



UISA Super8 League Best Practices

Core philosophy / values:

All players shall be encouraged to develop, following the LTPD model of BC Soccer.

We acknowledge that players develop at different ages. Our league will strive to allow the late development age player to mature into the player they can be. We discourage cutting players who may be a diamond in the rough.

Coach development is an important component of creating the best support for player development, and will be promoted and supported by UISA and its member clubs.

Team formation:

Team formation should be player-centered, with an eye to creating a cohort that can form a team at later ages.

Clubs must balance the standards of rep play with the challenge of developing players, which requires opportunities at all levels and a strong house program – clubs should avoid a mindset of limiting numbers.

Clubs will decide how to organize their teams. Clubs are encouraged to mix ages in order to maximize participation.

Squad-based ideals:

Coaches should look for opportunities to develop all your players i.e. using weaker players against weaker competition.

UISA Super 8 league shall follow the guidelines of BCSA regarding playing time, and coaches shall ensure all kids get to play at least 30% of the season.

Coaches should adjust squad playing time or use based on the caliber of your opposition. Know your players well and play them in positions they may not be comfortable.

Teams are encouraged to draw on younger ages and permit skilled players up.

Coaches are encouraged to use minor fouls as teaching tools for what is and is not allowed in a game.

League organization and scheduling:

Competition shall be development-based, not age-based.

UISA will strive to give teams the best playing experience by scheduling based on caliber.

Super 8 teams will start the season by playing a “seeding” round, which will last approximately until Thanksgiving weekend.

After the seeding round, teams will be streamed into at least two pools for more competitive play.

Pools may be adjusted after the winter holiday break, to take into account team development over the course of the first part of the season.

Commitment to league play:

All players, player families, league officials and coaches are expected to respect league play, abide by the rules and conduct themselves in accordance with district and club codes of conduct.

All games have value, regardless of whether standings are kept.

All players, player families, and coaches are expected to commit to fulfilling their league game obligations, including all away games. Players and player families are expected to keep coaches and team staff informed well in advance of any issues that may affect their attendance.