



COMPETITIVE TEAM VOLUNTEER COACHING REQUIREMENTS

FIVE STEPS to Becoming a Competitive Coach

We encourage adults of all ages to become a volunteer soccer coach. We strongly encourage coaches and potential coaches to attend our coaching meetings throughout the year. Becoming a volunteer coach requires each of the following steps to be completed. Please note there are additional steps for paid coaches.

1. Interview

Anyone interested in coaching a Lawrence Hamnett competitive team must [contact the VP of Competitive Soccer](#) for a discussion of soccer/coaching experience and training philosophy.

2. Coaching License

New Jersey Youth Soccer (NJYS) requires each coach and assistant coach to pass a [USSF coaching course](#), and have a valid Class "F" or higher license. "F" licenses must be issued in New Jersey. Advanced levels are strongly encouraged for tenured coaches on staff. Courses are offered on a regular basis in many different locations across the state. LHSA will reimburse each coach a portion of the course fee upon successful completion. A license is good for life, so be sure to store your certificate in a safe place.

3. Background Check & Fingerprinting (every 3 years)

All competitive youth coaches are required to complete a background check in order to be carded to a team. Background checks include fingerprinting and should be initiated with the help of the [Lawrence Township Recreation Office](#). Background checks are valid for three years and cover all youth sports sponsored by Lawrence Township. You will need to fill-out a form with an assigned code, reserve an appointment online, and pay a nominal fee. The nearest facility is located in Ewing. After your visit, be sure to keep the receipt with the PCN number on it.

4. Concussion Training (every 2 years)

All competitive coaches are required to take a concussion training course and submit a certificate of completion in order to be carded to a team. A free, 30-minute, online concussion training course can be found at the US CDC website: [CDC Heads Up Online Training Course](#). Recertification is required every two years. This is State Law for all youth sports.

5. NJYS Forms (every year)

[New Jersey Youth Soccer](#) requires the following forms to be signed and submitted every year for volunteer coaches:

- [NJYS Kid Safe Form](#)
- [Volunteer Coach Membership Form](#)