

Grassroots Soccer

The Future.....Today!

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The future....
Today



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12D-

The Ontario Soccer Association



- **475,000 players (300,000)**
- **24,000 teams**
- **700 plus clubs**
- **70,000 coaches**
- **44% of youth play soccer**



Ontario Grassroots Soccer

All players U12 and younger



4-6 yrs.



6-9 yrs.

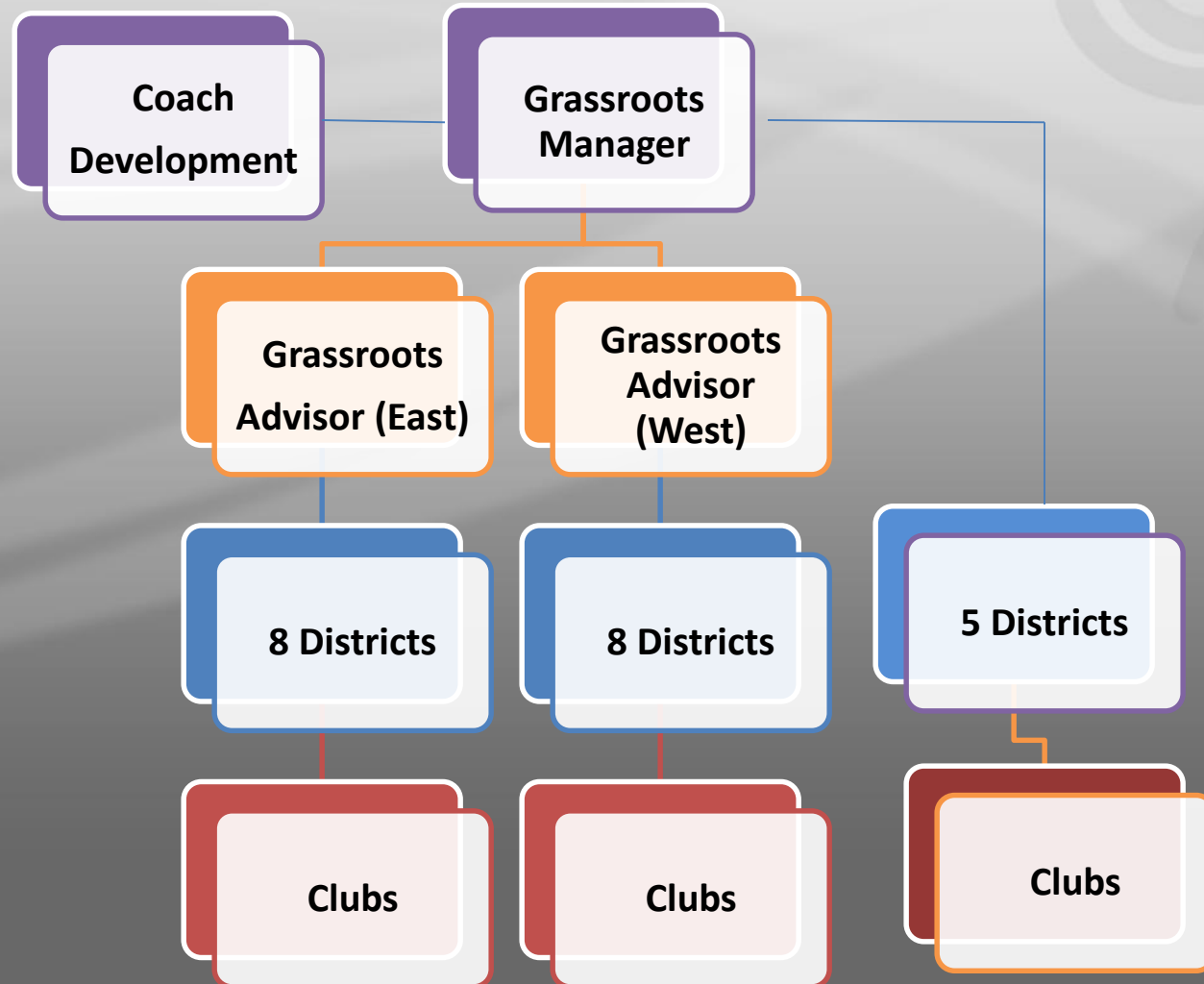


9-12 yrs.



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Grassroots Soccer Development Staff



Grassroots Video

- Video removed for email

Physical Literacy

- Fundamental movements skills required for enjoyment and success in lifelong sports participation.
 - ABC's – Agility- Balance - Coordination – Speed
- Physical and Health Education Canada defines physical literacy as:**

“Individuals who are physically literate move with competence and confidence in a wide variety of physical activities in multiple environments that benefit the healthy development of the whole person.”

Guiding Principles

- Grassroots Soccer is for all
- Play is the best means of learning
- Above all Children should have FUN
- Children are not miniature adults
- Youth prefer to be stimulated instead of being instructed

Grassroots Soccer is for ALL.

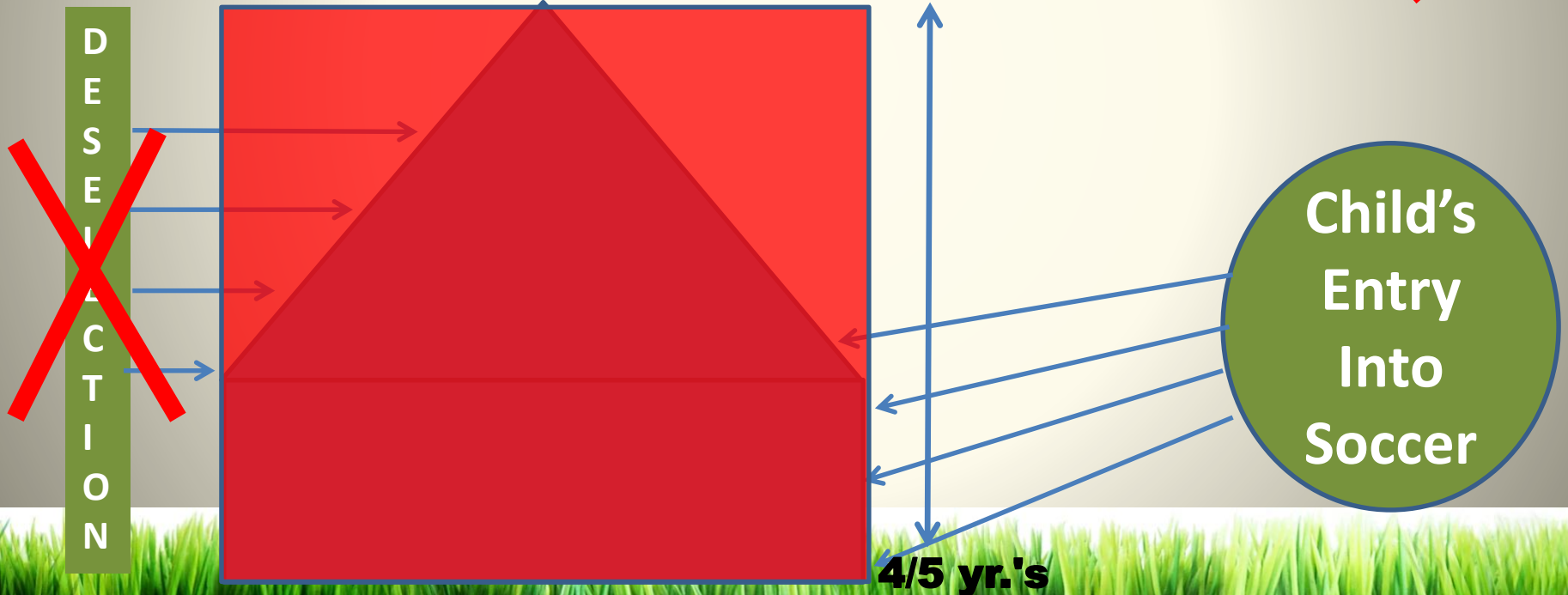
- *Inclusion not exclusion*
- *No tryouts/trials/identification*
- *Open Rosters*
- *Game day rosters*
- *Flexible movement of players*
- *Allowances for players*



Inclusion not Exclusion



~~70%
Leave!!~~



Play is the best means of Learning.

- *Festivals replace tournaments*
- *Games based approach to practice*
- *Mistakes are encouraged*
- *Multi sport athletes*
- *Preferred training model*



Above all Children should have Fun!

- *Appropriate Challenge*
- *Process Goals*
- *Safe, Learning environment*
- *Positive Coaching*
- *No scores and standings recorded*
 - *No promotion/relegation*
- *Individual player approach*



Children are not miniature adults.

- *Appropriate size fields and goals*
 - 3v3 - 5v5 - 7v7 - 9v9
- *Educational Approach*
- *Simple, concise information*
- *Reduced travel to games*
- *Reduced competitions per week - per season*

Youth prefer to be stimulated instead of being instructed.

- *Improved Coaching Methods*
- *Player Centered*
- *Challenging, supportive environments*
- *Creative activities to stimulate decision making and problem solving*
- *Less Drills!!! More Games!!*

- Physical Literacy – video removed for email

Retreat Line



Retreat Line.

- Video removed for email

Game Leader.

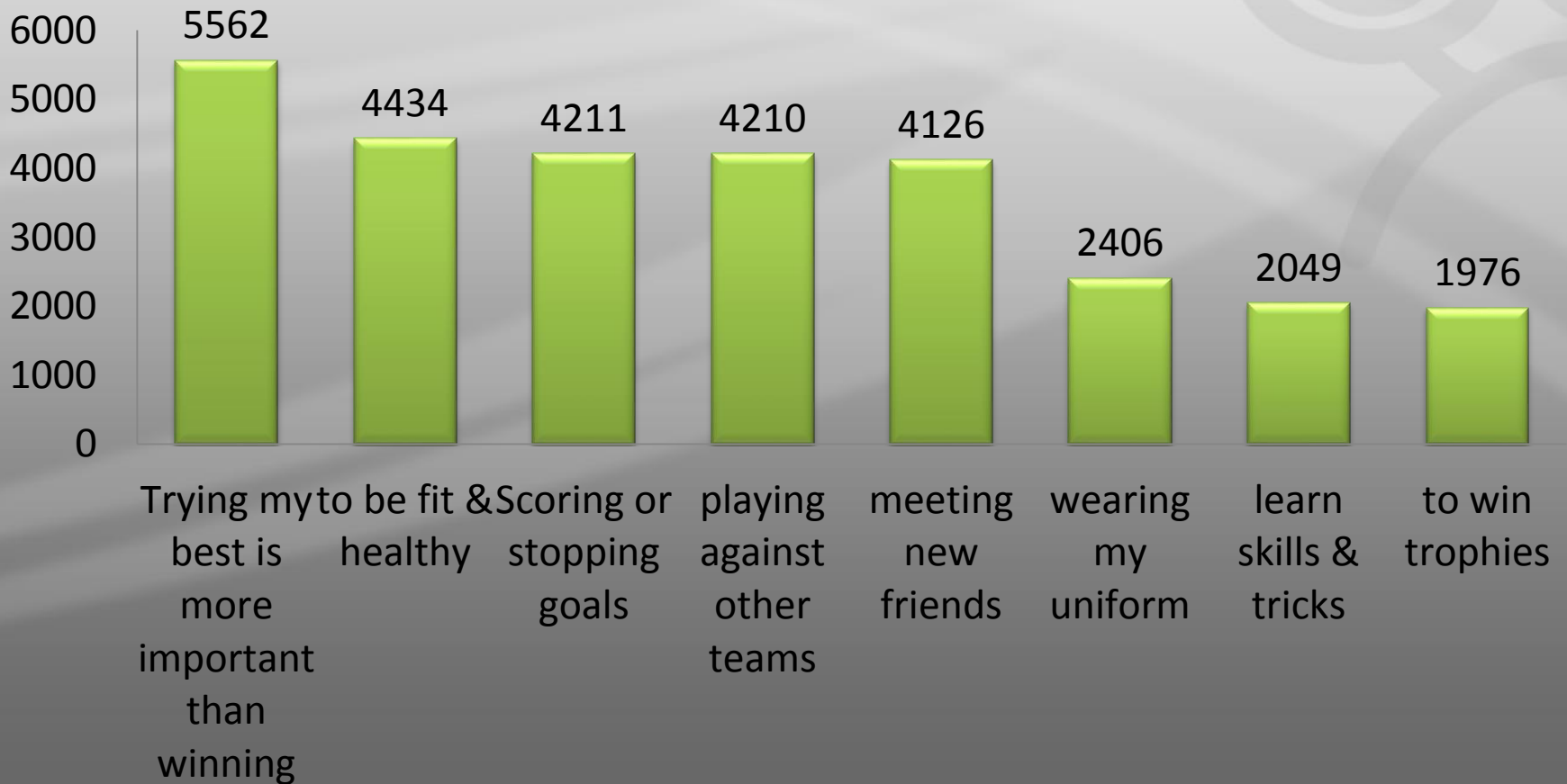
- *Teach don't judge*
- *Player Centered*
- *Law adjustments*
 - *E.g. dribble in or pass in*
- *Open to all*
 - *Coaches, parents, club executives, older players*
- *On line training*
 - *Free!!!*



Grassroots Survey.

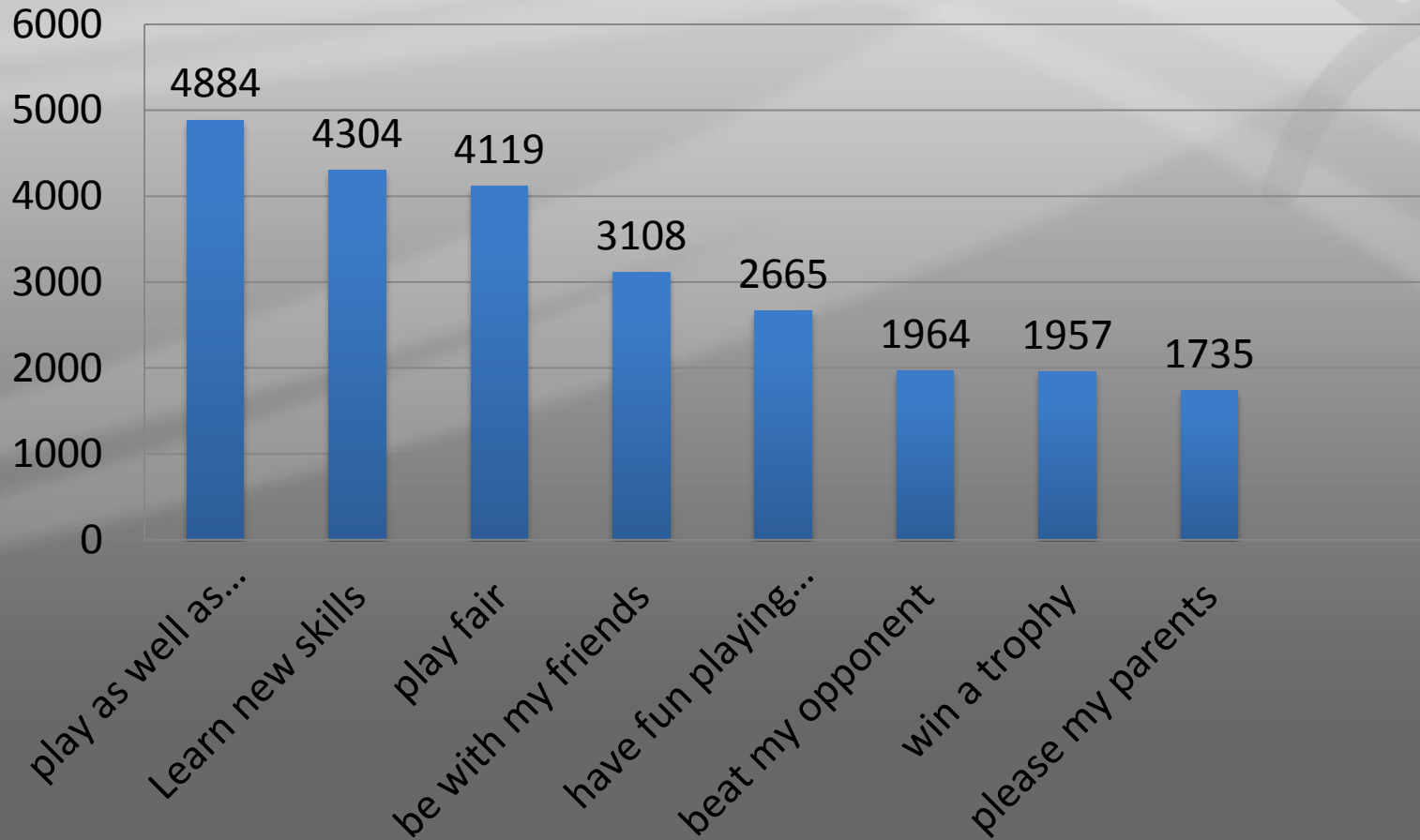
- *1027 players - 8yrs -12yrs*
- *34 clubs*
- *All over Ontario (8368 km/5200 miles)*
- *Anonymous*
- *No parents or coaches in the room*
- *Various questions asked*
- *Free text.....thoughts*

I play soccer because....



■ I play soccer because

Its really important to me that I.....



If you could, what would you change about soccer?

That if the ball comes out The ref needs
to get it.

If you could give your coach, Mom or Dad any soccer advice what would it be?

I would tell my dad less yelling
more teaching.

Coach Development



- Age and stage appropriate.
- Focus on creating the “*environment*”
- 4 corner holistic approach
- Develop the whole person
- Games based activities



Standards Based League



- OPDL – Ontario Player Development League
- 2014 inaugural year
- Starts at u13 – 11 vs 11. April - November
- Clubs can apply - every 2 years
- Application assessed based on Technical-Facility- Financial and administrative standards
- 18 clubs in year one
- Coach Development program



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www.ontariosoccer.net/grassroots



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