



2014/2015 AYSC Developmental Soccer Parent & Player Handbook

Welcome to AYSC Developmental Soccer!

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!

Player Responsibilities

You have made a commitment to play soccer this season: you need to do your very best at every practice and game. You are an integral part of your team — how hard you try affects EVERYONE on your team. Play hard and have FUN!

Parent Responsibilities

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

- you must arrive at least 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 (not coaches) are responsible for setting up and / or taking down nets if required — **no nets, no game**
- please make sure you DO NOT REMOVE THE NET from the crossbar when taking down the nets — the net should stay on the crossbar and be pushed to the middle of the crossbar, and then laid “back and forth” in the bag
- the red Tim Horton’s 6-seat benches and pop up tents are for the players’ use, so that the coach can keep players who are off the field in one area to make substitutions
- 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 regardless of the team making the play — 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 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 (Included in Fees)

- Jersey: An extra shirt or jacket may be worn UNDER the jersey. Goalkeepers must wear jerseys that are a different colour that distinguishes them from other players and the 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 might be dangerous. 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/Games/Academy's

The Fall season starts in September, soon after school starts, and goes to the end of February. The season will break for the Christmas holidays (approximately 2nd week of December through 2nd week of January).

Practices: AYSC schedules “½ practice, ½ game” sessions on Wednesday nights from the start of the season until the end of October. As a result of these Wednesday night games, Aldergrove players typically get to play significantly more games than other local Clubs who cancel all games during December and January.

Formal practices are not held until after November 1. Practices are held in local elementary school gymnasiums or on the turf field, for some U9/10 teams, depending on the availability. **The School Board does not assign gym days/times until late September / early October. Once we have the gym contracts from the School Board, a practice schedule will be formed. Your team could be practicing on any weeknight after November 1st as gym time and turf time on Wednesdays is limited.** Additional information regarding practice schedules will be forwarded to coaches once our gym contracts are in place.

Games: Game day is Saturday. Have your team arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled game time for warm up, while parents are setting up the nets.

U5/U6

- September-October: games Saturday mornings and “½ practice, ½ games” Wednesday evenings outdoors at Brown Park
- November-December: “½ practice ½ games” INDOORS at a local school gym, schedule TBA *and* games Saturday mornings OUTDOORS on the turf fields at Aldergrove Athletic Park

- January-February: ½ practice ½ games INDOORS at a local school gym, schedule TBA (no outdoor Saturday games for U5/U6s during the normally cold and rainy months)

U7/U8 and U9/10

- September-October: games Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings outdoors at Brown Park (*Wednesdays follow a “½ game, ½ practice” format*)
- November-February: games Saturday mornings ONLY, OUTDOORS on the turf fields at Aldergrove Athletic Park

Academy: The Club is considering offering a drop-in 'Academy' for players, parents and coaches who are looking for additional / higher-level training. 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 Brown Park fields depending on the weather. If the Brown Park 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. Note that ONLY the Club can cancel a game / games; coaches should NEVER cancel any games themselves.**

All Developmental ages play on Aldergrove's all-weather artificial turf fields at Aldergrove Athletic Park starting in November, resulting in far fewer rained-out games for our Club.

Snow

In the event of snow on the field, all games will be cancelled – coaches / parents will be notified by email.

Rules of Soccer — Brief Overview

Age Group	# of Players on Field	Coach	Referee	Length of Half	Corner Kicks	Throw-Ins
U5/U6	5 aside, NO goalkeeper	on field	optional	25 minutes	Yes	Yes
U7/U8	6 aside, including goalkeeper	not on field	optional	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 that 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"** – a slide tackle will result in an indirect free kick for the other team

- 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

AYSC – Building Community Soccer in Aldergrove

The Executive of the Aldergrove Youth Soccer Association works very hard to provide quality soccer programs within the Township of Langley, with programming from youth all the way through to adult (in partnership with the Aldergrove United adult club). AYSC follows BC Soccer's Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) model, which promotes player development from "Wellness to World Cup".

- U18 Boys 2014 – Fraser Valley District Champions
- U17 Girls 2014 – Gold at Provincial Championships
- U17 Girls 2008, U17 Boys 2010 – advanced to Provincial Championships
- AYSC players have gone on to the Whitecaps residency program
- AYSC players have received soccer scholarships to universities such as UNBC

Although the AYSC is perhaps one of BC's smallest clubs, we're very proud that we run the Club extremely efficiently, with some of the lowest fees in the Lower Mainland. Registration fees are inclusive of ALL of the following:

- BC Soccer fees
- insurance
- referees and linespersons
- an individual and a team photo
- uniforms (jersey, shorts and socks)
- use / upkeep of equipment (balls, cones, and nets)
- field maintenance (lining) and other field charges for all-weather and grass fields
- general Club operating costs (accounting, advertising, printing etc.)

Unlike many Clubs, the AYSC does not have ANY paid Executive or coaching positions. WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS, THE AYSC COULD NOT EXIST. We invite you to get involved with our Club by volunteering to be a coach, team manager, or Executive — contact Club Office Manager Angie Schonewille at registrar@aldergrovesoccer.com or 604.856.5839 for more information.

Thanks for making Aldergrove your home Club!

Questions, Comments?

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

Developmental Coordinator

Aldergrove Youth Soccer Club

developmental@aldergrovesoccer.com

www.aldergrovesoccer.com

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