

U8 Development Program – “Future Stars”

**Overview:** Program for Boys / Girls ages 6 – 7 years old. This is an advanced program designed to ignite the fire and passion within soccer in a developmental structured environment. Focus is on individual development and skill sets.

**Player Selection:** Players are selected to teams via “Blind Draft” through the Club, no special skills are required.

**Team alignment:** Players need to be equal in size and have equal number of players per age so the teams are balanced. Teams need to be no more than 8 players in size. Teams will play in the 4v4 format with no keeper. Players will report to a Coach / Manager on game days.

**Training:** Teams will train on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00pm – 7:00pm. Teams will train in groups so all players will develop equally. Groups can be 8 – 16 players in size depending on the amount of trainers available. We will use H.S. players that need Volunteer hours as Trainers and Assistants to help work with the players. Parent Coaches with no experience will serve as Managers to assist in the Team duties and communication to the parents. Experienced Coaches will serve as Trainers and may not have his/her own team to train each week. We will allow 5-10 minutes at the conclusion of the sessions for the Coaches to meet with their assigned teams for communication purposes.

**Uniform** – Players should receive a Club Training shirt with their uniform. All Training shirts are same in color. Training shirts would be worn on Monday sessions and the players can wear their Game jerseys on Wednesday sessions. Each Coach will get a color matching Team jersey for easy identification. Coaches should get a Training shirt for Monday sessions and can wear their Team jersey on Wednesdays.

**Curriculum:** Each Coach / Trainer will follow a pre-planned curriculum that will highlight each week during the season on what key development plans will be covered. This will help the program develop together and give a perspective on what is to be expected in the players continued growth in to the U8 Development program.

**Game Days:** Each designated team will have a game schedule and play games on Saturday mornings starting at 9:00am. The duration of the games will depend on the amount of teams created. If a Coach cannot make it to a game on game day, another Coach from the program can step in if available or one of the Trainers can step in. These people have direct contact with the players through the training sessions making the transition seamless.

**End of Season:** Each team will participate in the Awards Celebration at the conclusion of their last games complete with – Trophy, Food, Drinks, Snacks provided by the Club.

**Next Steps:** “Player Identification” – Coaches and Director of Coaching - will identify players that have excelled in the program and may be asked to join the “Select / Allstars for further development opportunities. These players can compete in the TCSL / DPL program, play other Club teams in Friendlies and or continue training prior to the Spring Season. At the conclusion of the Spring Season players that excelled in the Allstar program will be invited to the Competitive Tryouts.

**Club Goal:** To grow players physically, technically and psychologically through enhanced training and player development. We want to foster a love for the game and a desire to want more. The process should be fun yet specific focused on developing the player’s skill sets.