



VSA Travel Club Academy Program 2010-2011

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VSA Travel Club Mission

- To create the most competitive teams while providing an environment that enables players to achieve their greatest developmental potential in accordance with their abilities and their level of commitment
- Goal 1: Increase Number of Travel Players with Passion and Commitment for the Game
- Goal 2: Enhance Quality and Opportunities for Training



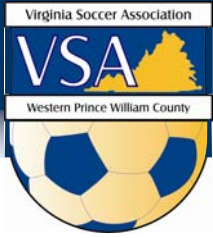
VSA Travel Club

- Currently 33 Travel Teams
 - 13 Boys Teams in the National Capital Soccer League (NCSL)
 - 12 Girls Teams in the Washington Area Girls Soccer League (WAGS)
 - 7 Teams in the Old Dominion Soccer League (ODSL)
 - 1 Girls Team in Regional/National League



VSA Travel Club Team Levels

- Each age group can have multiple teams (four teams is currently the most)
- In general:
 - Blue is the highest
 - Gold
 - White
 - Royal
- Teams are referred to as “VSA Heat [oldest year of age group] [Gender] [Color]”
 - For example: VSA Heat 00 Boys Blue



VSA Travel Club Academy Program

- Started Fall 2009 – 2010 Season
- VSA “Grandfathered” all previous age groups
- Each rising team is assigned a professional coach
 - Contracted through Soccer the Brazilian Way
 - Coaches generally stay with each team for 2 years
- Seasonal practice is 2x a week for 1.5 hours



VSA Commitment to Academy Teams

- A one year commitment to each player
- Parents and players do the same
- Year starts August and runs through June
 - Summer Camp
 - Fall Season
 - Winter Futsal Training
 - Spring Season
 - Try-outs in June



Academy Player Commitment

- All players are expected to attend all practices and games
- Games are generally on Sundays, some on Saturday
- VSA Travel Club training and games should take priority over other sports practices/games and other extracurricular activities



Academy in VSA Player Pathway

U8 CROSSOVER

Flexible Rosters
Volunteer Coaches Selected
Pre-Academy training and practices,
Games played in VSA Crossover League
Focus: Foot skills, game skills,
fun participating in Crossover League

VSA ACADEMY

A/B Structure
Academy Coaches Assigned
Academy training and practices
Games played in Travel Leagues (NCSL, WAGS, ODSL)
Focus: Competitive skill progression, fun from
heightened competition

ALL STAR PROGRAM

Players selected from Recreational Teams
Volunteer coaches selected from Recreational Program
Additional training sessions provided
Focus: Base skills refinement, game skills, fun gained from All Star competition

RECREATIONAL PROGRAM

Volunteer coaches trained by VSA Technical Director
Focus: Base skills, lots of touches and Promote Fun!

Skills/Training/Competition



Benefits of the Academy Program

- Leaves decision making to soccer professionals
- Streamlines administration and team management
- Leverages club resources and generates economies of scale
- Provides consistent coaching philosophy



Lessons Learned from Year 1

- Communication with coach needed improvement
 - Added pre- and mid-season meetings between coach and parents
- Teams/players performing various optional activities during summer, spring break, winter
 - Developed Academy into year-long program
- Teams were not seeing all the administrative benefits/economies of scale as they were contracted individually with STBW
 - VSA runs the Academy program and all payments (VYSA, VSA, NCSL/WAGS/ODSL, Uniforms, Coaching, etc.) are paid to VSA



Lessons Learned from Year 1 (cont)

- Parents were asked how they would feel about paying a standard player fee that covered Academy as some clubs have adopted versus having teams continue to pay the fees (requires someone on the team to collect from parents and pay the fees for the team).
 - Parents preferred the teams to pay for a couple of reasons
 - Teams wanted to be able to assist players who needed monetary assistance
 - Teams wanted to take advantage of reducing parent payments by doing team fund raising
- Parents were asked whether there should be a distinction between Blue and Gold mandatory/optional activities
 - Many felt that there should be limited difference, that the Blue team would attend more tournaments to provide added opportunities for competition



VSA Travel Club Academy Includes:

Blue Team	Gold Team
League Play and Insurance	League Play and Insurance
VYSA Fees	VYSA Fees
NCSL/WAGS/ODSL Fees (\$950 to \$1300/Team annually)	NCSL/WAGS/ODSL Fees (\$950 to \$1300/Team annually)
VSA Registration Fee (\$158 or \$178/player annually)	VSA Registration Fee (\$158 or \$178/player annually)
Uniform and Equipment that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -VSA Game Uniform (2 jerseys, shorts, 2 pair of socks) - VSA warm-up - VSA Backpack - STBW Training shirt 	Uniform and Equipment that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -VSA Game Uniform (2 jerseys, shorts, 2 pair of socks) - VSA warm-up - VSA Backpack - STBW Training shirt
Training Fees that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practices for Fall and Spring - Week Long Summer Camp - Winter Futsal Training - Four Tournaments 	Training Fees that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practices for Fall and Spring - Week Long Summer Camp - Winter Futsal Training - Two Tournaments
All Field Rental Costs	All Field Rental Costs

Assigned coaches will hold pre-season and mid-season meetings with team parents to map out plans and expectations for the season. This includes identifying training objectives and tournaments for the year.



Coaches and Assignments

Team	Coach
U9 Boys Blue	Fabio Vicente
U9 Boys Gold	Mark Shade
U9 Girls Blue	Larry Dolph
U9 Girls Gold	Revaz Jebirashvilli
U10 Boys Blue	Fabio Vicente
U10 Boys Gold	David Macmillan
U10 Girls Blue	Marcelo Iarussi
U10 Girls Gold	Thiago da Silva



Communication Plan for Academy

- Academy Information Posted on VSA website
 - Year Round Program Detail
 - Practices
 - Make-ups
 - Games
 - Indoor, etc.
 - Academy Forms and Documents
 - Payment Schedule
 - Contact Info
 - "How to" Information
 - Register
 - Make payments
 - Call with questions



Volunteers Needed

- Team Point of Contact needed for each team to:
 - Coordinate directly with Academy POC for team information
 - Register Team
 - Roster/Cards
 - Tournaments
 - Game day activities
 - Team Fundraising
 - Team Sponsorships



Academy Uniforms

- Uniforms are ordered by Team from Ewing Sports
- Uniforms are good for two years



Academy Tryouts 2010-2011

Time/Field	June 7	June 9
5:00 pm Field 5A		U9 Boys
5:00 pm Field 5B	U9 Girls	
5:00 pm Field 6A	U9 Boys	
5:00 pm Field 6B	U10 Girls	U9 Girls
5:00 pm Field 7B		U10 Boys U10 Girls
6:30 pm Field 6A	U10 Boys	