



2011/2012

AYSC Developmental Soccer Parent & Player Handbook

Welcome to AYSC Developmental Soccer at Brown Road Park

The purpose of Developmental soccer is to give all players the chance to experience the game of soccer as well as to develop their individual and team skills. Players grow and develop at tremendously different rates during these age groups. It is expected that no player within Aldergrove Youth Soccer Club is denied the chance to participate and develop to the fullest of their potential.

All games are for FUN ... let's keep it that way!

Brief Overview

Age Group	# of Players on Field	Coach	Referee	Length of Half	Corner Kicks	Throw-Ins
U6	4 aside, no goalkeeper	On field	Provided	25 minutes	Yes	Yes
U7	5 aside, including goalkeeper	On field	Provided	25 minutes	Yes	Yes
U8	6 aside, including goalkeeper	Not on field	Provided	25 minutes	Yes	Yes
U9/U10	7 aside, including goalkeeper	Not on field	Provided	30 minutes	Yes	Yes

- there is no overtime or shootouts, no offsides
- goalkeepers should not play more than one half per game
- players must be rotated through all positions throughout the season
- players should have equal playing time
- **no "slide tackles" or "slide checks"** - should a player commit a slide tackle against an opponent, it will be considered a dangerous free kick offence and will result in an indirect free kick
- the number of players on a field above are a GUIDELINE - coaches can agree to adjust the numbers up or down slightly, especially at the younger ages, depending on circumstances (e.g. many players away, or both having large teams who all show up)
- if one team is short players, the other team is encouraged to lend players so that a game can go ahead (ideally, each team would have at least one substitute); if necessary, mix the teams and play

Player Responsibilities

You have made a commitment to soccer this season: you need to do your very best at every practice and game. Your commitment (or lack of commitment) affects EVERYONE on your team; you are an integral part of your team. Play hard and have FUN!

Parent Responsibilities

Parents are responsible for making sure players make it to as many games and practices as possible and **must contact the team manager / coach if your player is unable to make the game.**

- please arrive 15-20 minutes before scheduled game start time — this allows the coach and players time to warm up, and parents to set up nets
- parents are responsible for setting up and / or taking down nets if required — no nets, no game
- volunteer to help the team out — bring oranges, be the manager, help the coach
- the games are for FUN so all comments from parents and fans should be kept positive - model good sportsmanship and cheer all good plays ... both teams!
- encourage your player to do their best and have fun — keep the focus off of winning

Coaches' Responsibilities

Coaches are primarily responsible for helping each and every player develop to his / her full potential, as best they can. All coaches are volunteers who have given up their time to encourage your son or daughter's development as a soccer player — parents, please remember that coaches are learning, too, and support your coach by volunteering to help out with team duties. Coaches, see AYSC's Developmental Soccer Coaches Handbook for more information on coaching responsibilities.

Required Equipment

Provided by the Club at the Start of the Season

- Jersey: An extra shirt or jacket may be worn under the jersey. Goalkeepers must wear jerseys of a colour that distinguishes them from other players and referee.
- Shorts: Shorts are provided by the Club. Track pants are also allowed (not provided by the Club).
- Soccer Socks: Must cover the entire shin-guard.

Not Provided by the Club

- Shin-Guards: Are mandatory for all age groups to prevent injury.
- Footwear: Cleats are required for outdoor games. Non-marking runners are required for indoor practices. Footwear must be safe and will be inspected by the referee.

A player must not use equipment or wear anything which is dangerous to his / herself or another player. Rings, necklaces, watches, bracelets, earrings and barrettes MUST be removed. Hats with visors (e.g. ball caps) or hoodies should not be worn, as they block a player's vision (consider a toque instead). Casts on arms may be permissible if they present no risk to others.

Boot Exchange

AYSC maintains a soccer boot exchange at Brown Road. If you have used boots to exchange or donate, please bring them to the concession at Brown Road on any game day.

Practices

Due to the likelihood that some games may be cancelled due to rain or snow over the course of the season, AYSC schedules "½ game, ½ practice" sessions on Wednesday nights from the start of the season until the end of October. These Fall Wednesday games are held to make up for the likelihood that some games will be cancelled due to poor weather. (As a result of these Wednesday night games, Aldergrove players typically get to play significantly more games than other local Clubs who simply cancel all games during December and January.)

Developmental teams do not hold formal practices apart from Wednesday nights until after November 1. Practices are held in local elementary school gymnasiums. Local schools do not assign gym times until late September / early October; additional information regarding practice schedules will be forwarded to coaches once our gym contracts are in place.

The Club is considering offering a weeknight drop-in 'Academy' for those players, parents and coaches who wish to train in a practice setting during September / October. More information will be sent to coaches and parents as details are confirmed.

Inclement Weather Procedures

Rain

Games are played regardless of the degree of rain. **However, the grass fields at Brown Park are sometimes closed by the Township of Langley due to too much water on the field. The Township can make this decision as late as the night before game day** (or even the morning of a game day in extreme weather). In some instances, the Club itself may decide to close the fields depending on the weather. If the fields are deemed unplayable, the Club's Developmental Coordinator will email all coaches and parents as soon as the decision is known. **You are encouraged to check your email or the AYSC website often if the weather is questionable.**

Snow

In the event of snow on the field, all Developmental games will be cancelled.

All-Weather Field Approved for Aldergrove

On Monday April 11, 2011 the Township of Langley Council unanimously approved a Township contribution of \$1.75 Million towards the development of an artificial turf field at Aldergrove Athletic Park for 2011-2012. The new field will provide an all-weather surface for soccer in Aldergrove (meaning fewer rained-out games for our Club).

Completion of the new field may occur as early as Fall 2012 as conditions permit. More information on the construction of the new field will be provided to AYSC members as it becomes available.

Questions, Comments?

Questions or comments regarding the AYSC Developmental Soccer program can be directed to:

Tanya Simonsen

Developmental Coordinator

Aldergrove Youth Soccer Club

ayscdevelopmental@live.com

604.626.6062

www.aldergrovesoccer.com