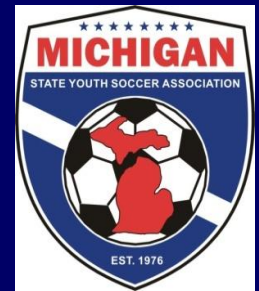



WMYSA Academy Parent Education



Prepared by Gil Urban WMYSA Academy Director



WMYSA Academy

Purpose: *The WMYSA Academy is designed to enhance development of U8/U7 age players within each club. It is intended for those young players who are interested in advanced training and their parents recognize that the academy structure is more appropriate than “select” team win/loss records at this age.*

Benefit: *This style of training and play is strongly encouraged by the USSF and US Youth Soccer organization as being the best for player development. Age appropriate training results in better players long term.*

Philosophy: *Academy programs allow young players to grow into the game in a fun way with the freedom to experiment and develop at an age appropriate pace. This contrasts with the traditional team format where much importance is placed on the game score. Academy programs allow clubs to create an innovative learning and development environment that also includes multi-club interaction.*

Parent/Coach Behavior: *Academy promotes a fun development environment. Please, only positive encouragement*

Approach: *4 Sunday afternoon Jamborees; three 4 v 4 mini matches on small field with pop up goals; no goal keepers*

YOUTH PLAYERS

- “The most fundamental skill is individual mastery of the ball and the creativity that comes with it.”

US Soccer Coaching Education department

- “Talking tactics becomes important as players get older, but the three most important cornerstones of any tactical discussion will always be technique, technique, technique!”

Jay Hoffman US National Staff



Under 8 Academy 4v4

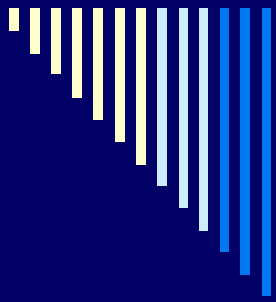


- ❑ Conceptualize me and a teammate
- ❑ No sense of pace. Flat out!
- ❑ Overly sensitive and needs constant reinforcement
- ❑ Limited ability to execute more than one task



PLAYER DEVELOPMENT IS...

- ❑ “Creating soccer environments which allow for creativity, spontaneity and experimentation that help promote the players’ lifelong love of the sport.” *United States Soccer Federation*
- ❑ Understanding that youth soccer rarely looks like adult soccer (PATIENCE!!!)
- ❑ Focusing on the process, not the outcome!



WMYSA Academy

Promotes Development versus Winning

DEVELOPMENT

versus

WINNING

Skill Oriented



Attitude

Creative Environment



Traditional Environment

Maximize Touch



Maximize Scoring

Long Term Success



Short Term Success



Parents ABC's

- ATTITUDE- Be positive and supportive of the player and the team.
What are you Telling/Teaching your kids by your words and tone?
- BELIEF- Development is a marathon. Be patient and let your child develop love for the game and the skills will come.
- CONTROL- You set the standard for behavior!

Coaches and Parents

- “The game is the Greatest Teacher”
United States Youth Soccer Association
- Coaching is an aid to learning, but facilitation of the game for young players is what it’s all about!
- What does no lines, no laps, no lectures mean?



THE JOURNEY TAKES YEARS



MSYSA - WMYSA

Remember the FLOW ...

FUN

LEARNING

ONGOING-DEVELOPMENT

Then **W**INNING



U8 Academy is all about Fun, Learning and Ongoing Development. The importance of Winning will come later.

