



New 6U Soccer Experience Coming Fall 2017

Project Mission Statement:

To continue to facilitate youth soccer for children of any ability level in a fun and educational atmosphere while understanding and accommodating the current challenges of finding, retaining, and educating volunteer coaches for the teams.

Vision Statement:

DC-G Soccer Club has recognized that the Dallas Center Grimes region has become one of the fastest growing areas in the state of Iowa. This also means a growth of the local athletic programs. Soccer is one of the fastest growing sports in Iowa (32,000 youth players in 2015). We and many other clubs are currently finding ourselves shorthanded on volunteer coaches every season and we see this becoming a bigger problem as the amount of youth soccer players grows in our town. The DC-G Soccer Club would like to move to a festival style program for 6U, in which a professional head coach will manage a handful of parent volunteer assistant coaches in small sided drills, each with a manageable sized group of children. In doing so, this allows us to reach a greater amount of players with fewer more experienced coaches. We believe in the long term that this style of youth soccer will increase the player/parent experience.

General Structure:

Festival style practice and games. This will affect all kids in the 6U program (4 & 5 year olds). The season will consist of 8 total weeks. Practices and games being held only on Saturdays. Sessions would last for around 1 hour and 15 minutes. The structure of practice is still being discussed, but may go as follows: 5-minute warm-up, 30-minute practice consisting of 3 ten minute drills, 10-minute game transition, 30-minute games with two 12-minute halves. All teams for games will be chosen each Saturday at random during the 10-minute practice\game transition. Practices and games will be led by a club hired professional head coach in which he will direct parent volunteers to help facilitate skill sessions and games. We will have two time slots in which children may be allocated for practices and games on Saturdays. Once a time slot is selected children will be in that slot for the remainder of the season. Initial thoughts are a session around 9:00AM and 10:30AM. Practice times may be split between age groups. We won't know this until we get registration numbers back.

Coaching:

The head coach will be a paid employee of the club on a yearly contractual basis. Head coach will oversee the activities of the program, manage the parent volunteer coaches, and games. Any parent that willingly volunteers to help facilitate the practices with the head coach will get reimbursed for their child's registration after the season (need to volunteer 6 of 8 weeks).

Regards,
DC-G Soccer Club Board