

## Changes for U9 Academy

### - ***Parents at Practice vs. Parents at Games***

- We ask that you allow us to have your children for 2 hours a week uninterrupted so that we can teach them the necessary skills to become better players and people. We DO NOT allow parents to sit or stand on the sidelines of practices. There is usually an area about 30 yards away or so where parents will group together and get to know each other. You will pick up on this after the first couple practices. If you or a family member is too close to the practice field, we will politely ask you to step away a bit to allow your child to function the best at practice. At the end of practice we will walk all the players down towards the parents where you can pick them up and head home. We ask for your cooperation and understanding regarding this matter.

### - ***Pool Training vs. Team Training***

- We will train the entire pool of U9s instead of training several different U9 teams. Our goal is that each player knows EVERY other player and EVERY other coach. Players will be separated into groups after the first phase of practice. These groups will rotate so you will not be grouped with the same 9 or 10 kids every practice. Coaches will rotate as well, so you may have one coach on Monday and a different coach on Friday. This again ensures that all players are coached by every coach within that age group (pool). We ask for your cooperation and understanding regarding this matter.

### - ***Groups (not teams) TBD***

- We will take the first few practices to evaluate each player in order to place them in groups of 4 or 5. This allows structure as you will have 3 or 4 players that you will be with every game. This allows flexibility so that I can rotate players between teams to ensure that every player plays with every other player. One group will be paired with another group for games. For example, if there are 4 groups, that translates to 2 teams. The schedule may look something like this: 1/2 v 3/4. This means that players from group 1 and group 2 will be on the same team playing against players from group 3 and group 4. Groups will be announced after the first 2 weeks of practice. We ask for your cooperation and understanding regarding this matter.

### - ***Matches vs. Outside Clubs***

- Please understand that it is difficult to schedule games with outside clubs at this age. When we do, sometimes they play by different rules. When we travel to play at their place, we will have to play by their rules. When they travel to play us at Pole Green Park, we will play by our rules.