

# Vision Soccer Academy

## Coaching Placement Philosophy and Licensure Thresholds

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Vision Soccer Academy (VSA) is dedicated to Player Development and understands the necessity for a strong coaching staff. The Club understands that regardless of a player's athleticism and commitment, a quality coach will be instrumental in a player's desire to reach their true potential. The coach should have the ability to identify a player's strengths and weakness. Through the organization and creation of training sessions, the coach will be able to teach his/her players to improve upon their weaknesses while continuing to build upon their strengths. A quality coach will not be consumed with short-term results (winning now) but, will be focused on the long term development of his/her players. The coach understands the necessity for developing players with creativity and game intelligence. The players' enthusiasm and passion for the game will grow over time as the skilled coach develops sessions that challenge not only the technical abilities of the players, but also their decision-making skills. A skillful coach will also build a personal relationship with each player and show them that he/she has their best interest in mind. They will also be able to create team unity and teach players to take responsibility for their own careers. The reasons for needing quality coaching are endless. Not only do they help players' development, they help the whole club run smoothly and gain respect.

Because VSA is dedicated to Player Development, it has clear guidelines for the hiring/placement of coaches including qualifications and playing experience requirement. The Club has also, created clear duties and responsibilities for its paid staff including a Coaches' Code of Conduct. This will help in ensuring that each team is assigned the appropriate level coach. It is also the philosophy of the VSA that coaches will lose their effectiveness over a long period of time with the same group of players. As such, VSA reviews its coaching assignments each year to ensure that the players under the guidance of their coach continue to develop and are challenged.

Coaches will be evaluated regularly (at least annually) by the Director of Coaching, who will use information obtained through direct observation, self-evaluation, solicited feedback from all players, and informal/unsolicited feedback from members and referees as part of the evaluation process.

VSA has adopted the following standard for licenses at these age / skill levels. It is understood that coaches shall obtain the minimum licensing within 2 yrs of their employment with the Club:

### **Age and Suggested Minimum License Level:**

**U5 - U6:** Youth Module for appropriate age group (Youth Module 1)

**U7 - U8:** Youth Module for appropriate age group (Youth Module 1)

**U9 - U12 Recreational:** USSF "E" License and/or Youth Module for appropriate age group (Youth Module 2)

**U13 - U19 Recreational:** USSF "D" License and/or (*Highly recommended* - USSF and/or NSCAA National Youth License)

**U9 - U10 Academy:** USSF "E" License and/or (*Highly Recommended* - USSF and/or NSCAA National Youth License)

**U11 - U12 Premier:** USSF "D" License and/or (*Highly recommended* - USSF and/or NSCAA National Youth License)

**U13 - U14 Premier:** USSF "C" License and/or NSCAA National Diploma

**U15 - U19 Premier:** USSF "B" License and/or NSCAA Advanced National Diploma and/or UEFA "B" License