

Coaches Guidelines

Player development, not team development, is the starting point from which the coaches will work. From player development, team development will follow naturally.

Our philosophy as coaches should be:

- Total enjoyment for all players.
- Excellent coaching standards.
- Repetition of coaching practice creating good playing habits.
- Communication between coaches and players.
- Use of cooperative coaching styles (question and answer/guided discovery).

Aspects of team play starting with individual development are as follows:

- Encouraging passing and control.
- Improving player confidence and composure on the ball.
- Encouraging building up play from the defensive third where it is appropriate.
- Take away the fear of failure by allowing players to express themselves.
- Developing technical ability to its fullest capacity.
- Creating space all over the field using width and depth in possession of the ball.
- Promoting positive attacking soccer.
- Working on attacking and defending as an individual, group and as a team.
- Practice and development of players using BIFC tactical style of play. At small sided 6v6 (GK-1-2-1-1) formation should be promoted, developing to (GK-3-4-1 or GK-3-3-2) formation at 9v9. This will encourage defensive and offensive midfield play.

As a coach for BIFC, it is important that you address the above aspects and include them in your coaching program. We owe it to the players to continue to encourage, reinforce and help them to develop their game in the correct way.

Regarding play from the defensive third, get away from the long ball from the keeper to the midfield or forwards all the time. The long ball method results, more often than not, in the opposition regaining possession, albeit in a less dangerous situation. There is still a place for that type of play, for instance in a quick counter attack, but we need greater variation in our game. Therefore encourage back players to break wide and use the width and look to receive the ball from the keeper to initiate play from the defensive third of the field (where it is on to do so) and play through midfield. Also encourage passing back to the keeper to maintain possession if needed as part of the build-up (keeper-sweeper) instead of just playing the ball forward at the wrong time with the risk of losing possession.

It is development, not just winning, that is the aim at this stage. In time, winning will come from it and your team will develop and be successful because of it and the level of satisfaction of coaches, players and parents will be much greater as a consequence.

Please implement the following aims:

1. Ensure that all soccer activities are conducted in a safe environment.
2. Communicate with players, coaches, referees and parents in a respect manner.
3. Provide coaching to the best of your ability.
4. Adhere to the code of conduct.
5. Attend all games and coaching sessions where possible.
6. Work with the program directors should any problems occur with the team.
7. Monitor the player's progress on a collective and individual basis including private discussions with parents and players where appropriate.
8. Produce and continually update your own personal coaching portfolio.
9. Attend as many coach's clinics as possible to help reinforce, as a group of coaches, continuity of coaching direction.
10. Keep up to date accurate records of all the games.
11. Focus on creating self-thinking, self-determining players.
12. Provide copies to the club of any coaching qualifications you have gained.
13. Submit team evaluations by the given date before club evaluations.

The aim here is to start a development program for coaches to follow into the future, thereby ensuring that we are all working in the same direction for continuity of coaching direction and content throughout the club. From this, over time, a clear coaching program and style of play will develop. As a consequence, all BIFC teams will be identified by it, be proud of it, and be successful as a result.

Code of Conduct for BIFC

RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS

The Coach

1. To dress appropriately and smartly.
2. Arrive on time and prepared for all training and games.
3. To encourage and be positive in correcting faults.
4. To discuss player progress with parents and players.
5. To be prepared to restrain (politely but firmly) overly enthusiastic parents.
6. To listen to the players.
7. To be courteous to referees and assistants.
8. To know emergency procedures, including ambulance telephone numbers and first aid.
9. Comply with tryout, guest play and playing-up procedures.
10. Ensure team's attendance at BIFC and Club designated events and tournaments.
11. To be capable of working miracles on a regular basis!