



Hollandia Soccer Club

Policy Statement | Updated April 2016 |

Player Development Philosophy

Hollandia uses a Player-centric Developmental Philosophy in line with the Canadian Soccer Association's recommended Long Term Player Development (LTPD) model, rather than a Results-based Philosophy. While we recognize that winning is important, it is not THE most important part of our philosophy. Our philosophy puts the development of the individual player at the forefront, until players reach the Training to Compete Stage (U15-U19 Female/U16-U20 Male) at which time team development takes precedence. The following policies and procedures are designed to promote compliance with LTPD philosophy.

Responsibility for Implementation

Implementation of the LTPD philosophy is the responsibility of the Technical Director, Head Coach, technical coaches, coordinators, team coaches, and parents. All individuals that interact with the players have a role in ensuring the club philosophy is carried out.

Impact

General

- We follow the recommendations of LTPD
http://www.canadasoccer.com/files/CSA_2009_W2WC_Brochure_EN.pdf
- All policies and procedures regarding player development are based on science and globally-accepted best practices for player development.
- Mistake-based learning is an essential part of player development.
- Tournament play and travel is limited according to age group and carefully monitored to ensure that best practices are followed in any competitions in which our players participate.
- Parents are expected to focus on and praise development rather than results.

Players

- Individual ball possession is a fundamental requirement for any successful player.
- A possession-based game is at the heart of player development.
- The emphasis is on individual development rather than team-building.
- Players are developed as much as possible in single year age groups.
- Pre-pubescent, and players going through puberty are exposed mainly to technical training.
- Players experiencing a growth spurt are carefully monitored and load is adjusted appropriately.
- Players who have not yet reached their potential are worked with, and not discarded in favour of younger players who may be more skilled.
- Players who periodically play in older age groups are monitored and do so under the guidance of the Director of Coaching and Player Development.
- Players need permission from the Director of Coaching and Player Development to play for other teams/clubs.

- The principles of youth periodization are followed, meaning that players must get sufficient rest periods and breaks from the game.

Coaches

- Team tactics are introduced gradually and only after fundamental technique is mastered.
- Coaches are expected to follow Hollandia's training curricula and to support its philosophy.
- Coach development takes the form of age group specialization. Where practical, coaches remain with one age group, rather than moving with players.