



# Director's Development Program

## 2019-20 Season Information

The U7 and U8 seasons begin the transition from the less structured environment of intramural or recreational soccer to the more defined player development curriculums of the Director's Development Program (DDP).

DDP players are trained as an age group by the same professional training staff that works with our travel teams year-round, under a curriculum specifically designed for our U7 and U8 DDP players by Andy Wilkes, Director of Coaching. Festivals are held jointly with other like-minded clubs to allow players to use their developing skills in short, small-sided 3v3 and 4v4 games that maximize their number of ball touches. By not keeping score and maintaining a consistent and singular focus on the application of the skills learned in training, we eliminate the pressure of competitive travel soccer, while still maintaining the high training standards.

Director's Development Program Eligible Birthdates: Jan 1, 2012 to Dec 31, 2013			
	Summer/Fall <i>June – November</i>	Winter <i>December – February</i>	Spring <i>March – May</i>
<b>Weekly Training</b>	Two (2) 1½-hour sessions <i>beginning June</i>	One (1) 1-hour session <i>as part of Winter Academy</i>	One (1) 1½-hour session <i>as part of Spring Academy</i>
<b>League</b>	Fall Intramural Soccer (4v4)	Possible Indoor League*	
<b>Festivals</b>	Dates TBD		Spring Schedule TBD
<b>Tournaments</b>	Optional*		Optional*

Items denoted with an asterisk (\*) are optional and in addition to the registration fee.

### Program Objectives

- Allow for proper player development with equal playing time, rotation among all positions.
- Encourage creative freedom in training and games.
- Reduce fear of failure by emphasizing individual player development over winning games.
- Eliminate the labeling of players as "A" or "B"
- Move players freely between teams in order to aid and accelerate development
- Provide appropriate competition levels
- Maintain an appropriate ratio of travel to playing time

### Player Commitment

All Methacton United players are encouraged to play other sports. However, due to the level of play, players are expected at most training sessions and competitions in the Fall and 65% in the Winter and Spring.

### Annual Program\* (\$400) includes:

- Year-round professional training program led by Andy Wilkes, Director of Coaching
- Fall intramural soccer (no registration needed)
- 3v3 and 4v4 festivals in the Fall
- Friendlies and play-days with other clubs
- Full uniform: jersey, shorts, socks
- Referee fees for DDP events
- TeamSnap (web-based team management)
- USYS Player Card, Insurance
- Field usage costs, incl. winter indoor training facility

### Additional Costs

- Tournament and indoor winter league fees (optional)
- Non-DDP game costs, such as referees' fees

\* Summer/Fall program available for \$265