



## Boys U10 Competitive Soccer - 2010 Season

### Information Letter

#### Welcome

With another year of soccer soon to be upon us, the OISC Boys U10 coaches have been busy preparing for the 2010 season. At a recent age group meeting, the coaches decided to come up with this pre-season information package to inform all interested 2000 prospect players about our program in 2010 and beyond.

#### Teams

After successful seasons by both U9 teams in 2009 the club has decided to field 2 premier teams, and one Div 1 team in 2010. This will mean that there will be an opportunity for a minimum of 39 boys to play as full time players in competitive soccer, providing the application numbers are strong like last year. This is approximately 13 more positions available than in 2009.



*OISC Spitfires and Reds enjoy the top two spots in the BU9 Division of the CP MIST Tournament 2009*

## **Coaching:**

Coaching of the premier teams will be conducted by returning coaches from 2009. Corey Villeneuve will coach the BU10 Premier Black team, while Dale Potter and Andrew Frost will coach the BU10 Premier Red team. The Division 1 team coach will be assigned in early spring, during the try-out process.

## **General Philosophy for 2010:**

Although every coach will offer unique perspectives on game strategy and development there will be some common tenants that the coaches will follow during the 2010 season.

1. **Balanced Premier Teams** – Since Ottawa Internationals will be entering 2 teams into the premier division, the OISC BU10 coaching staff and executive feel it is important to field 2 evenly balanced teams at this age level. Our first priority at this age group is player development, and we feel having two balanced teams is the best way to foster an environment where all participants will develop. The coaches will conduct an open dialog with each other during the selection process to ensure that this objective will be met.
2. **Fair Playing Time** – It is nearly impossible to ensure that all players receive the exact amount of time on the pitch; however since player development is our primary focus at this age level we are all committed to ensuring that all players receive a fair amount of playing time of any game that they participate in.
3. **Team Interaction** – The coaching staff would like to schedule several joint practices through the year where guest coaches will work with the boys from all teams in the competitive program. We would like to foster a friendly atmosphere among all participants in the competitive program as the boys will undoubtedly change teams over the years. This will help build strong friendships between all players and teams as the boys progress through the age groups.

## **Try-outs/Registration**

Try-outs for the U10 age group will occur starting the first week of March, with tentative gym bookings scheduled as early as March 1st, 2010. For many players, this may be the first competitive level tryout for your child and we look forward to making it an enjoyable experience in his young career. Others will have attended tryouts in the past and we welcome and encourage those players to attend again.

Tryouts can be a stressful time in our young players and parents alike. We would encourage you to keep the expectations and pressure at a minimum in order to allow each player to reach their individual potential.

In order to participate in the try-outs you must have mailed in your 2010 registration package to the club administrator. There will be no exceptions made to this policy, so *we strongly encourage you to send in your registration as soon as possible.* The registration forms can be found here <http://www.ottawasoccer.com/reg-youthcompboys.php>. The try-out process will be conducted over a 3 week period, with the objective of having all teams picked by the end of March. There will be a combination of gym and turf field times available to all participants. *Please note, there will be no practices over the March break.*

### **Financial Commitment**

Parents of players who are selected for one of the premier or div 1 teams will be expected to make a monetary contribution of approximately \$150-\$200 per player on the team, in addition to the OISC Registration Fee. Also, fundraising, including sponsorship opportunities and team fundraising activities may be necessary to offset expenses relating to team activities (tournaments, clothing, tent / chairs, parties etc.). Parents and players will be expected to participate in all team-sanctioned fundraising activities.

### **Tournaments:**

Decisions on tournament participation will be made at the team level, however all BU10 competitive teams will be expected to participate in the Ottawa Internationals own Ice Breaker tournament on June 5-6<sup>th</sup>. Please note that this tournament will require extensive volunteer participation from our age group parents, so please plan on participating. This tournament has been a huge success in the past, and offers a great opportunity for our teams to play challenging opposition as well as opportunities to raise significant funds to offset the 2010 team costs.

In addition to the Ice Breaker, most teams will also participate in 2 or 3 additional tournaments through-out the summer. Most of these tournaments will be local, but there may also be the opportunity for an out-of-town tournament depending on the wishes of the team.

**Team Participation:**

The players are expected to commit approximately 4 hours per week participating in team training and scheduled league games. Players are expected to arrive 10 mins in advance of training and 30 mins in advance of the commencement of a game. The coaching staff will require all parents to respect these guidelines. This time will allow the coaching staff to discuss the drills to be performed at training and allow the players time for independent thought and pre-game instructions.

**Season Length:**

After team selection is complete in March teams will begin weekly training sessions up until the season start. Although the 2010 schedule remains to be finalized, we expect the season to begin the third week in May and continue as late as September 01st, 2010.

**Long Term Vision:**

The Ottawa Internationals executive is eager to retain and grow our participant base in competitive soccer for the year 2000 age group. Providing there is sufficient interest in our BU10 competitive program in 2010, we hope to field 2 premier and 2 div 1 teams in the 2011 season. Further to this we hope to have a strong contingent of players to field very competitive teams at the regional premier and div 1 classifications within a 2-3 year horizon. The head of Ottawa Internationals player development has expressed an interest to developing off-season programs that work within the objectives and constraints of Internationals age group teams. As such, we are excited about these new opportunities and look forward to building great relationship with our players over the next 5 years.

**Closing Remarks**

For those of you who have not yet registered we urge you to do so as soon as you can. We look forward to seeing your son at try-outs in early March. If you have any questions regarding the team or our program, please feel free to contact Sue Mc Donald ([cfigueredo@rogers.com](mailto:cfigueredo@rogers.com)), our tryout coordinator, and she will see that your questions get answered appropriately within the club.

**Regards,**

**Corey Villeneuve, Dale Potter, Andrew Frost**

**OISC BU10 Coaching Team**