



Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. Developmentally Appropriate Programming Policy

1. Purpose The Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. is committed to providing developmentally appropriate soccer programming that aligns with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards and the Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) framework. This policy outlines how the club ensures that its programs meet the developmental needs of players at every age and stage, while also supporting coach and referee certification and training in accordance with provincial and national guidelines.

2. Alignment with Provincial and National Pathways The Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. adheres to the player development pathways established by Canada Soccer and Ontario Soccer. Our programs are designed to offer age-appropriate training, match play, and overall development in alignment with the following frameworks:

- **Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards:** Our programs align with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards, which emphasize the need for a safe, enjoyable, accessible, inclusive, and welcoming playing environment for all participants. We provide structured and unstructured play opportunities that prioritize player development over competition outcomes.
- **Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) Model:** Our club incorporates the LTPD model into its curriculum to ensure that players are exposed to age-appropriate training and development principles. This approach prioritizes physical, , emotional, and social development to support players at every stage of growth.

3. Age-Appropriate Programming The Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. implements developmentally appropriate activities at each stage of player growth. Our programming follows the age and stage-specific guidelines set forth in the LTPD model, ensuring that activities are appropriate for players' physical, cognitive, and emotional maturity. Specific actions include:

- **U3-U6 (Active Start):** Focus on physical literacy, with a play-based approach to foster basic movement skills in a fun and engaging environment.
- **U7-U9 (FUNdamentals):** Introduction to basic soccer skills with an emphasis on enjoyment, skill development, and fostering a love of the game.



- **U10-U12 (Learn to Train):** Emphasis on skill development, technical training, and tactical awareness, while maintaining the enjoyment of the game.
- **U13-U15 (Train to Train):** Focus on the development of advanced skills, tactical awareness, and mental resilience, with an introduction to performance environments.
- **U16-U18 (Train to Compete):** Advanced technical, tactical, and psychological training aimed at preparing players for higher-level competitive play or continued participation in the sport.

4. Coaching Certification and Training To ensure the highest standards of player development, the Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. requires all coaches to be trained and certified in accordance with Canada Soccer and Ontario Soccer requirements. This includes:

- **Coach Certification:** All coaches must obtain appropriate coaching certifications for the age groups and stages they support. Certification includes training in child development, age-appropriate coaching, and respect in sport principles.
- **Continuous Professional Development:** Coaches are required to participate in ongoing professional development opportunities to stay current with best practices in player development and LTPD principles.
- **Compliance with Safe Sport Initiatives:** Coaches must comply with the Safe Sport framework, which includes the Responsible Coaching Movement and the "Rule of Two" to ensure player safety and welfare.

5. Program Review and Evaluation The Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. conducts regular reviews of its programming to ensure alignment with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards and LTPD principles. This includes:

- **Annual Review of Curriculum:** Our curriculum is reviewed and updated annually to reflect the latest standards and best practices.
- **Player Feedback:** We seek feedback from players, parents, and coaches to continuously improve our program offerings.
- **Coach Evaluation:** Coaches are evaluated on their ability to implement developmentally appropriate activities and support player growth.



6. Monitoring and Compliance The club's compliance with developmentally appropriate programming is monitored by the Technical Director and Coaching Coordinator. Compliance reports are submitted to the Board of Directors and shared with relevant stakeholders, including district and provincial soccer associations, to demonstrate alignment with Canada Soccer's Quality Soccer Provider Standards.

7. Conclusion The Barrie Cardinals Soccer Club De Futbol INC. is dedicated to providing a safe, fun, and developmentally appropriate environment for all players. By aligning our programs with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards and LTPD model, we ensure that every player has the opportunity to develop their full potential, both on and off the field. Our commitment to coach training and continuous program review underscores our mission to be an elite contributor to soccer development in Canada.