

Skyline's Coach Developmental Pathway

Skyline Soccer Association prides itself on developing its players and developing coaches. Coach Development is crucial because coaching feeds growth. The better the coach, the better the training for players. Training more coaches means more teams are positively impacted. Coach Development and Player Development are dependent on each other.

Skyline is unique because it is preferred that our Directors of Coaching (DOCs) do not coach their own team - only in rare circumstances do our DOC's coach a team . Instead, they are heavily involved with coaching the coaches and seeing as many players as possible. Since DOCs do not coach teams, they are allowed to have a more fluid schedule to provide real-time coaching education and work with more players in their training environment. Each DOC is very visible at practices during the week and during home games on the weekends.

Much like with players, Skyline wants to put its coaches in the appropriate environment so they can grow and be successful. The club provides the following structure and stepping stones to get its coaches into the most appropriate environment possible.

Novice Coaching: these programs are for those who have little to no coaching experience. These coaches need to be Introduction to Grassroots Certified and be working towards attending future Grassroots online courses and in-person courses.

- Volunteer Coach, 3U & Above (non-paid) – like most clubs, Skyline is a non-profit soccer club which depends primarily on its Volunteer Coaches who are most commonly parents. Curriculum is provided by the club.
- Grasshoppers and Munchkins, 3U through 5U Staff Coach (paid by the session) – this program is ideal for those who LOVE working with this age level. Age specific curriculum is provided for each week along with a Director on-sight. This program is an introduction to soccer at its best!
- SKILLS Programs, 6U through 10U (paid by the session) – our SKILLS Programs is where less experienced coaches start to gain their coaching development. These coaches have played the game and have soccer knowledge. Age specific curriculum is provided along with a DOC on-sight. This program is perfect to cultivate one's coaching skills!
- Competitive Assistant Coach, 11U through 19U (paid and non-paid positions) - this program is a great opportunity for aspiring competitive coaches who would work closely with a competitive team and prior to coaching their own competitive team. In these cases, the club pairs an assistant with a more experienced Team Coach to show them the coaching nuances to be a successful coach for the club. This mentorship is a priceless opportunity!

Elite Team Coaching: these teams are commonly run by first time team coaches. However, it is also not uncommon for a Competitive Team Coach to also have an Elite Team. Elite Team Coaches need to be Grassroots Certified OR be working towards being Grassroots Certified.

- Elite Team Coach, 9U & 10U (seasonal coaching stipend) – players at these age levels are assigned to appropriate 7v7 teams where ability and commitment are measured. Coaches conduct 2 practices per week and 1 game on weekends. Age specific curriculum is provided and DOC and Administrative support is supplied as needed. Coaches receive evaluations from the DOC or Technical Director.

Competitive Team Coaching: these teams are run by experienced coaches. Competitive Coaches must have a minimum of an “E” License OR are Grassroots Certified. In addition, these coaches must be working towards a “D” License.

- Competitive Team Coach, 11U through 19U (seasonal coaching stipend which is determined by team size, level, age, licensing & tenor with the club) – players at these age levels are assigned to appropriate ability level 9v9 or 11v11 teams. Coaches conduct 3 practices per week, 1 session is Age Group Training (AGT) for 11U – 14U aged teams and weekend games. Age specific curriculum is provided and DOC and Administrative support is supplied as needed. Coaches will conduct player evaluations and receive a coach evaluation from the club’s Technical Director.