Player Development Matrix
Westfield Youth Soccer Association
Nestfield Indian
Spring 2003

| $\begin{aligned} & \text { AGE } \\ & \text { DIVI- } \\ & \text { SION } \end{aligned}$ | PLAYERS ON FIELD | MAX <br> PLAYERS <br> PER <br> TEAM | MINIMUM PLAYING TIME | $\begin{aligned} & \text { FIELD } \\ & \text { SIZE } \end{aligned}$ | GOAL <br> SIZE | $\begin{aligned} & \text { BALL } \\ & \text { SIZE } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { GAME } \\ & \text { LENGTH AND } \\ & \text { PERIODS } \end{aligned}$ | FREE KICKS | PASSBACK <br> TO <br> KEEPER'S <br> HANDS? | $\begin{aligned} & \text { ON FIELD } \\ & \text { COACHING } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { OFF-SIDE } \\ & \text { RULE } \end{aligned}$ | GOAL <br> FROM <br> KICK- <br> OFF | $\begin{aligned} & \text { SUBSTITU- } \\ & \text { TIONS } \end{aligned}$ | PENALTY KICKS | PRIMARY EMPHASIS |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { U5 } \\ & \text { (age 4) } \\ & \text { U6 } \\ & \text { (age 5) } \end{aligned}$ | 3 v 3 no goalie no stopper | $\begin{aligned} & 12 \\ & 2 \text { groups of } \\ & 6 \end{aligned}$ | >50\% | $\begin{aligned} & 20 \times 30 \\ & \text { yards } \end{aligned}$ | 4'x6' | 3 | 4 quarters 10 minutes per quarter (subs @ 5 min ) | All indirect | N/A | Coach allowed on field | No | No | At 5 min half or if tired | No | Fun, individual soccer skills, basic soccer rules |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { U7 } \\ & \text { (age 6) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 4 \text { v } 4 \\ & \text { No goalie } \end{aligned}$ | 6-7 | >66\% | $\begin{aligned} & 25 \times 45 \\ & \text { yards } \end{aligned}$ | 5'x10' | 3 | 4 quarters 10 minutes per quarter (each player plays about 3 quarters) | All indirect | N/A | Coach from touchline | No | No | On deadball or injuries or if tired | No | Individual skill development is the primary objective. First exposure to positions (1 forward, 2 midfield, 1 defense). Learn passing and receiving. |
| $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { U8 } \\ & \text { (age 7) } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 5 \times 5 \\ & 4 \text { on field } \\ & \text { plus } 1 \\ & \text { goalie } \end{aligned}$ | 7 | >75\% | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 35 \times 50 \\ & \text { yards } \end{aligned}$ | 5'x10' | 3 | 4 quarters 12 minutes per quarter (each player plays at least 3 quarters) | All indirect | OK | Coach from touchline | No | Yes | On deadball or injuries or if tired | No | Emphasize individual skills and team work. Learn positions (2 forwards, 2 defenders, 1 goalie), passing and receiving |
| U10 (ages 8 and 9) and 9) | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 8 \times 8 \\ & 7 \text { on field } \\ & \text { plus } 1 \\ & \text { goalie } \end{aligned}$ | 12 | >75\% | $\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{5 0 x 7 0} \\ & \text { yards } \end{aligned}$ | 7'x16' | 4 | 4 quarters $121 / 2$ minutes per quarter (each player plays at least 3 quarters) | Direct and indirect per FIFA | No | Coach from touchline | Yes | Yes | At quarter breaks or player exhaustion at next dead ball | Yes, 12 yd from goal line | Playing positions (1-2-2-2) or (1-3-3), passing, teamwork, and individual skill development |
| U12 (ages 10 and 11) | 8 v 8 <br> 7 on field <br> plus 1 <br> goalie | 12 | >75\% | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 45 \times 75 \\ & \text { yards } \end{aligned}$ | 8'x24' | 4 | 2 halves <br> 30 minutes per half | Direct <br> and <br> indirect <br> per <br> FIFA | No | Coach from touchline | Yes | Yes | Possession throw-in, any goal kick, after a goal, any injury | Yes, 12 yd from goal line |  |

Date : August 12, 2001

