How to Recruit and Train Us

Confessions of a Parent Coach
What are U-Little players like?

Diverse:
• Skill level
• Physical literacy
• Behavior
• Interest in the game

“I’d almost rather have a kindergarten teacher than a soccer coach.”
- Charlie Slagle, 2015 NSCAA convention
What are parent coaches like?

Diverse:
• Skill level
• Soccer experience
• Fitness level
• Fan interest

Eager to learn
We have something to offer ...
... and you need us

Community FC Business plan:
- 20 pro coaches dedicated to U5
- 20 pro coaches dedicated to U6
- 2 assistant technical directors for U5
- 2 assistant assistant technical directors

Season fee: $8,595
What we DON’T need

Hours of instruction on how to create a training plan, particularly when many clubs are doing training plans of their own.

Or we can find training plans elsewhere. Just give us a general idea.
What we DON’T need

TRAINING OBJECTIVE(S): Wingers, defenders, midfielders, forwards and the goalkeeper (#1, #11, #7, #10, #8, #6, #9, #2 but not #4 for some reason) will practice pressuring the ball while maintaining a Klopp-style WX shape and swinging the Fahrvergnugen line to the periodization. The #6 and #8 should be prepared to receive passes back from the wingers and calculate Pi to 30 decimal places.

I. WARM-UP
Duration: 9 min
Intensity: HIGH
Activity Time: 30 secs
Intervals: 6
Recovery Time: 60 secs

ORGANIZATION (Physical Environment / Equipment / Players)
Rondo neutral Swiss purple monkey dishwasher

COACHING POINTS / KEY CONCEPTS
Use only the underside of the laces to mangle the Ajax gobbledegook from the #6 and the #9, then Liverpool PSG I know European terms, aren’t you impressed? Pitch into touch, clean sheet and go home.
What we NEED

1. Convenience. Not a whole weekend four hours away from home just to coach a U13 rec team.
2. Technical tips and how to teach them.
3. Disciplinary tips.
Maybe a separate licensing track?

Current USSF
- F: For all. Now online
- E: For U9-U12
- D: For U13-U14
- C, B, A: Next rungs for pros

Possible recreational track
- F: Keep it
- Technical module (optional)
- Rec training module
  - Online video every two years to discuss next age group
- Rec C: Like USSF C minus periodization, etc.
- Rec B: Advanced
What clubs can do

1. Offer focused training sessions
2. Small-group discussions (maybe online)
3. LISTEN to us
Recruit and retain

1. Equipment sharing
2. Volunteer discount
3. Simple training plans and how to use them
4. Feedback
5. Get coaches on same page
   1. Competitiveness: Balanced teams, winning vs. development
   2. Club’s playing style
Other considerations

1. Special-needs kids
2. Elite kids: Supplemental training
3. Reimbursement for USSF and NSCAA licenses
4. Do you need refs at U8?
5. Let us work with kids we know whenever possible
Goals for parent coaches and TDs

Don’t mess up

You can’t create a Messi at age 7, but you can ruin one by teaching bad habits or making the experience miserable.

Give opportunities

Keep an eye on your rec programs, even at older ages! Plenty of kids take up the game at age 11 or 12 and quickly surpass your anointed U11 travel stars.

Make it fun

onlinesocceracademy.com
Other ideas?

1. Share now
2. Email me at duresport@gmail.com
3. Argue Talk with me on Twitter: @duresport