



# Welcome Coaches

Weatherford Soccer Association

Spring 2024 Season



# Included in Coaching Packet

- WSA Information Sheet
- Coach's Meeting Presentation
- Age-group Specific Playing Rules
- Helpful Youtube Channels for Coaches
- Understanding Soccer Referee Signals
- Parental Code of Conduct/Medical Waiver Form – copies for parents
  - ▷ Ask parent's complete both forms, sign/date, and then keep this information with you in case you need it.
- Sit-Out Verification Form – for players who receive Red Card during game.
- For players on teams U9 and up, this form must signed by Center Referee and submitted to NTSA.
- CDC Concussion Awareness information
- Heading is NOT allowed for players in age groups below U13
  - ▷ BUT Soccer is a Contact Sport, so accidents do happen

**These documents are also all available on our website.**



# WSA Board Members

**ALL Board WSA Members are Volunteers**

## Executive Committee

- Lenny Styer - **President**
- Chris Pool - **Vice President**
- Cherie Long - **Treasurer**
- Justin Wallace - **Coaching Director**
- Chris Capetta - **Secretary**

## Board Members at Large

- Jason Callahan
- Brie Heimlich
- Ryan Kuhlmeier
- Clayton Rhine
- Mandy Rice
- David Turner

[www.facebook.com/WeatherfordSoccer](http://www.facebook.com/WeatherfordSoccer)

[www.weatherfordsoccer.org](http://www.weatherfordsoccer.org)

email – [Weatherfordsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:Weatherfordsoccer@gmail.com)

**On Game Days - All Board Members wear a Blue T-shirt that has “Board Member” on the back!  
We are here to help you!**



# WSA Board Meetings

WSA Board meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month @ 6:30pm – Next meeting is February 12<sup>th</sup>.

**As a WSA Coach or Assistant Coach**

**YOU HAVE A VOTE!!!!**

**We want to know what you think!**

**ALL WSA Board Meeting minutes are posted on our WSA website for all to read.**



# Communication with WSA

We want to know if you have concerns or problems...

1. FIRST contact your League Rep
2. Coaching Director – Justin Wallace
3. Last contact WSA President – Lenny Styer  
or WSA Vice President – Chris Pool

**Written communication via email is best for tracking purposes.**

**[weatherfordsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:weatherfordsoccer@gmail.com)**

**Communication is important to make your association better!**



# WSA League Reps

- U4 – Cherie Long
  - ([Cheriemlong@gmail.com](mailto:Cheriemlong@gmail.com))
- U5 – Clayton Rhine
  - ([claytonrhine@icloud.com](mailto:claytonrhine@icloud.com))
- U6 – Jason Callahan
  - ([tornadosoccer05@aol.com](mailto:tornadosoccer05@aol.com))
- U7 – David Turner
  - ([dttx81@gmail.com](mailto:dttx81@gmail.com))
- U8 – Ryan Kuhlmeier
  - ([rkuhlmeierwsa@yahoo.com](mailto:rkuhlmeierwsa@yahoo.com))
- U9 – Brie Heimlich
  - ([briet0@msn.com](mailto:briet0@msn.com))
- U10 – Mandy Rice
  - ([mandyh2811@gmail.com](mailto:mandyh2811@gmail.com))
- U11 – Justin Wallace
  - ([jaal.wallace@gmail.com](mailto:jaal.wallace@gmail.com))
- U12 and up – Chris Pool
  - ([chris-pool@att.net](mailto:chris-pool@att.net))
- Fort Worth Youth Soccer/Arlington Soccer/  
Competitive Teams/Academy Players
  - Justin Wallace ([jaal.wallace@gmail.com](mailto:jaal.wallace@gmail.com))



# WSA Communication (GotSport Emails)



-- IMPORTANT --  
Please don't block  
GotSport Emails.  
This is how we  
communicate with  
you.

file Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

GotSport

OPT OUT of Email Communications From:

ORGANIZATIONS

- Weatherford SA
- Outlaws
- Chiefsahs

Opt out of all mass communications

Time Zone Name  
Central Time (US & Canada)

Phone number  
4044296430

Address

**PLEASE uncheck  
these boxes...  
located under  
"Account" tab**

Please also ASK your parents to not block  
emails!!!



# GotSport Time Zone

- Make sure your Time Zone is Central Time

A screenshot of the GotSport website's user account page. The "Account" menu item in the top navigation bar is circled in red. On the left sidebar, the "Account" section is expanded, showing options like Roles, Rosters, Registration History, Roster History, Tickets, Emergency Info, Family, Documents, Billing, and Recruiting Profile. The main content area shows the user's profile for "Cherie Michelle Long". The "Time Zone Name" dropdown menu is circled in red and currently displays "Central Time (US &amp; Canada)".

1. From your GotSport Dashboard
2. Select "Account"
3. Scroll down until you see "Time Zone Name"
4. Make sure this says "Central Time (US & Canada)"

**Make sure you parents do this as well**





# Game Scheduling Conflicts

- [Coaching Blackout Dates Request](#) - fill out this form **IF** you are aware of a date that you cannot coach a game. HEAD COACHES are allowed to request 2 blackout dates. If you request a full weekend, both Saturday and Sunday, those are your 2 blackout dates. We are limited in the number of weekends we have open to schedule games during our season.
- [Coaching Multiple Teams](#) - fill out this form **IF** you coach, or help coach, more than one WSA team.
- Both forms are available on our WSA website under “Resources for Coaches” tab

**Form submission due NOW.**

**We try to accomodate all our coach’s schedules BUT due to number of teams we have this is NOT always possible. It is important to have an Assistant Coach designated on your Team Roster just for game scheduling purposes.**



# Team Roster Updates

PLEASE DO NOT attempt to change your team's name yourself under your GotSport coaching account. We have to change the team's name in several places in GotSport to make sure you team shows up correctly for scheduling.

- [Team Name Change Request](#) - Fill out this form **IF** you would like to request your team name be changed from what is listed on the Team Roster.
- [Request to Add an Assistant Coach to Team](#)— Fill out this form **IF** you would like to request an Assistant Coach be added to your Team Roster.
- Both forms are available on our WSA website under “Resources for Coaches” tab

**Form submission due by Friday, February 23, 2024.**



# WSA What's Happening

## WSA would like to offer

- Youth Academy and Competitive soccer leagues
- Adult Soccer league

## Proposed NEW Fun Activities in works

- Seasonal Opening Ceremonies
- Movie Night at the fields
- WSA 5K Fun Run
- Friday evening Pick-up games -or- player skills training
- WSA Soccer Tournament



# WSA Spring 2024 Season

- 612 players registered
- We have 50 teams ready to go
- We have 88 Head and Assistant coaches signed up

**We still need some more  
Head Coaches to volunteer  
for our various age teams.**



# Uniform Designs





# Coach's Code of Conduct

- Read the Coach's Code of Conduct

**HINT** - You already signed this during registration

- YOU are responsible for your parent's actions
- Be kind to the referees – zero tolerance for harassing referees
- If you have questions or concerns about a call, ask a board member

**Rules change all the time!**



# WSA will NOT tolerate...

## WSA will NOT tolerate the use of foul language.

- Include this in your welcome speech to Parents and Players
- Kids get exposed to foul language all the time - this will not be one of those places
- If the individual cannot control themselves, they will be required to leave the facility!

## WSA will NOT tolerate Bullying of any kind!

### WSA Bullying Definition -

Bullying is defined as conduct, gestures, or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading, or otherwise offensive to a player, group of players, and/or teammates, and which create a hostile or intimidating environment, or which negatively affects a player's physical and/or emotional well-being. Bullying is any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it is a single incident or a series of incidents that results in intentional pain and distress to the victim.



# Controlling Your Sideline

- **You, as the Coach, are responsible for your Parents on your sideline!**
  - Make sure you talk about this with parents in the first meeting
  - Have ALL your parents sign the Parent's Code of Conduct and give it back to you for keeping
- If the referee gives you a warning, relay that warning to the parents.
  - The referee has authority to send-off a Coach
  - The referee can not send-off a spectator
  - An Association Board Member can ask a spectator to leave
- **The same rule applies for Away Games (U9 and up Teams)**
  - Respect others -
    - Referee Crew
    - Other spectators, including spectators from the other team
    - Players, including players from the other team
    - Any representative of the other Association





# Controlling Your Sideline

- Remember the Referee and the Assistant Referee have a different view of the Game than you do or your parents
  - If you disagree with how the game is being called, ask a parent or Asst Coach to find an Association Board Member to come watch the game
  - Game Results will stand

Keep in mind that many of our WSA referees are children of other WSA Soccer Coaches, WSA Board Members, or other parents that may be nearby with their other children playing soccer

**Be Respectful!**



# Issues with Parents

## Parent Code of Conduct

- At your 1<sup>st</sup> practice review the parent code of conduct and have all parents sign it.
- Explain how a parent's sideline actions affect the Coach and the Team (coach gets kicked out, game gets forfeited, etc.)
- Tell parents you will remind them of the Code of Conduct at games if needed. Let them know that after your warning if their behavior continues, a Board Member will be called to the field, and they could be asked to leave the field until they can cool off.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Offense

- If a parent is getting out of line during game, please take a moment to calmly talk to them about how you as the coach will be kicked out if they continue.
- Sometimes parent's emotions get the best of them and just a respectful reminder is all they need to hear.
- If the parent continues and you need assistance, please send your assistant coach to the concession stands to get a board member.
- The Board members will observe the parent and if needed will ask them to stop. This will be done away from the players and in a professional manner.



## Repeat Offender

- Contact your League Rep and loop them in on the situation. We cannot help you if we do not know about an issue.
- If you feel comfortable speak to the parent with your assistant coach about their actions being against the parent code of conduct.
- If you do not feel comfortable speaking with the parent, please let your league rep know so they can speak to them and hopefully put an end to the behavior.



## WSA Board Intervention

- The Board may take actions to keep our playing environment safe and positive for the youth in our association
- **Warning Issued:** Parents will be sent a formal warning that if their behavior does not cease, they will be banned from attending games for the duration of the season.
- **Formal Notice:** Parents will be issued a formal notice that they are not allowed at games for the duration of the season due to their behavior.
- **Dis-Invite Notice:** The following season if the parent returns and again continues with the same behavior they will be dis-invited, and their player will not be able to register to play for WSA.



# No Victory Without Honor

- I will contribute to a positive environment and game experience
- I will treat all game officials with respect and honor
- I will show all my opponents respect
- As a coach or assistant coach, I will abide by the Coach Code of Conduct
- As a coach or assistant coach, I will not be “ejected” from a match for violent conduct or referee abuse
- As a player I will abide by USYSA Player’s Code, and I will not receive a “red card” for violent conduct or referee abuse
- As a parent or team spectator I will abide by the Parent’s Code of Conduct
- As a parent or team spectator I will not be “ejected” from a match due to violent conduct, referee abuse or inappropriate sideline behavior
- As a member of WSA, I understand that any violation could lead to additional action from the WSA Board or WSA A&D Committee inclusive of suspension for a coach, player, parent/spectator, or teams from participating in future games or tournaments
- I hereby pledge that I will honor the WSA Honor Pledge in all my activities and involvement with Weatherford Soccer Association
- I understand that by doing so I am a part of the effort to make the soccer experience enjoyable for everyone and ensure that all practices and games are played in a positive, safe environment for all



# Avoid Running up the Score

No Victory Without Honor

**No one likes losing... especially 22 to 0.**

- Recreational soccer is a learning experience
- What can I do as a coach?\*
  - Pull players back to goal box during kickoff or goal kicks
  - Have players focus on passing ball a designated number of times before scoring
  - Have players focus on helping a designated player score
  - Focus on defending you side of field
  - Play down the number of players on the field

\*These ideas may work better at different ages



# 50% Playing Rule

No Victory Without Honor

**All players are expected to play 50% of the game**

NTSSA Bylaws and Rules 3.14.3 #6 - Each recreational player, when present at a game, shall be required to play a minimum of 50% of the time, unless the player's time has been reduced for medical or disciplinary reasons, in which case the coach must notify the player, and the opposing coach prior to the beginning of the game that the minimum time has been reduced (non-attendance at practice and non-payment of fees may be cause for disciplinary action).

- For disciplinary reasons, the coach may bench a player
  - Sometimes just not letting the player start the game is enough of a wake up call
- Benching a player should be a LAST resort
  - Talk to the kid first, positive encouragement
  - Talk to the parents second, inform them that if the situation does not improve you will need to bench the player for the next game
- If you have to bench a player:
  - INFORM the parent and the player
  - INFORM the opposing coach
  - INFORM the referee

**For persistent player concerns, contact your League Rep**



# Assistant Coach

- **Why should I have an Assistant Coach?**
  - Help with Practices
  - Cover games or practices if you cannot make it or get sick
- If a Head Coach is removed during a game by the referee AND there is no Assistant Coach designated on Team Roster (and present at game) -  
**The Game is Forfeited!** The kids will stop playing!!
- AND if a Coach is removed from a game, the coach will have to sit out the following game as well, AND if there is no Assistant Coach designated and present: The Game is Forfeited! The kids will NOT play!!

**ALL Assistant Coaches must have a current Background Check AND SafeSport  
to be listed on Team Roster**



# Meeting the Parents

Please contact your parents as soon as possible after receiving your Team Roster  
Parents are very excited to have their kids start the season!

## Talking to parents –

- **Decide on practice Days/Times/Location**

- As the Coach you get to designate practice days/times.
- Please be respectful that parents may be shuffling multiple kids to different practices and locations.

- Tell them about yourself
- Review “Parental Code of Conduct” with them
  - Have parents sign the form and hand it to you
- Have Parent’s complete Medical Waiver
  - For U9 and up Traveling Teams
- What are your goals and expectations for season
- Volunteers for Assistant Coach or a Team Parent
- Would you like parental help during practices?
- Answer their questions

If you do not know the answer to a questions, contact your League Rep



# Practice Equipment

- We have practice soccer equipment available for coaches if needed
  - We hand out equipment by age group – with Coaches for U5 group going first
  - We have a separate table for our U4 Coaches
- Pop-up goals are available based on coach request. Send email request to [WeatherfordSoccer@gmail.com](mailto:WeatherfordSoccer@gmail.com)
- We ask that you sign the equipment out and return it at the end of the season
- We hold onto Team Medals/Trophies until soccer equipment is returned
- Do not be afraid to use your own equipment





# Practicing at Cartwright Park

- Cartwright Soccer Fields are available for team practice use upon sign-up (day/time)
- **Cartwright Park is currently Closed for teams until after February 5<sup>th</sup>**
- Availability of practice fields will be given in following order...
  1. WSA Board Members/Coaches
  2. WSA Coaches that participate in Field Prep Days and sign up to help line fields on Friday evenings
  3. First requests from other coaches
- ALL coaches using Cartwright Park for practices will be asked to help line fields for games on Friday once per season. A sign-up will be provided.

**WSA Field Prep days will be Saturday, February 3rd, and Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> @10am-1pm**



# Other Practice Locations

- It is the Coach's responsibility to find a practice location
- Potential Locations – Many are first come, first served
  - Parks (Love Street, Marshall Park, Cherry Park, McGratton Park, Holland Lake, etc.)
  - Public schools (ask permission at High School)
  - Churches (may need to seek permission from Church)
  - Your backyard
- Be respectful and clean up after practice!
  - Let the kids do it!!
- Be Respectful if somebody tells you that you can not use the area!

**Need practice location ideas, contact your League Rep!!!**



# Game Day

- Things to remember for Game Day –
  - ALL players NEED water
  - **ALL players are wearing shin guards under socks**
  - **No jewelry can be worn** (watches, necklaces, earrings, etc.). NOT EVEN under bandaids.
  - **No hair barrettes with metal** can be worn
- Encourage Players to Arrive Early
- Treat Games as an Event
- Plan some pregame practices to get them warmed up
  - Keep warm-ups exercises positive and easy
  - Be respectful to players, referees, and spectators, including the other team
  - Give positive encouragement to players during the game

**NEW REQUIREMENT** – ALL COACHES will need to wear their Coach Photo ID for games – Head and Assistant Coaches



# Coach Photo IDs


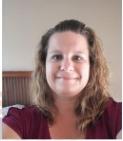
- Coach Photo IDs will be checked by referee during team check-in before games
  - ➔ Please take a picture of your Coach ID with your phone in case you forget your badge in you vehicle.
- Only those Coaches listed on Team Roster with their Coach Photo ID will be able to coach on sidelines during games
- This will be in effect for ALL WSA games
- **IF you LOSE your Coaching Photo ID** – Contact your League Rep and they can help you

VALID ONLY FOR  
US YOUTH SOCCER  
RECOGNIZED PURPOSES: Coach Primary: P R/M Approved: 06/03/2022

**MEMBER PASS SSC**

Association: TXN Age Group: U14  
Level: Recreational  
Name: Cherie Long  
[Redacted]

Club: Weatherford SA  
Team: Outlaws 09  
Team I.D.#: 82045  
Season: 22/23  
I.D.#: 1955401





# Coaching Concerns

## LET US KNOW

- We want to know if you have coaching concerns – parents, players, etc.
- We know you are volunteering your time and energy and want this to be enjoyable experience for you and our players
- We want to help you, BUT we cannot help if we are not aware of your problems or your concerns
- If you have concerns or need help:
- Let your League Rep know of your concern
- Send an email with your concern to [weatherfordsoccer@gmail.com](mailto:weatherfordsoccer@gmail.com) and include your League Rep on the email for tracking purposes



# North Texas Soccer Coaching Education



## Coaching Resources

Did you just get recruited to coach and not sure where to begin? Click on the links below for your age group to access lesson plans and activities to help you out.

	Under-6
	Under-8
	Under-10
	Under-12

COACHING	
COVID Activity Guide	
Coaching Education Program	
Grassroots License	
USSF D License	
USSF C License	
USSF B, A, & Pro Licenses	
Coaching Resources	

COACHING LICENSE PATHWAY	
GRASSROOTS PATHWAY	PRO PATHWAY
4v4	A SENIOR
7v7	
9v9	A YOUTH
11v11	PRO

- Coaching Education
- Practice Ideas for Coaches
- Coaches Resource Center
- .... And More

[https://www.ntxsoccer.org/  
coaching-resources/](https://www.ntxsoccer.org/coaching-resources/)



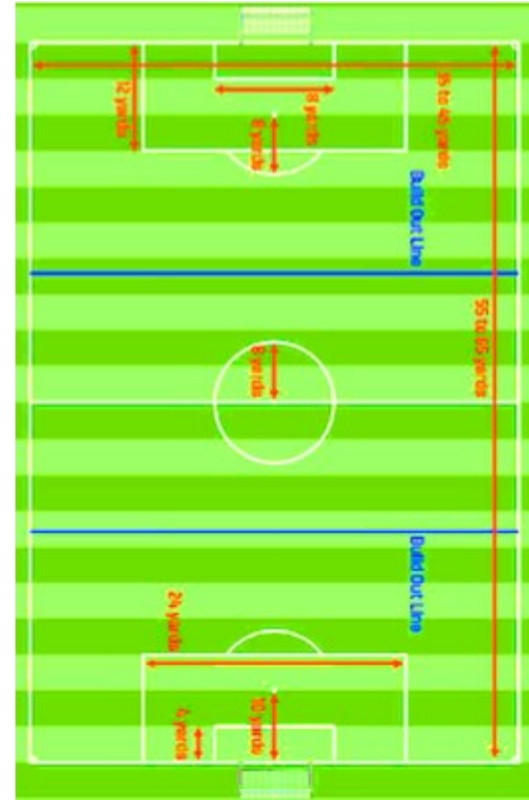
# NCSA Change

AT CARTWRIGHT FIELDS -

Teams on **OPPOSITE** sides of with their parents and guests

This is not the case for other associations. Please be respectful of other associations if your team and/or parents are asked to move so that teams are on opposite sideline to parents.

Parents are asked to act respectfully to other team parents.





# WSA Referees

## Referee Director - Cherie Long

- Not all Referees or Assistant Referees (AR) will call the games the same way
  - That does not mean the Referee/AR is a bad referee, it is just their style.
  - We are working to train for consistency
  - All WSA referees, including AR's are US soccer certified
  - Following the FIFA rules
  - Adjustments are made for age specific games
- What is involved with becoming a Referee?
  - Online classes, videos and tests
  - Field classwork and training
  - Certification by US soccer referee instructor





# WSA Referees – Bad Calls?

## Referee Director - Cherie Long

- If you do not agree with the calls the referee is making?
  - Remember, Referees have a different viewpoint of the Game
  - Send a parent to find a representative of the home association
  - Make sure the individual stays calm
  - Have them explain the situation to the home association representative
  - Ask home association if someone can come monitor the game
- **Under NO Circumstances** should you tell the referee or AR they are doing a bad job
- Coaches may be warned, yellow/red carded and may be required to leave the fields; parents may be asked to leave the fields



# WSA Referees – Bad Calls?

Referee Director - Cherie Long

- Many referees are new and still inexperienced (this is rec soccer); do not discourage them from improving
- Younger referees need to build up their self-esteem
- **FIRST, Question Yourself - Am I sure that I understand the soccer rule?**
- Visit a representative of the home association to ask questions about a call



# WSA Referees – Good Job!

## Referee Director - Cherie Long

- **TELL THEM!** Let them know they did a good job
  - Builds their confidence
  - Makes them feel more secure; Insecurity makes them feel like quitting
  
- Let the home association know
  - We LOVE to hear good things about our referees
  - It lets us know who can handle the job without any further assistance





# International Football Association Board (IFAB) Soccer Playing Rules

- Some rules are age specific
  - Number of players to field and game length
  - When to Substitute
  - What are Build-out Lines
- Some are NTSA or US Soccer enforced playing rules
- Some rules are called leniently by Referees in the younger age groups (U4-U6)
  - If we called everything there would be too many game stoppages for kids to get to play
  - The point is to teach the kids the game of soccer and let them have fun

**Hint:** Download the IFAB App  
This is a great resource for Soccer Laws and Rules. It is recommended for ALL Referees.



# Bad Weather

- When you think that games might be cancelled
  - **– DO NOT ASSUME GAMES ARE CANCELLED!**
- For games at Cartwright park
  - FOLLOW us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/WeatherfordSoccer](http://www.facebook.com/WeatherfordSoccer)
  - Website: <https://www.weatherfordsoccer.org/>
- For NCSA & FWYSA games
  - Stephenville <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071213742881>
  - Granbury <http://granburysoccer.com/>
  - Mineral Wells <http://mwysa.com/>
  - Follow each Soccer Association on Facebook
  - Fort Worth Youth Soccer Association - <https://www.fwyouthsoccer.org/home>

We use WeatherBug App  
to check for Lightning  
In the 10 mile area



WeatherBug®

**PLEASE Check these places  
BEFORE you calling us!**



# Cancelled Due to Weather

- Games Cancelled due to weather will be rescheduled for a later date
  - Be aware that any rescheduled games may be scheduled during week on practice evenings
  - How we determine weather cancellations?
- It is your responsibility, as Coach, to keep an eye on the game schedule
- If your team decides not to show up due to the weather and your games not been canceled, you forfeit the game
  - Remember you are also affecting parents, coaches and players on the other team

**If it is raining AND the fields are in good shape  
AND there is NO Lightning -> WE WILL PLAY GAMES**



# What if Coaching is not for you?

- We understand situations at home and work can change
- **Please DO NOT just walk away!!**
- DO NOT assume another parent will take over
- Every coach must have a completed background check and safe sport training

**Talk to the WSA Board Member**

**Let us help you find a new coach for the Team AND  
get the new coach setup**



Questions?



**Thank you!**

