



## **FAQs for U8-U10 Development Players**

***The Port Moody Soccer Club's philosophy is to ensure the enjoyment and participation in the game of soccer for all members, at their appropriate level of play.***

The Port Moody Soccer Club will be holding evaluation sessions for players (born 2008, 2009 & 2010) interested in playing at the more competitive 'Development' level of soccer for the coming 2017/2018 fall-winter soccer season. It is our responsibility to ensure that players for all ages and competitive levels are selected in a fair and unbiased fashion. Visit the club website for the evaluation schedule for each of these divisions.

***Below are some of the commonly asked questions about our evaluation process. If you have other questions, please contact our Boys or Girls Non-Competitive Directors ([boysnoncompetitive@portmoodysoccer.com](mailto:boysnoncompetitive@portmoodysoccer.com) & [girlsnoncompetitive@portmoodysoccer.com](mailto:girlsnoncompetitive@portmoodysoccer.com))***

### **What happens at the Development evaluation?**

A Development level evaluation is an analysis of the overall soccer ability of players measured through drills and scrimmage, conducted over a couple of sessions – considering individual ball skills, team/game knowledge and athleticism, plus social skills such as attitude, desire, and enthusiasm.

Information on each player's skill is also collected from coach feedback and observation from technical staff who have been working with our Port Moody teams through the season. The purpose is to select players most suitable for a Development level of play for their age group. The evaluations are run by our experienced technical staff, and final decisions are done in collaboration with our Club executive with input from our team coaches.

### **Who should attend the evaluations?**

Any player who is serious about playing on a Development team, and is prepared to make the commitment required, is encouraged to attend evaluations. Players who do not attend the evaluation sessions will register in our House level program.

### **Is the time commitment to play on a Development team the same as on a House team?**

The time expectation is more for Development team players. Development teams will have one (1) scheduled 'team' practice and one (1) scheduled game each week, same as house;

however, will also have one (1) scheduled 'technical' practice run by our Club's technical staff each week. Also, many of our Development teams also choose to participate in our weekly Academy program and 4v4 sessions as well as take part in additional games and tournaments through the season.

Players should be prepared to give Development team activities priority over their other recreational activities (or at a minimum 'equal time'). **Individual Coaches will clearly outline the commitment criteria to the parents and players prior to final acceptance of a position on their Development team.** Parents should expect and be prepared to commit to additional time and travel associated with games and tournaments at the Development level.

Additionally, many of the Development teams continue play through the Spring soccer season as well. It is not a requirement that players participate in the Spring league, but highly recommended.

### **Am I required to be registered with Port Moody Soccer before the evaluations?**

Yes and no.... We require all players participating in evaluations to sign up for the evaluation session prior to the deadline – there is no cost to sign up, this is for organizational/planning purposes only. Registration for the coming fall/winter season is not required prior to evaluations, but note that **if your son/daughter is asked to join a development team, you will be required to pay a non-refundable registration deposit of \$250 within 24 hours, with the remainder of the registration fee payable by June 15.** Failure to pay the balance prior to June 15 may result in loss of placement on the development team and loss of the registration deposit. Additionally, any registration payments made after June 15 will be subject to a \$50 late fee.

### **Do players need to attend every session of the evaluations?**

It is expected that players interested in playing on a Development team, will make attending the evaluations a priority, in order for the Technical/Evaluation staff to have adequate opportunity for analysis of each player. If there is an unavoidable issue that prevents a player from attending either/both evaluation sessions, please advise your Boys/Girls Competitive Director.

### **When do I find out if my child made a Development team?**

We endeavor to advise parents within 7-10 days after evaluations if their child was selected to play development – in some cases this may be a bit longer if a 3<sup>rd</sup> session is required (and depending on Spring Break schedules). We then need a few days to confirm if those players are going to accept their position on the team. Once teams are finalized, an email will go out to all players who attended evaluations advising that the selection process has been completed. Selections should all be completed prior to the end of March.

### **What do I need to bring to evaluations?**

All players are expected to come dressed to play soccer. Soccer cleats and shin pads are required. Remember to also bring a water bottled labelled with your child's name. Each child will receive a numbered pinnie to wear during the evaluation sessions.

Please note that proof of birthdate is required for all players **who have not played on a Port Moody Soccer team previously**. A photocopy of a birth certificate, passport, citizenship card or signed affidavit from a doctor must be provided at the evaluations.

**In closing, we ask that you recognize the challenges the Evaluators and coaches have in selecting players for teams for the coming season, and the pressure your child(ren) may experience as a result of the evaluation process. This is a very difficult and subjective task. With your support, we hope we can make it a positive experience for all players, whether they are selected for Development or not. Our soccer program is focused on "the development of all players" and building life long skills through soccer. Everything we do is done in the player's best interest. We will strive to provide a team for everyone and make the coming season the best possible experience for all.**