

Okanagan FC Academy



www.okanaganfc.com



Overview

The OFC Academy is the perfect place to pursue your soccer ambitions. We strive to foster a culture of excellence and always try to push the players to fulfil their potential.

“The most specific points of attention with the youngest players are the basic technical skills involved in playing 4v4 in training... passing, receiving and dribbling – to advance the ball or beat an opponent... these sessions serve as the basis wherein ingredients such as time, space, direction, speed, opponents, enjoyment and challenge play a role. The good cook (coach) knows how to play with these ingredients”

– *Rinus Michels, UEFA’s Coach of the Century recipient*

At Okanagan FC, our passionate coaches have many years of experience, working with players during various stages of their development... from the 4-6 year old players in our “mini” academy, to the graduated university athletes in our senior team, Okanagan FC is well-equipped to help players reach their full potential.



Many of our graduates go on to compete at the top levels of soccer in BC. We have had graduates compete in the BCSPL, represent BC through the Provincial Team Program, and even go on to represent Vancouver Whitecaps through their full-time Residency.



“If God had wanted us to play football in the clouds, he’d have put grass up there.”

- Brian Clough

At the OFC Academy, we take an uncompromising approach to player development. We firmly believe that the best way to develop players, is to have everything begin and end with the ball.

With our academy players, our primary focus is teaching them technical skills and decision making. Our players must become competent with passing, receiving, and dribbling to advance the ball beyond the opponent. These skills must then be applied to realistic game situations, such as 4v4 or 7v7.

We always strive to foster a culture of excellence within our groups and will push the players to achieve their optimum performance in a fun, engaging, and high-energy environment.

Coaching Philosophy

At the OFC Academy, we believe that quality instruction is crucial for a player’s development. Our groups are focused and will rarely exceed a 12:1 player to coach ratio. Players are not grouped by age, but by their current level as it relates to the development process. All OFC coaches are also qualified with the relevant BC Soccer credentials for each age category.

New Program Features

The OFC Academy will look to combine the traditional quality training of ‘Soccaskool’, and compliment it with some exciting new program features:

- **Player Feedback** – All OFC Academy players will receive a “report card” outlining the player’s progress over the last phase. These reports will be distributed within 2 weeks of the final training of the phase.
- **Level System** – The OFC Academy will institute a ‘level system’ going forward. As players progress through the levels, they will earn a new colour of wrist-band. The levels will be a set of objective standards that gauge the ability to perform specific soccer-actions (e.g. shooting, passing, various footwork exercises etc).
- **Access to Teams** – Academy groups will be scheduled to train at the same time as the OFC team of the same age. Outstanding players will have the ability to be called into train with these higher-standard groups. We will also put together Academy groups to occasionally (where appropriate) play training matches with OFC teams of a younger age, or at a similar stage in the development process. These opportunities will only benefit the game-understanding of OFC Academy players.
- **Club Membership** – Every player on the OFC Academy becomes a free club member of Okanagan FC. This will open a range of benefits in supporting the Okanagan FC premier team at the Apple Bowl this season. Benefits will include things such as discounts on tickets, mascot opportunities, special events etc.

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