

A Warm Welcome To

WILLIAMS LAKE YOUTH SOCCER



We're excited to have you here!

This document is filled with the general information about the Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association and the programs we offer.

Our main form of communication to parents is by email using the "parent" email contact on your registrations.

You can also stay up to date and learn more about WLYSA by following our Facebook page: [Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association - www.facebook.com/wlysa1](https://www.facebook.com/wlysa1)



Volunteer Organized

The Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association is a society organized by a volunteer board of directors since 1991. The board of directors consists of up to 10 individuals that help determine the direction of youth soccer in Williams Lake.

The board has between 1 and 3 part-time employees throughout the year including an administrative coordinator, a technical director, and a spring/summer field's employee.

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WLYSA is dedicated to consistently developing, organizing, and promoting opportunities that allow all youth soccer players, officials and volunteers to participate in the game of soccer.

We promote healthy living, and life-long learning while fostering the development of good sportsmanship and leadership skills in all members.

WLYSA is committed to providing a positive, and respectful environment for all members to reach their desired level of achievement with the sport of youth soccer in the Central Cariboo.

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Player Focused

WLYSA organizes year round opportunities for players to participate in soccer for ages U3 to U18.

House League

The WLYSA Spring Season House League is open to players in U3 to U18. Teams are formed based on the number of registrations per age group and the availability of volunteers to coach the teams.

U3 - U5 players are part of the Active Start Program. They practice once per week for 45 minutes.

U6 - U12 players have one practice per week during the weekdays (approx. 1 hour) and one game per week scheduled on Saturday mornings.

Our U13 - U18 age groups have 2 games per week during the weekdays with no mandatory practices.

Rep Competitive League

The rep years begin with the **Future Stars program** for WLYSA. Open to U9 and U10 players, the program provides an extra practice per week that runs from mid-May to the end of August.

As our players move up in age groups, they move into the **Rep Development Program**. Rep Development is open to players in their U11 and U12 years. Similar to Future Stars, the program offers an extra practice with more refined focus on competitive soccer skills.

Both Future Stars and Rep Development are provided with opportunities to participate in exhibition games and a district/regional tournament. Both age levels must also still participate in the house league.

For players in the U13 to U18 age groups, our **Rep Program** offers an opportunity for players to focus on competitive soccer and participate in at least 2 tournaments over the course of spring and

summer. Teams are formed based on registration numbers into the program. Seniors (U13+) have the option of registering for House, House + Rep or Rep Only.

Community Driven

WLYSA is driven by our community to create a sense of belonging for everyone who participates in youth soccer activities.

Goal 1: To build a sense of community for players to feel welcome and comfortable to play soccer with their friends, meet new friends, and have fun while challenging their skills.

Goal 2: To build a sense of community for the parents and guardians to visit with friends, and meet other parents with children the same age.

Bring your coffee or tea (or grab one from the concession), and join the other parents spending their time on the fields. Or join in on the soccer fun, grab a friend, and coach your children's team together!



Soccer Gear Required

The gear required depends on the age group. Each player is required to have the following gear on the fields:

- Cleats
- Soccer Socks
- Shin Guards
- Shorts (or pants tight fitted to the ankles)
- Jersey - Provided for all age groups by WLYSA.

U3 - U6 are sponsored by Tim Hortons and provided with Shorts, Socks, and Jerseys.

Coached by Volunteers

All our teams are coached by **volunteers**. Parents, Grandparents, Older Siblings, Students, or Family-Friends volunteer each year to coach our teams. We are forever grateful to those that give their time and energy to the youth in our community.

No experience is necessary to coach a team! We encourage all parents to try it out! WLYSA pays for coaching courses through Canada Soccer, Respect in Sport, and BC Soccer for any coach interested in taking them. Courses are online with On-Field components offered in Williams Lake each spring. We also provide weekly coaching plans as a reference for our volunteers to follow when deciding what their team will learn or practice each week.

Teams and Sponsors

The process of team formation begins long before the start of the season. WLYSA is honored to have teams and banners sponsored by local businesses for the Spring Season. Sponsorship goes directly back into our soccer programs, providing teams with jerseys, and supporting our paid referee program. Thank you to each of the organizations that choose to support youth in sports!

A full list of our sponsors can be found on our website www.wlysa.com under the Sponsors tab.

Schedules

The WLYSA spring season runs for approximately 8 weeks. We plan for everything to start the first week of May and then patiently wait to see when the snow melts and the fields are ready for players! Our season always ends the week before the Stampede weekend/July long weekend with the mini jamboree, and senior pizza celebrations.

WLYSA releases the potential practice schedule along with early registration in January each year. The practice schedule is based on the registration numbers from the previous year and projections for the upcoming year. By releasing the schedule early, we hope to avoid overlap with other youth sports or activities and allow parents to organize busy family schedules.

The Saturday game schedule and the team schedules for ages U6 to U18 become available approximately Mid April. The final number of teams per age group must be decided on before the schedule can be made. This is all dependent on the registrations that we receive before late registration begins on March 15th.

Rep practices are generally scheduled for Wednesdays, but it is ultimately up to the coach and their team to choose a day that best fits.

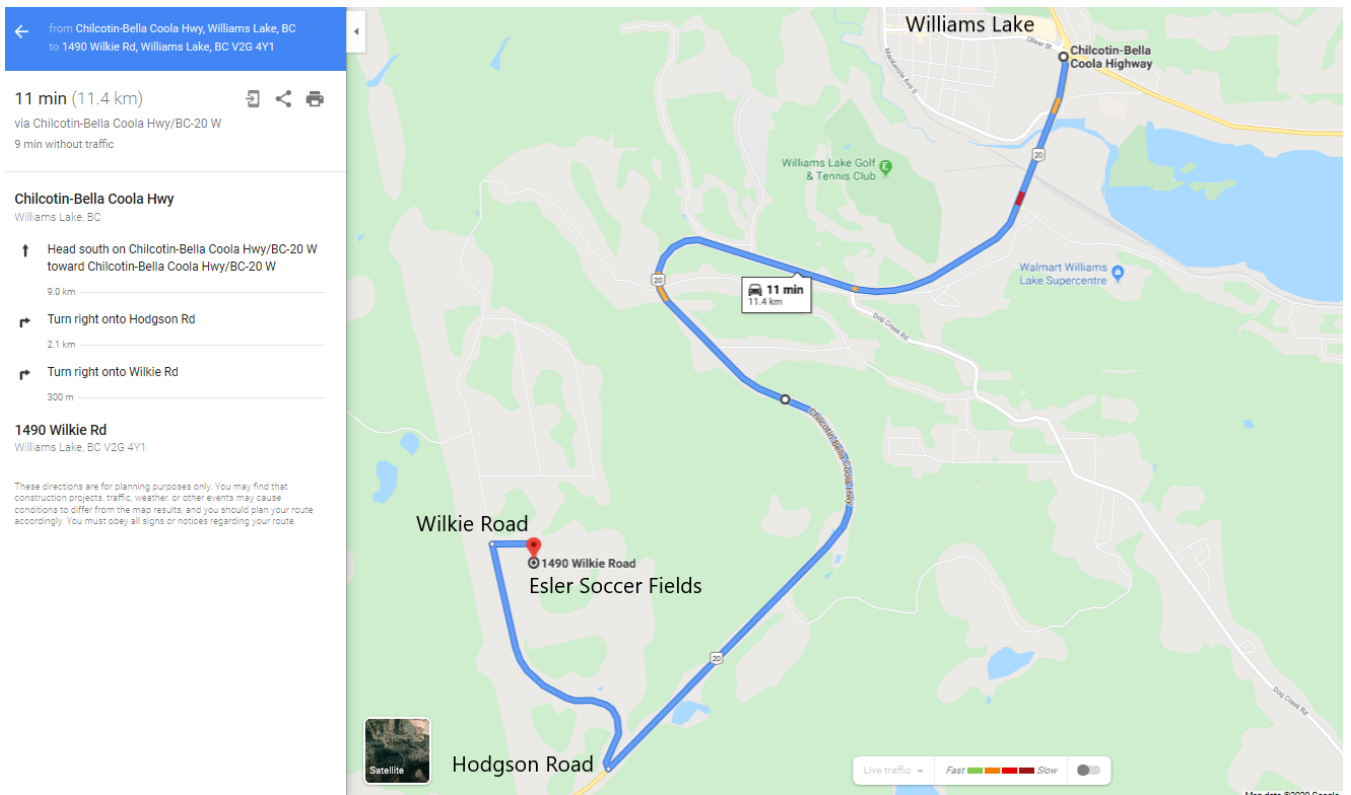


Location

1490 Wilkie Rd, Williams Lake, BC V2G 4Y1

Directions to Esler Soccer Fields: Beginning in Williams Lake, take Chicotin-Bella Coola Highway 20 leaving Williams Lake. You will pass the first exit onto Hodgson Road and continue on the highway for the second entrance. Turn right onto the second entrance of Hodgson Road. Follow Hodgson Road, then take a right onto Wilkie Road. The Esler Soccer Fields will be on the right hand side.

Please only park on one side of Wilkie Road. Overflow parking is available by the Ball Fields (continue down Wilkie Road past Esler Soccer Fields). A pathways connecting to Scotiabank field is available through the woods from the Ball Fields parking.



Fields

WLYSA maintains 5 full regulation size fields in 4 field locations. We are proud to be able to host all practices and games at Esler for all age groups since 2019. This is all thanks to our incredible fields committee and seasonal fields employees that ensure our fields are healthy and safe for all levels of play.

Check out below for a map of the complex, and the directional traffic flow that is suggested during busy periods.

Esler Soccer Complex



Weather

With the Esler Soccer Complex being higher in elevation than downtown Williams Lake, we can never guarantee what the weather will be like based on the weather downtown. Esler is generally cooler than in Williams Lake by 3 - 5 degrees all year round.

Lightning Policy: WLYSA follows the BC Soccer and Canada Soccer Policies regarding weather, including lightning. The rule of 30-30 applies:

- When you can count 30 seconds or less between lightning and thunder, head for safe shelter. If lightning is spotted, immediately head for safe shelter.
- Remain sheltered for 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder



Website Information

www.wlysa.com

Our website is maintained with up to date information and resources for parents, coaches and referees.

As we approach the season, you will be able to find all practice times and the game schedules on the website. They will remain on the website under the "**Practice and Game Schedule**" tab until the end of the season.

<http://wlysa.com/content/2023-practice-and-game-schedule>

Contact Information

For any and all questions and inquiries, our Administrative Coordinator **Alexis** can be reach through admin@wlysa.com or by messaging through our Facebook page.

Facebook Page: **Williams Lake Youth Soccer Association** - www.facebook.com/wlysa1

During the spring season, we have two additional emails that are active.

- miniplayers@wlysa.com - This email will reach our mini division coordinators (U3 - U10) for any questions about teams, or coaching. Silvia is our main contact for the Mini Division Coordinator.
- seniorplayers@wlysa.com - This email will reach our senior division coordinators (U11 - U18) for any questions about teams or coaching. Andrea and Erin are our Senior Division Coordinators.