



# ALDERGROVE

YOUTH SOCCER CLUB

## 2021/2022 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 / Team Leader if your player is unable to make the game.

- you must arrive at least 15 minutes before the scheduled game start time — this allows the Team Leader and players time to warm up, and parents to set up nets
- parents (not Team Leaders) 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
- please volunteer to help with the team — bring oranges, be the manager, help the Team Leader!
- 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



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## *Team Leader Responsibilities*

Team Leaders are primarily responsible for helping each player develop to his / her full potential, as best they can. All Team Leaders are volunteers who have given up their time to encourage your player's development as a soccer player. **Parents, please remember that Team Leaders are learning too, and support your Team Leader by volunteering with team duties.** Team Leaders, see AYSC's Developmental Soccer Team Leader Handbook for more information on Team Leader responsibilities.

## *Required Equipment*

### **Provided by the Club at the Start of the Season (Included in Fees)**

- Jersey: An extra shirt or jacket can be worn UNDER jerseys. Hoodies are not recommended but if worn must be tucked under jerseys. Keepers must wear a different coloured jersey to distinguish them from other players and the referee.
- Shorts: Shorts are provided by the Club. Shorts may be worn over leggings or track pants (not provided by the Club). (Track pants are not considered "proper" attire for older ages, however they may be worn for practices.)
- 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 or runners are required for outdoor games. Non-marking runners are required for any 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) should not be worn, as they block a player's vision (consider a toque instead). Only lightweight arm casts wrapped with a soft material are allowed. Casts made of plaster are not allowed as per Canada Soccer regulations.

### **Boot Exchange**

AYSC maintains a free soccer boot exchange at Aldergrove Athletic Park (Rubbermaid bins in the large container). If you need boots, check to see if there are a pair that will fit your player. If you have used boots to exchange or donate, please put them in a Rubbermaid bin on any session day.



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## **Practices**

The format for weeknight sessions is half practice / half game. Team Leaders will conduct a practice session with their team, and then play an intra-squad game (sometimes called a scrimmage) for the remainder of the time.

## **Games**

All AYSC activities take place at Aldergrove Athletic Park (AAP), behind Betty Gilbert Middle School.

The Fall season starts in September and goes to the end of February. The season breaks for the Christmas holidays (approximately 2nd week of December through 2nd week of January).

The format for Saturdays is to play a game against another team. Team Leaders will conduct a short warm-up session (10-15 minutes) with their team, and then play a game against another team for the remainder of the time. The U5/U6s will divide their team in half and play two games against another team. SCORES / STANDINGS ARE NOT KEPT AT THE DEVELOPMENTAL LEVEL.

### **U5/U6**

- Saturdays – game at AAP from September to December
- Wednesdays – split practice / game at AAP from September to December
- U5/U6 season ends at Christmas break, but AYSC may offer training opportunities for this group in January / February if there is interest

### **U7/U8**

- Saturdays – game at AAP from September to February
- Wednesdays – split practice / game at AAP from September to February
- season ends at end of February

### **U9/10**

- Saturdays – game at AAP from September to February
- Wednesdays or Thursdays – split practice / game at AAP from September to February
- season ends at end of February



## Inclement Weather Procedures

### Rain / Snow

Games are played regardless of the degree of rain. However, fields 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 will email all Team Leaders 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; Team Leaders should NEVER cancel any games themselves.**

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

### Laws of the Game — Brief Overview

Age Group	# of Players on Field	Team Leaders	Referee	Length of Half	Corner Kicks	Throw-Ins
U5/U6	4-5 aside, <b>no goalkeeper</b>	on field	optional	25 minutes	Yes	Yes
U7/U8	6 aside, <b>no goalkeeper</b>	not on field	optional	25 minutes	Yes	Yes
U9/U10	7 aside, including goalkeeper	not on field	provided	25 minutes	Yes	Yes

- there is no overtime or shootouts; no offside calls are made
- 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"** – will result in an indirect free kick
- **the number of players on a field above are a GUIDELINE** – Team Leaders can agree to adjust numbers up or down depending on circumstances (e.g. many players away, or both having large teams who all show up) – if necessary, mix the teams and play!



## ***AYSC – Building Community Soccer in Aldergrove***

The AYSC Executive 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 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 other local Clubs who have a large paid staff (on-field and administrative), the AYSC is largely a volunteer-driven club.** WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS, THE AYSC COULD NOT EXIST. We invite you to get involved with our Club by volunteering to be a Team Leader, team manager, or Executive member – contact us at [info@aldergrovesoccer.com](mailto:info@aldergrovesoccer.com) for more information.



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## ***Questions, Comments?***

Please contact AYSC with any questions or concerns you may have as the season progresses – we want to hear about and address any issues sooner rather than later.

### **Aldergrove Youth Soccer Club**

[info@aldergrovesoccer.com](mailto:info@aldergrovesoccer.com)

604-835-5088

[www.aldergrovesoccer.com](http://www.aldergrovesoccer.com)

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