

SPACE COAST UNITED 2008-2005 ACADEMY SELECT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION



US Soccer: Best Practices for Coaching Soccer in the United States.

“True player development focuses on the development of the player, not the development of the team! Up to U12, this should be the only criteria used in designing and running youth soccer programs”

Ron Quinn, Leading contributor to US Youth Soccer Programming

WHAT IS ACADEMY AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Academy Program was designed to challenge and better prepare those players in the Youth Development Program (YDP) for the next level of soccer. In effect we are tiering this group to train together and play against other Clubs with the focus on developing players for the older age groups. Our basic philosophy is that focusing on individual player development with fundamental ball skills, realistic and fair game time and developing players in all areas of the field should be the overriding factors at this age.

The Academy Select approach places the emphasis on the player and their individual development and not that of the team. The main focus is technical development without the pressure of short term, result oriented games.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO DO?

- We want to develop a pool of players for the 2008 and 2007s rather than teams at each age group.
- With the 2006 and 2005 year groups we will start to tier the pool of players into more of a team focus. However, all players in the pool are still being developed.
 - The end goal will be to ensure that as we move towards 11v11 we have a big enough talent pool to create at least one team in each age division.
 - To ensure the Academy process works from week to week the Coaching Directors will meet with the Coaches and Trainers to pick the teams for the following weekend based on the teams we will be playing.

WHAT WILL THE ACADEMY PROGRAM DELIVER?

The Academy Select Program is intended to enhance development by providing professional coaching to young soccer players who have already showed signs of being ready for a higher level of play. The SCUSC Academy is geared towards the individual player's skill and technique. Team results are secondary at this young age and will not be a priority.

The Academy group's goals are to help the young individual player learn and refine the basic techniques, of the game, and then adding and introducing advanced skills when the players show they are ready. Team results are secondary at this young age and will not be a priority.



LOSING OUR LATE BLOOMERS

By Bob Bigelow
 “A child’s athletic ability prior to puberty is an absolutely meaningless indicator of a child’s athletic ability post puberty,”
 What they are at 8 or 10 is generally not going to mean a thing about what they are at 14, 16 or 18. The whole process of puberty, which in girls and boys in this country can run from age 9 to 15, yields such a different body in so many kids who are even the same age.

WHAT WILL THE ACADEMY PROGRAM DELIVER? CONT'D

Academy training will include:

- The main objective of Academy is to provide a program that develops talented young players in an environment where the focus is NOT on results of the team but instead on results of the player.
- Individual ball oriented, technical training including dribbling, running with the ball feints, escaping from defenders and ball striking.
- The development of teaching roles/shape and not positions.
- Teaching small groups to keep possession of the ball with the use of individual skill as well as passing and movement.
- The introduction of passing and receiving with both feet leading to increase in speed of play.
- Training the players as a pool eradicates from the very start any issues on who is playing on the A or B team, Premier or Elite, etc. We believe that this approach can help to foster and grow a wider group of players and recognizes players can develop at different rates over a season. This will allow for early and late developers in a environment that focuses on player development as the goal.

ACADEMY VS COMP/SELECT (WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES?)

ACADEMY CHARACTERISTICS

- Clubs create pools of players instead of teams (numbers may vary). Our aim is to have 18-24 players per age group, meaning that the pool splits into at least to team for games.
- Smoother transition from recreational soccer to travel soccer.
- Some tournament and festival play.
- Individual player development is the first priority.
- Best Coaches in the Club working with the Academy age groups (numbers may vary)

COMP CHARACTERISTICS

- Small inflexible rosters of 12 players max.
- Importance can be placed on league standings at expense of player development and style of play.
- Radio controlling coach is the stereotype.
- Multiple tournament play.

TRAINING SCHEDULE

- Summer Camps: **Compulsory Team Camp July 25-July 29 Viera Regional Park**
- 8 months starting in the week of August 15th, 2016 and running until May 12th, 2017.
- Off season December/January (note we normally offer additional free practices over this period which mainly encompass small sided games).
- 64 practices during that time frame.
- Will practice 2-3times per week with games on weekend.
- Each age division pool will practice together. For example, the U9 boys and girls will train side by side.
- Each group will be working from a set curriculum devised by the Youth Director and Director of Coaching.

WHAT ARE THE ACADEMY OPEN DAYS?

As an FYSA Soccer Academy, Space Coast United holds open days for ages U9-U12. The Open Days involve the Academy Trainers delivering a typical model session to allow parents to view the quality of coaches and type of sessions that each child will be participating in.



HOW DO THE OPEN DAYS DIFFER FROM REGULAR TRYOUTS?

In partnership with FYSA, Space Coast United wants to present a pressure free environment to current and potential members in the younger age groups. The goal of Space Coast United is to produce those players who have come through the program which starts at 3 years old. However, we welcome players new to the program also. The decision to join Academy is a joint one between coach and parent. What we look for is commitment to improve above all else. If both parents and child demonstrate that, we then look to offer an opportunity. This is different from a regular tryout where the coach is trying to create a team, and picks the current crop of best 10-12 players. We take a much longer term view.

ACADEMY OPEN DAYS DATES AND TIMES

Tue May 31 2016

U9 (2008)

U10 (2007)

U11(2006)

U12 (2005)

FIELD 5

Thur June 2 2016

U9 (2008)

U10 (2007)

U11(2006)

U12 (2005)

FIELD 5

PLAYER EVALUATIONS

Each player will receive a report card at the end of the Fall and end of the Spring season beginning in Fall 2016. The goal is to provide parents and children with a guide on improvement or lack of, and to ensure that if our players are to improve responsibility has to be taken by all stakeholders.

WHAT IS THE ACADEMY GOAL?

With a cohesive curriculum at each age group the Club aims to provide

players capable of competing at NPL (13) & Above via YDP and Academy Select. Space Coast United is taking a longer term view to building a Club that works from the same development ethos. We are not a win at all costs Club, meaning that we do not deviate from the style of play we are trying to teach in order to get a short term result. We believe if we build a correct technical, tactical and psychological foundation, then we prepare our children properly for the older age brackets.

HOW DO WE COMPARE TO OTHER CLUBS?

COST: We endeavour to present all our costs up front at the beginning of the year. We will not ask for more as the year continues. What you see in the cost breakdown above is what you pay. Overall we compare well against other clubs in Brevard County in terms of cost. However, we do certainly feel we offer the best value for money.

TRAINING: As we go into Fall 2016 we will have some of the most experienced coaches not only at SCUSC, but in Brevard County working with our Academy players. Our goal is to ensure the best coaches are working with Academy to ensure that the best foundation possible is being built. We will have no less than five A License Coaches and four Youth License coaches working within the Academy providing the best possible soccer experience.

SERVICE HOURS

Every family with the Club is expected to offer some time (unless they pay to opt out), allowing the club to fulfill seasonal obligations. We have a Service Coordinator who helps to organize members during these various events.

- \$50 opt out fee
- 10 hours a year
- Club sanctioned events
- field work
- concession stand
- end of season party

ACADEMY SELF IMPROVEMENT

COVENANT

- It is understood that as an SCUSC Academy players are expected to commit to self improvement away from regular practice.
- This can be accomplished by practicing skills learned at practice by oneself, or in a pick up environment.
- Taking the opportunity to watch some professional soccer.
- Private or small group lessons outside of regular practice.
- We want to establish a personal responsibility culture within the group.

US SOCCER AGE GROUP CHANGES

BIRTH-YEAR REGISTRATION

Birth-year registration calendars will now align with the start of the calendar year and run from January to December, rather than August to July as it had previously. For example, a U-15 player (players 15 years old or younger) would have a birth year of 2000 (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31) for the 2015 registration year. In 2016, U-15 players would be born in 2001 or earlier. Birth-year registration applies to all player age groups and not just players age 12 and younger.

The initiative will align registration with the international standard, while simultaneously providing clearer information on player birth dates to combat 'relative age effect'.

U9 will now equate with all those born in 2008.

U10 2007

U11 2006

U12 2005

WHAT WILL YOU PAY FOR ACADEMY?

SUMMER TEAM CAMP

July 25-July 29

Team Camp cost \$110

STRIKING-FINISHING PROGRAM

Monday 2008-2007 5-5:45pm

Friday 2006-2005 5-5:45pm

\$160 for the year \$5 per session
optional Program

2008 & 2007 YEAR GROUP REGISTRATION COSTS

\$265 for the year (covers cost of referees, lights, field maintenance, equipment)

TRAINING COSTS

\$450 (breaks down to \$7 per practice)
This is based on practices not including street soccer over the winter season.

2006 & 2005 YEAR GROUP REGISTRATION COSTS

\$330 for the year
(covers cost of referees, lights, field maintenance, equipment)

TRAINING COSTS

\$450 (breaks down to \$7 per practice)
This is based on practices not including street soccer over the winter season.

HOW DO YOU PAY?

Registration and training costs are paid via online registration and can be completed in 4 options:

Option 1: \$150 commitment Fee at registration.

Option 2: Pay all other fees after initial commitment by July 15

Option 3: Pay registration and then the training fees in two Instalments.

Option 4: Pay registration fee and then pay training fees over 7 Installments.

JAMBOREES/TOURNAMENTS

2008-2007 \$150

2006-2005 \$200

(This will be collected at the start of the season to be used for upcoming tournament and jamborees registration/referee fees)

PUMA UNIFORMS COSTS

\$160 (including two Puma training shirts) via Eurosport (note there will be a Eurosport Club store with various branded items to purchase also)

WHAT LEAGUES AND TOURNAMENTS WILL WE PLAY IN?

2008-2007 YEAR GROUPS

This coming year the 2008 groups will play locally within the Brevard Youth Soccer League (BYSL). The 2007 groups will play BYSL in the Fall and the pool being split in the Spring between Greater Central Florida (GCF) and BYSL. Dependant upon the group they may play both seasons in GCF. It is important to note that the pool of players will still be fluid dependant upon player improvement.

Nov: Phoenix Cup

Dec: 3v3 Space Coast 3v3

Challenge

Jan: Orlando City Invitational

Apr: Vero Cup and/or Brevard Cup

2006 & 2005 YEAR GROUPS

The 2006 boys and girls will play in GCF & BYSL. We will start to tier the roster at these ages with the majority of players playing in the same league for the season.

Players will play either GCF or BYSL based on their technical, physical, psychological and tactical capabilities to compete.

Nov: Phoenix Cup & Disney Showcase (one team from the pool will attend each)

Dec: 3v3 Space Coast 3v3

Challenge

Jan: Orlando City Invitational

Feb: Region Cup for one team of u12 players

Apr: Vero Cup and/or Brevard Cup (one team from the pool will attend each)

Region Cup: Both boys and girls U12 groups will be entered into the FYSA Region Cup starting in February.

FUNDRAISING

We will be asking a parent's from each group to take some responsibility for fundraising opportunities.



PUMA UNIFORM

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