



*American Soccer Academy, Inc.
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VSA HEAT GOLD 92

MISSION STATEMENT

Give every team member the opportunity to develop his soccer skills to the highest level of the individual's ability. Help foster and further the individual passion for the game of soccer. The team is committed to the development of the player's technical skills and team building through sportsmanship and tactical instruction. Encourage respect for yourself, fellow teammates, game opponents and officials at all times.

EXPECTED COMMITMENT LEVEL

- The VSA HEAT GOLD 92 are a BOYS travel soccer team playing in the NCSL, one of the premier soccer leagues in the country. This level of play requires a major commitment from coaches, players and parents and it will be expected for all involved to commit for both the 2007 and 2008 seasonal year.
- There will be a minimum of two mandatory practices per week during the NCSL season.
- There will be winter/summer training sessions including winter/summer league play.
- The team will participate in 4 tournaments per year (2 seasonal.)
- The team will participate in a Summer Pre-Season camp.

TEAM POLICIES

All matters with the respect to administrative and/or financial policies and procedures are subject to the approval, by the Head Coach and/or simple majority vote, of the current member's parents that are in good standing. Each player will have one vote from either parent. A quorum of eight families (players) will be required to conduct either a team meeting or a vote to amend policies and procedures. Team meeting dates/times will be published in advance along with an agenda, if applicable. Team meetings will not be held without the knowledge of the Team Manager and the Head Coach.

The **Head Coach** will make all decisions pertaining to player development, playing time, positioning of players, player discipline, player release, or player selection. Parents having a concern in one of these areas should contact the Head Coach directly. These matters should not be discussed before a practice, on game days or at tournaments. Feel free to discuss these matters with the Head Coach at an appointed time during the work day.

Attendance at training is **mandatory**. There will be at least two to three training sessions per week. Excused absences may include illness, injury, family emergencies, family vacations, and scheduled school or religious activities. Please consider the team schedule when planning family vacations. Please give as much notice as possible to the team manager and head coach if unable to attend a training session. For planning purposes, if there is a player that will be missing a training session, please notify the Head Coach and/or the Team Manager.



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TEAM TRAINING/DEVELOPMENTAL POLICIES

It is the players/ parents responsibility to check the team's website and/or hotline for field closings and practice field and game location.

The team does practice in the rain as long as the fields are open for play and the weather conditions are acceptable. Upon observing lightning or other weather conditions, the coaching staff will immediately stop practice session. The safety of the players is always the primary concern of the coaching staff.

Every player must bring the following items to practice sessions: Shin guards, plenty of fluids (non-carbonated), a pumped up ball, and suitable soccer attire:

- Players will dress appropriately for the weather. Any player who shows up for practice in the cold and/or rain not suitably dressed may be denied practice time
- Be at all games at least 45 minutes before the scheduled game time
- Playing time will be at the discretion of the coaching staff, and will be a result of the consideration of the factors explained by the Head Coach.
- Excused absences do not directly affect playing time, however, the players weekly performance in practices is the key factor in the coaches determination of the playing time as the team's starting lineup is determined on a match to match basis.
- The starting lineup is dictated by the coaches subjective judgment of the best team of 11 players at the time of the match. Attitude, behavior, intensity, commitment to learning skill development level, physical conditioning, and game strategy are components of the coaches judgment.
- There is **no guarantee** on the amount of playing time that any player will receive in a game or a scrimmage. Every player will participate in all games barring injuries.
- All players must complete assigned SOCCER specific skills to aid in their development.
- Attendance and participation at training sessions, scrimmages, games, and other team events will mandatory. Costs will be equally shared among **ALL** members of the team to reassure commitment.

TOURNAMENT POLICIES

The Head Coach will select the tournaments for the year.

Tournament schedule will be posted as far in advance as possible but in no case later than one month prior to the start of the season.

Scheduled tournaments are mandatory events. Players may be excused but no refunds of the tournament expenses will be given.

Participation in short notice "tournament opportunity" will be voluntary. Only those players that participate will share expense.

During the fall season (Sept – Nov.) the team will participate in at least one pre-season and one mid-season (Columbus Day) tournament.

During the Spring season (Apr. – June) the team will participate in at least one pre-season, one mid- season (Memorial Day) tournament.

The Head Coach must approve any player wanting to guest play for another team

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PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents pledge to:

Be encouraging, supportive, and positive towards all players on and off the field:

- Respect team and game officials and accept their decisions
- Bring the concerns **directly** to the Team Manager or Head Coach
- Support the team by volunteering and getting involved
- Be familiar with the laws of the game
- Fulfill financial obligations to the team in a timely manner
- Encourage their kids to talk to the coach with any concerns
- Absolutely no **COACHING** from the side lines

PLAYER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

PLAYER'S PLEDGE TO:

- Have a positive, never quit attitude
- Practice soccer skills on their own time
- Respect the officials and accept their decisions without dissent
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship
- Give encouragement to their teammates
- Respect their coach, teammates and opponents
- Learn the laws of the game
- Notify the coach in advance if they will be tardy or unable to attend a team function
- Approach the coach with any personal soccer- related problems on a one-on-one basis.

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TEAM STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A team manager, team treasurer along with the head coach and assistant coaches will make up the “management team.” Any decisions made by the management team that do not comply with the guidelines or policies, must be ratified by the parents.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HEAD COACH

The Head Coach is ultimately the only person responsible for the actions of the team; its players, parents, to VYSA, and to NCSL. Thus, the Head Coach has the final word on all matters that is related to the team. The Coaches responsibilities are as follows:

- Responsible for establishing and communicating team policies and philosophy
- Included in the foundation of this philosophy will be a commitment to Fair Play and treatment of all players, an effort to minimize pressure on the players, dedication to the development of the individual skills and team tactics, and an implementation of a program to improve individual physical fitness.
- Responsible for the selection of the Assistant Coaches and for providing guidance concerning team training and philosophy to the Assistant Coaches
- Responsible for the annual try outs which are to be held in June
- The Head Coach is responsible for the selection of player’s based on performance at the try out, and to notify players of their acceptance or non-acceptance to the team.
- The Head Coach is responsible for scheduling scrimmages. He will delegate the coordination to the Team Manager with respect to time and date, location etc...
- Responsible for the selection of practice times, days, equipment and location
- Parents will not have any input into a player’s playing time, position, or team strategy and tactics
- Responsible for conducting seasonal player evaluations and communicating with players and/or parents on the progress or lack of progress of the player’s skill

TEAM TREASURER

The Team Treasurer is responsible for the day-to-day financial activities of the team. The duties and responsibilities of the Team Treasurer include:

- Assist the Management Team in the developing of a team budget and maintaining accurate financial records. Maintain the team check book up to date and accurately.
- Work with Fundraising Coordinator (if applicable) on fundraising goals and allocation of funds. Responsible for the notification to the parents about team expenses and collecting fees
- Provide written reports to the team on the teams financial status at the beginning and end of each season. Be the point of contact with bank



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TEAM MANAGER

The Team Manager is responsible for the overall day-to-day operation and management of the team. The duties and responsibilities of the Team Manager include but are not limited to:

- Working with the parents and coaching staff to define and set team goals
- Working with the parents and coaching staff to develop a team vision
- Maintain and revise as necessary the team policy manual
- Handle all non-player parental issues. Financial, car pool, school conflicts
- Work with management team in developing annual budget
- Delegate team parents for volunteer positions (i.e. Tournament Coordinator, Website Coordinator etc...)
- Attend all team, VYSA, NCSL, and tournament meetings as necessary
- Filtering information between the Head Coach and the Parents
- Submitting and maintaining official team roster, to include player additions, drops, and transfers
- Maintaining the Player and Coaching Identification Cards
- Maintaining the Player Medical Release Forms
- Publishing and maintaining the Team game schedule, field directions etc...
- Coordinating the purchase of uniforms and/or equipment, and maintaining an accurate inventory of team equipment
- Submitting tournament applications and assisting the Tournament Coordinator in obtaining lodging (if applicable)
- Is responsible for completing incident reports on players whose injuries require medical treatment

Parents Signature

Player Signature

Date