

Welcome to the CPCSD Developmental Futsal League! **Session #1 Starting the weekend of November 15th!**

My name is Stephen Beck, and I want to thank you for your interest in our **2024/25** Winter Futsal League. This program is designed to efficiently develop players in a fun environment geared toward sharpening the fundamental techniques of **first touch**, passing, receiving, movement off the ball play, and mastering the foot skills through this amazing game we call **Futsal**. The skills and instincts developed in the gym will transfer seamlessly over to the outdoor game, the Beautiful Game - Soccer!

I want to share some important program notes as we begin registering players and resolve many of the questions, I'm certain many families may have. After coaching and guiding players for over 20 years, I believe this game is the most efficient way to build better soccer players, not to mention better young people in general, enriching their lives in a uniquely positive place that builds character, stamina, skill, discipline, focus, composure- and much, much more!

First important program note:

I want to let everyone know about the wet towels I'll have on one side of the gym, the bathroom side, and we will use that as the **Entrance Only**. This is for all players and spectators to wipe their feet before entering the gym. This will help keep debris from coming in and onto the floor, and as the players will find, traction is a key part of how they'll find success. Debris creates an unsafe and unproductive playing environment as dust and dirt will collect and create a slippery floor for the players. At the end of each match, please remind players to exit as soon as possible to allow the incoming players and spectators a chance to situate and start warming up. Exit out either set of doors, parking lot side or bathroom side. If you are waiting for the match to end, please remember to wipe your feet on the wet towels just before you enter, and please be patient outside as it is best to enter when the game has finished, and folks are leaving. Respecting the game in progress will be appreciated by every player and every parent. **Exiting in a timely fashion and keeping the gym floor open for the players coming in to warm up will also be greatly appreciated.**

Another important program note, and a very important part of how I develop players, is spectator protocol. I am ok with applause and cheering, but it is not permitted to communicate or yell at the players with any kind of directions or coaching points. I expect the coach to be the only one to coach, and in this gym, it is ok to just let them play and just let them learn from the game. This is ideal, and I am always observing, and I will always stay involved. It is my hope the players let go and become fully attached to the court, connected to all the other players, and catch a fresh new look at how they play the game. Some of the most productive matches were amazingly quiet from the stands, only the sounds of the players will sometimes be heard, and it can then generate the best learning environments for the players to develop. It is when they're intensely working and playing without outside influence, purely playing together, having fun in the process, that is when the development becomes unimaginably effective. This is a staple to my program and I'm excited to share this experience with everyone.

Matches are two 20-minute halves, with a quick 2-to-3-minute half time. I provide the first 12 to 13 minutes for warmups, and then we start the clock. I will often play the free agents in a round robin; winner stay on the court format. This is a quick transitional game that builds the quick thinking and soccer minded behavior I am trying to instill. This is wildly popular with the players and if you are not familiar with my program, I look forward to sharing this style of training with you.

Another staple to my program, and a very positive program note:

In a match when a team is leading by 4 goals, I want the other team to add a player. This creates a more challenging environment for the team in the lead, and it also gives the other team an advantage. This is when the players must learn to find the open player, and this is how they fundamentally will better understand the game. They will find success when finding the player with time and space, and this, hopefully, will create more opportunities to score. The team will keep the extra player until the score is leveled, and the amount both teams will learn from that experience is immeasurable. Playing down a player is good for the dominant team, and as they get tired, it can balance the playing field. The extra player sometimes won't matter, the other team will sometimes stay dominant and indicates a well-seasoned, well coached, highly skilled group of players. The weaker team deserves a chance as the stronger team deserves a challenge, and developing players is why we honor this rule!

More House rules that we'll cover during our opening matches and throughout the session:

3 second rule on touch line and corner kicks.

5 seconds for GK and Free Kicks, and all Free Kicks are indirect except for a PK.

3-line rule that supports players to build from the back

Players must stay on their feet, no sliding - The Goalkeeper is an exception

Players must play the ball and play to avoid contact- **pushing, grabbing, recklessness, shoulder tackles, most any unnatural contact will be a foul-**

Heading is not advised- we use a heavier and harder ball. Players will develop quickly to understand how to use their head (mind)-

Composed Leadership and strong play is based on the mental side of this fast-paced game.

Substitutions are on the fly, so as long as one player is going on while one is coming off, it is all good.

I recommend bringing water, and please keep water in the stands and off the floor. Spills create a huge slipping hazard-

Free Agents should wear light or white t-shirts.

Teams should match in color, and I have bibs if needed. Futsal shoes or non-marking tennis shoes, running shoes, etc. Wearing shin guards is the expectation. No cleats.

I intend to have each week scheduled by Tuesday or Wednesday, it can sometimes be challenging as I am moving everyone into better positions to grow, creating the most competitive environments possible as I evaluate all players and all team's week to week. I also factor in special circumstances and try to honor requests from coaches with more than one team. Many moving parts, and very true to the nature of the game.

Team Managers and Coaches, please be sure your players and families will follow these rules and understand the expectations

A very warm welcome to all the returning Futsal Players and Parents, thank you!

I also look forward to meeting all the new players and all the new families, **WELCOME!** I'm excited to see you in the gym!