.

Spring Registration Is OPEN!

Spring program registration is open at www.mlsa.org. Spots fill up quickly! Program Information:

SPRING DEVELOPMENT - Boys

- Eligible Grades: 1st - 7th
- Weekly practice with a match on Saturday
- *Registration Closes March 10*

SPRING DEVELOPMENT - Girls Grades 1 & 2

- Eligible Grades: 1st & 2nd
- Reduced Programming to 1 day/week
- *Registration Closes March 10*

SPRING DEVELOPMENT - Girls Grade 3

- Eligible Grades: 3rd
- Two Options: Tuesday ONLY or Tuesday/Thursday
- Tuesday Practice/Scrimmage with optional additional day Thursday
- *Registration Closes March 10*

RT 19 CO-ED HIGH SCHOOL 5 v 5 PROGRAM

- Eligible Grades: Boys and Girls 8th - 12th
- *Registration Closes February 28*

SEE INSIDE FOR KEY INFO & AWESOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Spring Development Programming** Spring Registration is OPEN!
- **Parties on the Pitch!** Stay tuned for dates and information on how to check out local clubs with with your friends!
- **Get Soccer Parenting Certified!** Read on to see how!
- **Dick's Sporting Goods Discounts** for the MLSA are good through 1/31/22. Grab your deals before they're gone!
- **A Note from Our President:** Seeking MLSA Volunteers
- **For updated volunteer needs,** check out the volunteer info. on www.mlsa.org to see which programs currently need help!
- **Make some money and have some fun.** Now training refs!
- **MLSA Sponsors!** Get in front of 1,000+ Lebo families when you sponsor the MLSA. Check out the businesses and organizations that sponsor us now, and please support our amazing sponsors!
- **Watch your email & check MLSA.org, our social media and [school newsletters](#) for all updates.**

Overall program questions? Email info@mlsa.org

MLSA IN ACTION

Stay Up-to-Date!

Parties on the Pitch!

Stay tuned for information about Parties on the Pitch! Have fun with your friends, check out local clubs, and brush up on your skills all at once!



Futsal in Full Swing

Futsal programs are underway! MLSA players continue to develop skills in the off-season in this fun, fast-paced program.

Need new equipment? See our special MLSA Dick's Discount coupon below to get some great deals on futsal shoes, shin guards and more!



FAMILY CORNER

Get Soccer Parenting Certified for FREE!

Registration is now open for a brand new initiative called "Successful Soccer Parenting." This exciting partnership with US Youth Soccer and well-known developmental soccer expert Skye Eddie Bruce includes a free 25-minute certification course plus a portal with more resources, including hundreds of articles, interviews, additional courses and a community forum that help us best support our athletes with a healthy philosophy that keeps them motivated and inspired to play.

MLSA's own Brienne Sembrat says, "This is an incredible opportunity for everyone at all levels of play. It's the information I would have paid a lot to have before my kids started sports. If I were a coach, I would want every parent on my team to have this information. If I were a player I would love for my parents to parent me this way. As a parent, I know that these strategies foster a healthy and respectful relationship with my kids."

You can become Soccer Parenting Certified in just 25-minutes for free! [Follow this link](#) for registration and more information.



LAST CHANCE FOR THE WINTER SEASON DISCOUNT!

MLSA's Special Dick's Sporting Goods Discounts

Take advantage of the final days to use [this link](#) with great discounts. They're good through 1/31/21!

SPECIAL OFFERS

CLICK HERE TO **SAVE** ON YOUR NEXT PURCHASE.

EVERY SEASON STARTS AT



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

MLSA Volunteer Positions

MLSA Membership,

Would you like to be a part of a 51 year-old tradition that has provided countless hours of fun, learning and teamwork to the Lebo community? We are always seeking volunteers, no matter what your skill set or level.

The MLSA offers a variety of programs, including developmental programs, inhouse leagues and competitive programs for our community youth—and there are plenty of places where you can make a difference.

We're seeking various backgrounds, including members with a soccer background to help with coaching and training, as well as members with key administrative skills like logistics, communications/marketing and planning.

It's our passion to provide an exceptional soccer experience for the kids. If you have the time and would like to be part of our association, please reach out to us directly by sending us an email at info@mlsa.org.

Thank you for your continued support,

Tim Defeo

President, MLSA



ARE YOU READY TO REF?

Make Money and Make a Difference

GRASSROOTS ENTRY LEVEL USSF REFEREE SESSIONS NOW AVAILABLE

- Successfully completing the Grassroots Entry Level Course makes you a USSF Referee - so you can ref Travel games.
- There is both online training (free of charge) and on-field training (\$65). You must complete the online sessions before signing up for on-field training.
- You must be 14 years old to get started.
- This is not MLSA-only training. This is a national certification that puts you in the USSF Referee Program, administered locally by the Western PA Referee Committee.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

Go to <http://www.wparef.com/> and click the "Become A Referee" tab, where you will find:

- General information about becoming and remaining a referee
- How to register for accounts in the two systems that you will use for training/registration
- After you register for your accounts you will have access to online instruction which:
- MUST be completed at least one week prior to the on-field session
- Takes 4-6 hours and can be done in sections
- Step-by-step instructions on obtaining and submitting your clearances (for all) and work permits (for minors)
- These need not be submitted prior to your instruction, but must be submitted before you receive your badge and are therefore able to referee
- SafeSport training must also be completed. This takes about an hour and can be done in sections.
- If you need fingerprints (18+), allow several weeks for processing
- Information on referee uniforms/equipment
- IMPORTANT: Your Entry Level Course is just the beginning. Referees must recertify annually, to keep up with new information on the Laws and administrative matters.

PRO TIPS FOR GAME OFFICIALS:

- Make sure to specify Mt Lebanon as your "Home Association" under Contact Info. That's how you get on the Lebo list for assigning.
- Make sure to list an email address you actually use, the State Referee Committee frequently sends out important info to all refs via email.
- You will use this same system every year to sign up for your re-certification.

Your "Games to Watch" in February

Download the LiveSoccerTV app for game times and channels.

Men's Games

International Matches:

5 Feb Bayern vs Leipzig

6 Feb Barcelona vs Atletico

Inter vs Milan

15 Feb Man City vs Tottenham

27 Feb Strasbourg vs Nice

The US Men's National Team:

Need some really exciting watch soccer to watch this winter?

The US men's national team will be playing some critical matches over the next two months that will help determine whether we make it into this year's World Cup Qatar!

Why is this such a big deal? Four years ago we did not qualify for the World Cup. Previously we had been in eight consecutive world cups. Here's a [great article](#) to catch you up on the USMNT's exciting comeback, and here's the full qualifying schedule! Stay tuned for news from the USWNT!

WE LOVE LEBO

A Big Thank You to Our Sponsors!

We so grateful to sponsors that help with our various programs. Please support the companies that support us!

And if you'd like to become a sponsor, it's a great opportunity to reach over 1,000 MLSA families. We can feature your logo and website on our newsletter and website.

Please send your company name, address, phone number, email and website url to info@MLSA.org. The cost for one year is \$250. We thank you for your support!



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