

LISA ADMINISTRATION MANUAL 2003-2004

Chapter 8

Technical Programs Summary





PREAMBLE:

The LISA technical committee continues to identify and present to the Board of Directors for their approval, technical programs that need to be addressed within the district. This includes program changes in direction or programs that are new to the district. Members of the committee meet regularly with principals from the BCSA and others to explore the ways and means by which technical development can be advanced within the district.

The BCSA through their technical director and head coach have been very supportive in this process and at a recent meeting both have affirmed their full support to the processes that are underway within the LISA.

All parties are in agreement that in order for elementary and advanced player and coaching development to progress, there must be “buy-in” from the member clubs, players and coaches toward whom these initiatives are directed. It is also important to have administrative structures that support the programs and communications channels that clearly communicate needed information to all concerned.

GENERAL PHILOSOPHY

In recent months and years much discussion has been given to relative ranking of Canada in the world of soccer. The recent “Blue Print for Success” circulated by the CSA, outlines a process by which we may improve programs for National level players and coaches. In BC, the BCSA also oversee programs that provide training and assistance to players at the high end.

While the LISA board will likewise continue to support high end players and coaches, it is recognized that unless programs and opportunities for novice, recreational and entry level players and coaches are provided we will not produce sufficient players or coaches to replenish our needs at the next level. Strong mini, bronze, copper and silver programs will translate into strong gold, select and metro programs. Of course, the reverse is also true. We must, therefore, resist the temptation too tier more and more teams to the gold, metro and select level at the expense of the teams on the copper, bronze and silver levels. Any club that has attempted to field two gold teams will know first hand the difficulties that can bring. It is observed that grass roots sports organizations (e.g. districts and clubs) that tend to place a higher emphasis on the elite versus their recreational players and coaches will suffer a greater attrition of both players and coaches, than districts and clubs that do not.

As a second observation, a lack of experience in the system can also create unrealistic expectations. Players, parents and coaches on their first transition through youth soccer (e.g. U6 – U11, then to U12 – U18) sometimes tend to think the game played by the older age groups will be a simple continuation of that which they have experienced at the younger age levels. In other words, that success at mini will translate into success at 11-a-side. This applies to teams and players. The learning curve for many of these parents and players will be very steep. The development of a mini age player into a competent young adult player is a process filled with many variables. Predictions about future success is hit and miss at best as it is very difficult to predict the path a young person may take in the process.



Bearing these thoughts in mind, the LISA technical committee through the Board of Directors will work to develop programs and opportunities that benefit equally players and coaches at all levels of skill and interest.

New to the 2003/04 season is the introduction of the Super 8's. This program, along with other small sided games have been approved by the Board and Clubs. It is the intention to move all U11 and U12 players to the Super 8 system of play in season 2004/05. For this last year the BU11 and GU11 and U12 will play Super 8 but the BU12 will move into 11-aside.

Please Chapter 12 for a description of the Super 8's and other mini programs.

COACHING DEVELOPMENT:

Objective: To provide continuing opportunities for Club, Metro and Select league coaches to update the level of their certification.

1. The LISA Executive Director is actively working work with member clubs and with the BCSCA technical department to ensure that we continue to offer sufficient coaching certification courses to all who desire to participate.
2. Every late spring a "B" Prep introductory session will be arranged for those who think they are ready to progress in their coaching careers to a provincial "B" license and beyond. The purpose of the introductory session is to prepare the participants as to what they can expect in the both the "B" Prep course and the full "B" Provincial license.
3. Shortly after the "B" Prep introductory session a "B" Prep licence course will be arranged. Please note for those coaches who are interested in participating in either the LISA Metro/Select programme or LISA Academy a minimum of a "B" Prep licence must be held.
4. The LISA continues to liaise with the VISL and the LIWSA to provide greater coaching certification opportunities for coaches within those organizations. Any VISL or LIWSA coach who wishes to upgrade their coaching education is welcome to attend any LISA course that is offered.

Objective The LISA through the technical committee will work toward developing and promoting non-certification coaching courses for novice entry coaches and others who do not desire to complete the certification program.

1. It is understood by all parties that a great majority of the coaches are seconded from the parent population. While these parents are a dedicated and valuable resource, many do not have a strong soccer background and many do not wish to participate in a formal certification program. In recognition of this fact, the BCSCA offer a four-hour introductory coaching program that is designed for these individuals. The LISA technical committee will be promoting either this program or a modified form of this program for training within this area.



Objective: To work with the BCSA and others to arrange seminars, training sessions and other educational programs that will be of benefit to players, coaches and administrators in the district.

1. The BCSA will assist to provide speakers who have provincial, national and international level qualifications. The district will provide the venue and advertising.
2. The LISA will continue to seek out individuals to give courses who have special skills that would be of interest within the district.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT:

Objective: To ensure that youth players at all age levels are afforded training and skill enhancement opportunities at a level appropriate to their stage of development.

1. Player training will be advanced by increasing the number of coaches who have taken either a certification or introductory level training course.
2. The technical committee in co-operation with district clubs will work to develop standards to be applied to the mini soccer programs.
3. The board will explore the development of a closer association with private soccer training schools whose interests are primarily grounded within the district. This could include identifying their programs to our general membership, providing a description of their training, identifying the principals in the organizations and providing dates of training or special events that are being offered.
4. The LISA board will continue to develop, refine and promote the metro and select soccer programs within the district as one means by which players may achieve the highest level of playing challenge and instruction.
5. In co-operation with the BCSA head coach, the metro and select selection (tryout) processes will become the initial means by which players are identified for participation in the High Performance Program.
6. New to the program is the Intra Provincial League (IPL) for the boys and girls U12 and U13 age groups.

Within British Columbia 6 regions will form IPL teams: Upper Island; Lower Island; Fraser Valley; Lower Mainland; Vancouver North and Thompson Okanagan. During June and July the 6 regional teams will meet for a series of “match days”. From these match days an “All Star” team will be formed under the auspices of the BCSA Academy which will represent the Province in such tournaments as the Washington State Baker Blast or in some cases travel abroad.

Very early in the season the LISA Board assigned coach will actively scout league games



to select the top 25-30 players in each gender's age group. Those 25-30 players will become the IPL pool. From within this pool of players will be drawn both the IPL team and the NIKE "A" Cup dispensated team. In past seasons the LISA dispensated teams have been at a distinct disadvantage due to the fact that they have not been formed until a mere 2-3 weeks before their first game. The LISA is adopting other District's policy of selecting their players early in the season in order to train them to the highest level before the competition begins. However any IPL pool player whose home team is cup tied will NOT be eligible to participate on the "A" cup team as home club commitments always come first. Being cup tied does not affect any player participating on the IPL team as match days are planned in order to not conflict with Provincial cup tournaments.

7. The LISA technical committee in co-operation with the BCSA head coach and technical department will work towards providing the very best coaching available through the LISA High Performance Centre to those players who have been identified through the BCSA assessment camps.
8. The technical committee will explore the need for district sponsored training programs in those areas where there is a demonstrated need or interest

DISTRICT AND CLUB HEAD COACHES:

Objective **The LISA board and technical committee will explore the ways and means all clubs can be encouraged to access the services of a head coach/technical director. In addition, the district will explore the feasibility of obtaining the services of a part-time head coach/technical director to oversee and co-ordinate district wide technical and player development programs.**

Discussion:

It is generally agreed that the appointment of a head coach/technical director within a club is a resource that can greatly assist a club in improving the continuity of their soccer programs.

For the past two seasons the LISA has appointed both a Technical Director and a paid Head Coach to co-ordinate a number of similar such activities at the district level. The possibility exists that funding from outside sources could be made available to assistance in achieving this objective.

PARTNERSHIPS:

Objective: **The LISA board will seek out partnerships that will encourage and advance the interests of soccer within the district.**

1. The board will continue to work with other soccer organizations in furthering the general goals of soccer within the district. These organizations include the VISL, LIWSA, VISRA and the Upper Island.



- 2 The board will also seek share common interests with and support other soccer organizations such as the Victoria United and Victoria Stars of the Pacific Coast League, along with the University of Victoria men and women's soccer teams.
- 3 The LISA will seek partnerships with soccer organizations in other countries where soccer has a higher profile. This will be done in the hope of gaining from their greater experience.

FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS

Both the LISA Academy and LISA High Performance Centre are totally self supporting programmes. Payment for coaches, uniforms and expenses incurred due to games are paid from participant fees and sponsorship.