

ASC U7/U8 Pre-Travel – Fall “Next Level Academy” Developmental Program

Ashburn Soccer Club (ASC) is looking to build a player pool of talented and energetic U7/U8 boys and girls that want to take their game to the “Next Level” and desire to play with others with a similar passion for developing their skills and their love of the game.

The ASC “*Next Level Academy*” (*NLA*) model seeks to improve individual player development, player retention and satisfaction by building a better atmosphere for the player with an emphasis on the development of the player’s technical skills. With the academy system, *NLA* strongly believes that it will develop talented players, field talented teams, and maintain a positive image due to our dedication to the develop of excellent individuals on and off the field.

What is the Program’s philosophy?

“*Next Level Academy*” is focused on player development. *NLA* is looking for players/families that have a similar focus and understanding that the emphasis now; must be on the players developing their technical ability and to foster their overall enjoyment of the game.

The benefit of the Academy format is that it is more appropriate for a young soccer player’s development because the focus is on individual player improvement as opposed to team accomplishments. Young players need a developmentally appropriate environment that will allow them to first cultivate and grow individual skills, confidence, and motivation. While the Academy program functions in a competitive atmosphere, winning is not the foremost focus. With increased proficiency, players will have the ability to compete successfully at an early age as well at subsequent age levels as the team concept and competition gains increasing emphasis for the skilled player.

ASC “Next Level Academy” (NLA) has created the academy format so players will be more relaxed, we will have higher retention rates, the players will be more creative and we will have a higher participation rate. Youth players need freedom of expression and need to be praised to try skills without fear of failure.

ASC U7/U8 Pre-Travel – “Next Level Academy” Program Goals:

- The mission is to develop every player to their full potential.
- To create a high level training environment for the advanced player.
- To create a program which does not select out players at this age, but rather provides an opportunity for players who have the desire to train at a high level.
- To create a training program that will help develop exceptional soccer players.
- To create an environment where the players feel a part of a great program and a great soccer environment.
- To create an environment where the coach can make decisions that are in the best interest of all player development, with minimal focus on winning.
- Techniques – foot skills, ball control, trapping, dribbling, passing, and shooting, etc.
- Tactics – player movement, spacing, field awareness, ball movement, passing vs. dribbling, dribbling vs. passing, 1 v 1 battles, taking players on, etc.
- Physical – coordination, flexibility, agility, and balance.
- To play the beautiful game – beautifully!

What can you expect from the ASC “Next Level Academy” Experience?

Pre-travel play is the next stage in the development for those children who demonstrate a desire and an ability to be able to play soccer at an advanced level. It is an educational transition from recreational soccer to travel for players and parents. It is a great opportunity for those children who want to step up and commit themselves to learning and achieving more and have the opportunity to play with and against other kids of similar ability and mindset.

Our player development platform provides a launching point for pre-travel interest to grow for players who already display advanced abilities, desire, commitment, and can grow with others who have like-minded interest and skills. There is no select process in our program but the player pool positions are limited to ensure the optimal player to trainer and coach ratio & team size. Depending on the number of interested and talented players, **ASC “Next Level Academy”** would like to place 20 boys and 20 girls into the U7/U8 Developmental Program.

NLA believes that the pursuit of excellence in sports helps to develop maturity in children and young adults and that the experiences a player has with the team shall be beneficial throughout his/her lifetime. **ASC Next Level Academy** coaches believe that a youth sports program should be holistic and competition should produce more than just wins.

Winning and competition are only part of the equation of a successful program or season. Winning is transient, but life skills learned on the field of play and in training sessions are enduring and last a lifetime. Good sportsmanship, physical fitness, goal setting, self evaluation, problem solving, dealing with disappointment, developing a positive self-concept, and group loyalty are skills and ideals utilized long after a player's career has ended. To this end, **NLA** will strive to instill these skills enhancing a child's development as he/she matures into adulthood. **NLA** values the whole player and welcomes people of different talents, abilities, and experiences. Soccer equalizes inequities and humanizes all people – together we can make a difference in our community.

So, how does the program work?

The **ASC U7/U8 Pre-Travel – “Next Level Academy”** is in addition to the player's house/recreational practices and house league games. **NLA** player pool will meet one day a week for an Academy style training session. All Academy Training sessions will be held at Bles Park one of the finest grass field complexes in Virginia.

NLA Sessions – are held on Thursdays 5:00 to 6:15 (Sept.) & 4:45 – 6:00 (Oct) at Bles Park.

What you should look for in a training program for your child?

When choosing a training program for your child, you have to find the right situation that is right for your child and family. Important factors that should be considered:

- Trainer/Coach disposition and experience with the age group
- Trainer/Coach certification and experience
- Reputation of trainer/coach
- Player/Program development philosophy
- Quality of the programs training
- Cost

Training – Games – Locations:

The players that make up the **ASC “Next Level Academy”** Developmental Program will train together under the supervision and direction of professional coach and **ASC “Next Level Academy”** Director Royce Brodie. There will be additional professional coaches working within the program and those trainers/coaches are still to be determined depending on the number of players within the Academy pools.

ASC “Next Level Academy” players will be participating in a U8 Cross-Over league in Haymarket, VA against other Clubs/Teams of similar make-up. Cross-Over games are held at Long Park located just outside Haymarket, VA near the intersection of Hwy. 66 and Rt. 15. Game times will be held on Saturday afternoon between 2-6pm. Another huge benefit to the Cross-Over program is the fact that Long Park has 5 turf fields and generally most of the games are played on turf.

Typically, the Academy Teams also make up the ASC U8 All-Star Teams that will compete in various All-Star tournaments in November and June.

Program Cost:

ASC U7/U8 Pre-Travel – **“Next Level Academy”** Developmental Program cost is \$125 per player + \$10 Cross-over fee = total of \$135. The fee covers: Cross-Over league fees, 8 Cross-over league games, referee fees, and (8) 75 minute training sessions with a professional coach/trainer.

Training Only and NO Cross-Over games

ASC U7/U8 Pre-Travel – “Next Level Academy” Developmental Program cost is \$125 per player. The fee covers: (8) 75 minute training sessions with a professional coach/trainer(s).

To register, return form below via e-mail or mail to Royce Brodie at RnCbrodie@aol.com or Address 43605 Blacksmith Sq., Ashburn VA 20147.

Please make payment/check payable to Ashburn Soccer Club.

Registration Form

NLA ASC U7/U8 Pre-Travel – Spring “Next Level Academy” Developmental Program

NAME _____ AGE _____ Email: _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE # _____ EMERGENCY # _____

Check one

U7/U8 Training (\$125) and Crossover League (\$10) – Total (\$135) - Boys

U7/U8 Training (\$125) and Crossover League (\$10) - Total (\$135) - Girls

U7/U8 Training Only (\$125)

NLA Training T- Shirt (\$10) - Size: YS - YM - YL - YXL

Liability Waiver: As a participant in a program run by NLA Next Level Academy, my child is in good health and has my permission to participate in these clinics. Ashburn Soccer Club and NLA assumes no responsibility and will not be held liable for any accident resulting in medical, dental or other expenses.

PARENT SIGNATURE_____ DATE_____

If you are interested in being a part of this outstanding program please contact Royce Brodie, ASC NLA Director to reserve your child's spot!!

U7/U8 Boys/Girls please contact Coach Brodie at:

RnCbrodie@aol.com or call 703-932-1478