

INTRODUCTION



Bainbridge Island FC (BIFC) is pleased to announce its Blueprint for Development. After lengthy discussions around the coaching table, impromptu touchline debates, watching the professional game, watching BIFC teams play, watching other teams play, social media exchanges, and trial, and error, repeat - the evolution of the BIFC Blueprint for Development was not a short ride. During recent times we have worked with our five year plan, and have grown the sport of soccer on our island bigger and further than it has ever been.

This document is about helping our youth players develop in the game. More specifically, it's about the Bainbridge Island FC youth soccer player. That's where we work. Bainbridge Island has its own unique variables.

So, what is development? If you look in the dictionary the definition refers to blooming, expansion, evolution, growth and progress. Therefore, any blueprint for development must have these at the core that flood the thoughts and ideas of how that will be best processed in our soccer environment, in our community.

The principles and views covered in this Blueprint have certainly not developed in a vacuum. Many insights have been gleaned from other organizations and federations who have vast experience and knowledge in player development. The Youth Soccer Player Development Model published by US Youth Soccer (USSF) is also a document that has helped BIFC gain more clarity in the approach taken. It's the belief and intention of BIFC that the Blueprint for Development is supportive and complementary to the USSF Player Development Plan.

“Culture, principles and values we breathe every day” Phil Avison

Since BIFC continues to provide training to over 1000 players a year on our island through our various programs, this Blueprint for Development will also be infused into those training sessions. BIFC recognizes that any development plan or approach will have little effect without the ability or the will to monitor and educate those assigned to teach our players. As a smaller soccer organization, this responsibility is more manageable, but accountability and vigilance are required nonetheless.

“This blueprint does not end once it has been brought it into existence,” says Technical Director Phil Avison. “On the contrary, this Blueprint gives us a better ability to constantly evaluate what we do and why to ensure we are complying with these set of club beliefs.”

Lastly, we want to explain that this Blueprint for Development is a document intended solely to help BIFC in becoming a better, more accountable soccer organization. It's also to help the families who attend BIFC to better understand our development approach.

At BIFC we maintain a set of core beliefs that underpin how we operate as a program, our culture, principles and values that serve our Bainbridge Island soccer program.

→ **Community**

Club First: A strong club is a platform for individual and group success

Club Representation: Proud to positively represent our club

Giving back: Community involvement, increase the impact of our experience

Inclusion - a place to play for all

→ **Culture**

Respect Each Other: Teammates, opponents, officials, staff.... everyone

Safety: Club member health and well-being always the top priority

Confidence: Take charge, make an impact

Humility: Win and lose with grace

Responsibility: Accountable for our role in all situations

Education, Education, Education

→ **Principles**

Enjoy the game: fun playing, fun watching, fun teaching, and enjoy being involved

Take Risks: Learning comes from mistakes, there must be a freedom to explore mistakes

Work Ethic: In practice and games, for oneself, and club mates

Teamwork: Build as a club, as a team, as a community.

Strive for Excellence: Be the best you can be

→ **Values**

Lead the way: Don't stand by, help the situation

Mentor: Everyone has attributes to share

Role Model: Positive inspiration to others in the community

Create: Support and encourage expression of self

Impact: Make decisions, impact situations