

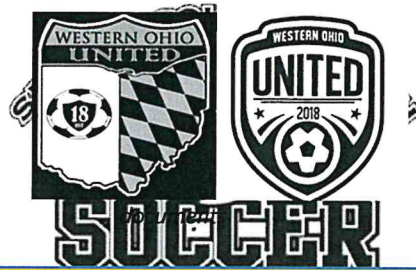
SCYS CLUB POLICY MANUAL- REC & WOU

TEAM - _____

COACH - _____

Shelby County Youth Soccer (SCYS)

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SCYS Club/Policy Manual

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Shelby County Youth Soccer (SCYS)

This manual has been prepared to document BOTH the **recreational/REC and **competitive/WOU** soccer programs within SCYS. More detailed coaching content, specifically related to WOU, will be in a separate manual (WOU Coaching Manual: MN-WOU-1).*

ABOUT US

Welcome:

SCYS was founded in 1983 to provide area youth the opportunity to play organized soccer. As a small club with big growth opportunities, the quality of coaches and volunteers will help make this growth possible. In the following pages, you will find valuable club information, as it relates to coaches and volunteers (and parents).

Club Facts:

SCYS's recreational program was created in 1983. In 2018, the competitive program Western Ohio United (WOU) was added. As a member of the Ohio Youth Soccer Association (OYSA), both 'recreational' and 'competitive' programs for youth ranging in age from 3 – 18 years old are provided. Additional youth soccer information can be found at US Youth Soccer, as well as US Soccer. The weblinks are provided below.



www.ohioyouthsoccer.com



www.usyouthsoccer.org



www.ussoccer.com

Our Mission:

To teach the youth involved in Shelby County Youth Soccer (SCYS) the fundamentals of the game of soccer, the necessity of fair play and help develop discipline and good sportsmanship.

Our Vision:

A small club with big opportunities.

Goals:

- Provide a healthy, safe and enjoyable soccer environment for all participants.
- Give players and coaches the tools to develop to the best of their ability.
- Provide a level of competition equal to each participant's ability, interest and desire.
- Promote sportsmanship, honesty, integrity and good will in the soccer community.

Core Values:

*Build Community *Foster Belonging *Provide Opportunity *Improve Health



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These 'core values' support:

1) Well-being:

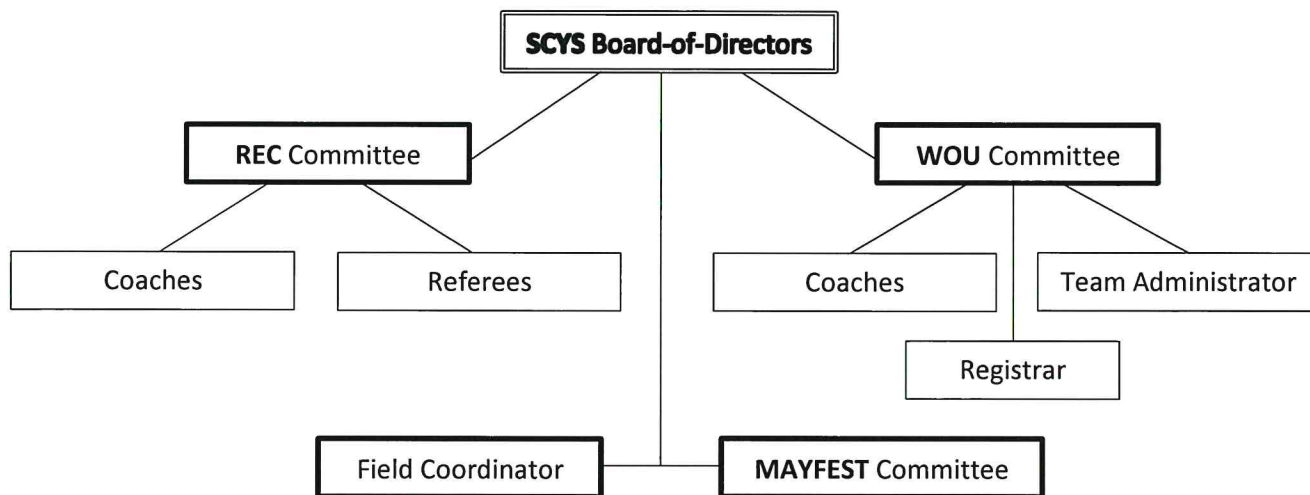
SCYS will focus on positive physical activity aimed at the overall health and 'well-being' of our youth players. SCYS will ensure that soccer can be played at varying degrees of activity, from the 'purely recreational' to the 'highly competitive' within the club.

2) Passion:

SCYS is committed to providing an environment that helps inspire a 'passion' and love for soccer within our youth, through both its Recreational/REC and Competitive/WOU youth soccer programs. This will result in their positive physical, social and health experiences.

CLUB ORGANIZATION

Our club is managed by a Board-of-Directors.



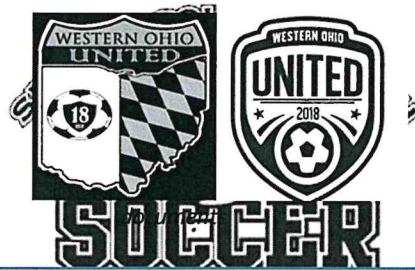
Chain-Of- Communication

Club members should begin by communicating with the team coach and team administrator (for WOU teams). If additional attention is needed, members may convey their ideas or concerns via the appropriate chain of command as per the above SCYS Organization chart. However, it is critical that coaches and the team administrators communicate effectively with their teams to reduce avoidable demands upon the President and Board members.

Communication Tools:

The SCYS website (www.sidneysoccer.com) is the primary tool for contact information, advertising programs and disseminating information through postings. SCYS also utilizes social media and email electronic newsletter communication.

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PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

SCYS aspires to develop better players through player-centric education at every level.

Training involves using age-appropriate curriculum at all levels to ensure the best development of players. Having the correct focus at each stage will allow coaches and parents to work together to help facilitate their players' success. It is a long-term development model aimed at allowing our youth players to maximize their potential and enjoyment of the game.

The following phases are recognized by SCYS as important in long-term player development.

Phase 1: Developing a "Love for the Game" (Age 3 to 7)

This is not only the starting place for the program – it is the most important place!

- SCYS provides an opportunity for parents to sign-up their children at the age of 3.
- SCYS uses an age-appropriate, child-friendly environment by starting out with fun, non-intimidating activities/games where the child take the first steps (kicks) in soccer.

Phase 2: Developing a "Love to Learn" (Age 8-12)

The years between eight and 12 have been called the "Golden Age of Learning".

- This is a time when children have become coordinated and well balanced and want to know more and do more.
- They are inquisitive.
- This phase is the optimum time to develop the skills and to begin to develop the game savvy that will be so important in the later soccer years.

Phase 3: Developing a "Love to Compete" (Age 13 and older)

The first time in SCYS, where the competitive aspect of soccer takes on a real importance.

- This is the graduation phase – moving into 11 vs 11 play.
- Maximizing abilities and minimizing deficiencies in a team format is the way for a coach to get results. But in doing so it limits the development opportunities of each player as they get positioned according to their strengths and weaknesses.
- As the "Team" concept becomes more important, and one team tests itself against another, the coach should be careful not to stifle and stereotype players too early by placing them in permanent field positions.

NOTE: *These 'basic' phases apply to both the recreational/REC and competitive/WOU. However, for those who want more competition, WOU will provide an opportunity to experience more 'advanced' coaches and training.*



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COACH EXPECTATIONS:

Coaches' Rules:

1. Attend all practices, games and coaches meeting. If a conflict arises, use a capable substitute.
2. Ensure that players wear their uniforms in a proper and complete fashion.
3. No foul language or abusive conduct; no smoking or alcohol in presence of players.
4. When traveling with the (WOU) team, remain aware of your players' whereabouts and behavior.
5. Set schedules and inform parents and players of all activities.
6. Dress in SCYS/WOU coaches' attire at all games. WOU coaches attire at practice as well.
7. All teams are responsible for cleaning up after practices or games, and returning any equipment/flags.
8. SCYS reserves the right to terminate the coach for any unprofessional behavior
9. SCYS *takes selection of coaches very seriously.*

****US Club Soccer and OYSA require background checks on all coaches and referees 18 years or older****

Coaches' Principles of Conduct

1. My first responsibility is the health and safety of all participants.
2. Be prepared to handle first aid situations as well as medical emergencies at practices & games.
3. 911 emergency procedures
4. Location of nearest emergency medical facilities
5. Call the next day to follow up on all injuries with parents/guardians
6. Before practices/games - Inspect players equipment and field conditions to assure safe play
7. Utilize proper teaching and instructing of players regarding safe techniques and methods of play
8. Conduct appropriate/safe training sessions to make sure players are fit for practice and games.
9. Supervise and control your players to avoid injury situations.

Coaching Philosophy

1. Have FUN playing soccer
 - Plan and coach practice sessions that are FUN (with age/skill appropriate activities).
 - Games should be fun!
 - Motivate and teach with positive reinforcement
2. Emphasize teamwork, respect and fair play
 - Friendship and the value of being part of a team.
 - Respecting coaches, teammates, opponents, parents, and the referee.
 - Sportsmanship and fair play.
3. Focus should be on player development, not winning games
 - Each player should play at least half of each game. (Rec & WOU until U12)
 - Encourage and let all players play all positions (don't just play your best player as a forward so that your team can score more goals). This will help with their overall development as soccer players.

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PARENT EXPECTATIONS

1. Have players ready (fully dressed, with shoes, guards and socks on) at training sessions and games at the time set by the coach.
 - Attendance and effort at practice affects playing time.
2. Be a positive influence to all players, teams, coaches and referees.
 - SCYS/WOU coaches will sometimes make decisions, and give players instructions, that parents may not understand and/or agree with. In order to maintain a healthy team environment for all players and coaches, SCYS expects all parties to be respectful at all times.
 - Parents may not question a coach (or Director) within 24 hours from the conclusion of a game. After 24 hours, the appropriate procedure is a phone call or an email to the coach. In cases where the coach asks for assistance in answering a question, a Director of Coaching may also get involved in the situation to help answer any questions.
 - Do not question the referee decisions
3. Be "hands off" during all training sessions and games and allow the coaches to perform their duties without interruption.
4. Coaches, (WOU) Team Administrators, and (WOU) Directors of Coaching are asked to monitor parents' behavior at training and games. They have the right and responsibility to ask a parent whose behavior is not in line with SCYS philosophy to leave the training or game field area.

WOU specific (in addition to above):

5. At games: Refrain from sideline coaching
6. At training session: Parents should **not** be near the field/area where the team is training.

The role of the parent is extremely important for all young athletes. Whether it is at training, during a game, or on the ride home, it is essential that there is positive feedback. Positive vocal support and encouragement are welcome during the game! At training and games, players should feel that they can perform what the coach is asking them to do and not what their parent is asking them to do.

Questions or Comments for the Car ride or at Home:

It is more helpful to ask your child what 'their' experience was like rather than offering 'your' opinion. These comments should never be seen as coaching or done around a game or practice. Please allow the coach to perform their duties in an undeterred environment.

Did you have fun?
improve?

What did you learn that would help you

What did you find difficult?

What worked well?

What didn't work out so well?

Additional Comments:

"I'm proud of you!"

"Good/great move"

"Good/great pass"

"Good/great shot"

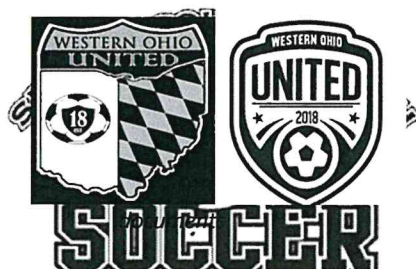
"Good/great defense"

"Good/great header"

"Good/Great attack"

"Stay positive"

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PLAYER EXPECTATIONS:

- Players are expected to be ready to go (mentally and physically) at the designated time given by the coach (for training and games).
- Players are expected to be attentive and listen to the coaches at all times.
- Players are expected to be a good teammate and respectful to each other at all times.
- **Name calling, bullying, hazing, and inappropriate conduct will not be tolerated at any time and could lead to suspension or dismissal from the club.**
- Overly aggressive play in games and or training - that could result in harm to a teammate or opponent - will not be acceptable behavior. Players may be asked to take a break during training and sit out or take a break and sit out during games.
- Any actions in training or games that result (or should have resulted) in a red card, will not be tolerated and players will be asked to sit on the bench and watch during the next game. Coaches have the ability and the right to not start players who do not meet any of the above expectations and may also limit overall playing time.

REC Players are asked to have the following

At training:

- Shin guards covered by socks, appropriate shoes, properly inflated soccer ball, and water/Gatorade Shin guards
- Shirts that cover the stomach and undergarments

At games:

- Provided jersey, shin guards covered by provided socks, appropriate shoes, properly inflated soccer ball, and water/Gatorade Shin guards
- NO jewelry

WOU Players are asked to have the following

At training:

- Full Training uniform (official UNITED training shirt, black shorts, black socks, shin guards covered by socks, appropriate shoes, properly inflated soccer ball, and water/Gatorade

At games:

- Full game UNITED uniform (main jersey & alternate jersey, shorts, socks, shin guards under socks, appropriate shoes, properly inflated soccer ball, and water/Gatorade.
- No jewelry

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SAFETY

Risk Management and Insurance Coverage

It is the intention of SCYS to provide an environment that promotes the well-being and safety of our players and members. In continuing our efforts to keep all members safe, **any** adult who volunteers in a position that places them around youth needs to complete Risk Management.

This must be completed and submitted to the League Registrar prior to you getting your team roster. No adult volunteer will be allowed around our players without clearing Risk Management. Insurance coverage becomes void for any player injured during practices or games with a volunteer who is not properly registered with the club.

Injuries

If an injury occurs during a practice or game, the coach or their designate, must attend to the injured player immediately.

NOTE: If the injury consists of a head injury the player may not return to practices or games without a doctor's note. This avoids risk of further injury to himself/herself. (Concussion Training addressed this)

First Aid Kit

Each team is required to have a first aid kit at practices and games. This can be provided by SCYS.

Allergies

Many children have allergies to latex gloves, foods and bee stings.

1. Check your Player Registration and/or Medical Release forms for allergies.
2. This would also be good to address at your first parent's meeting of the season.

Lightning / Hazardous Weather Policy

OHIO SOUTH GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTNING AND HAZARDOUS WEATHER CONDITIONS

The protection of Ohio South members and participants is of paramount importance. Every member should recognize the danger presented by lightning, tornados and other hazardous weather.

The following items represent generally accepted principles regarding the dangers involved with lightning and tornados.

LIGHTNING:

- All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
- Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder. You are in danger if you can see lightning.
- Lightning injuries can lead to permanent disabilities or death. Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind.
- Lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles and strike when skies are blue.
- Soccer fields are a dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. When lightning is seen or thunder is heard, or when dark threatening clouds are observed, quickly suspend the game and/or practice and move to a safe location.
- Avoid standing in an open area, near soccer goals, under a tent, near trees or in water. The safest place during a thunderstorm with or without visible lightning is in a car, but not a convertible. TORNADOS:
- Watch for rapidly darkening skies.
- The sound of an approaching tornado is often described as that of an approaching train.

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- The funnel of a tornado does not have to touch down to cause extensive damage and injuries.
- Tornadoes can produce winds of 300 miles per hour or more.
- Most people who are hurt during a tornado are hurt when they are struck by flying debris.
- Seek safety in a solid structure, preferably in a basement or in an interior room. If no building is available, lay down in a ditch.

GAME SUSPENSION REQUIREMENTS: In any of the circumstances outlined below occurs, the referee should immediately suspend the game.

1. If thunder is heard, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
2. If lightning is seen, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter.
3. If a thunderstorm is heard or seen coming or your hair stands on end, the game should be suspended and the fields cleared. Everyone should immediately go to a safe shelter. Do not wait until it rains.

RECREATIONAL Soccer = REC

Typically, about 600 players participate in the recreational/REC program. We strive to provide an environment of wholesome, competitive fun, developing good character and sportsmanship, team play, and an education in the rules and skills of soccer.

REC - TEAM FORMATION

The recreational/REC program organizes teams in March for spring season and July for fall season. SCYS recognizes there may be unique circumstances when adjustments to team rosters are requested. At the discretion of head of the Rec Program, players may be moved to accommodate these requests. However, due to the size of the REC Division and rostering limitations, there is no guarantee the request will be honored.

REC- FIELDS

Practice is permitted primarily at Tawawa Soccer fields or an agreed upon location by the coach. (Landrum soccer field is to be used by WOU for their practices and games). Leave fields cleaner than when you arrived.



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IS YOUR PLAYER READY FOR THE NEXT LEVEL?

If your player is ready for a competitive experience...contact Western Ohio United/WOU.

Competitive/WOU Soccer vs

At Training: Everyone has a ball and around, touches are important

Parents attend games to watch the development and cheer when development happens

Coaches have an active pre game warm-up where everyone is active and touching the ball (no standing around)

Players thank the parents/fans for their support by applauding them from the field of play.

Players use an opponents' injury to rest or talk about what is happening and how we can play better. And then applaud as the injured player is helped off.

Coaches (usually 2 at the most) are sitting and up and giving instruction when it's necessary.

Recreational/REC Soccer

At Training: A few balls and a lot of standing

Parents attend games to coach and yell from the sidelines (GO GO GO GO!!! Or Get in there!)

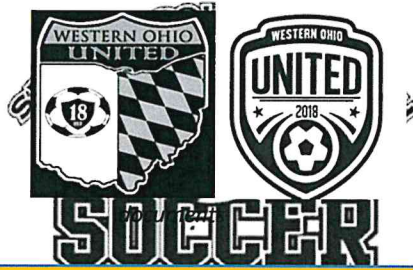
Coaches run a warm-up where 1 person shoots on goal and everyone else stands in a line.

Parents form a "tunnel" or high five line for the players.

Players take a knee.

Coaches (sometimes up to 3 or 4) are standing Walking up and down the sideline yelling out constant instruction to the players.

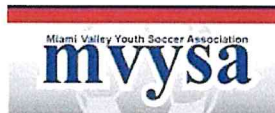
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COMPETITIVE Soccer = Western Ohio United (WOU)

WOU consists of about 250 players and provides training and development to 'qualified players' to assist them in advancing to play at the highest levels available. Their teams compete in local travel leagues as well as regional and state tournaments. If a player has progressed through recreational soccer, and desires to take their game and skills to the next level, our competitive program (WOU) can take them there. WOU starts with the U9 age. These teams are typically formed from our REC/recreation program, with tryouts and team selection in June and October. REC encourages WOU coaches to come and watch their games. Player performance will be evaluated by observing the player in tryouts, training, scrimmages, and games (including REC games).



www.mvysa.com



www.bpyslsoccer.com

WOU-FIELDS

Practice is permitted primarily at Landrum Soccer fields or an agreed upon location by the coach. (Tawawa soccer field is to be used by Rec for their practices and games). Leave fields cleaner than when you arrived.

TRYOUTS

Players are evaluated and selected based on several factors including:

1. Mental: character, discipline, leadership
2. Physical: endurance, strength, speed
3. Technical: passing, dribbling, shooting
4. Tactical: awareness, decision making
5. Attitude: attendance, behavior, effort
6. Playmaking: game performance

The coach(es) will confer in matters of player evaluation and selection, a sensitive process requiring objectivity from the coaching staff and respect from parents.

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TEAM PLACEMENT / ROSTERS

1. Rosters will be formed by the coaching staff so that all players are at a similar level of talent and age group to maximize their individual player development.
2. Rosters serve as a baseline for how teams will train and practice together.
3. Evaluation of skill- tryout scores in the above addressed areas.
4. Rostering up provision is made on a year-to-year basis.
5. Players may only request to roster-up one age group. There may be circumstances when younger players are rostered to an older team to fill the older team's roster. In these cases, criteria governing the player-requested rostering up policy may or may not apply.
6. At the discretion of the coaching staff, some players may be asked to practice and/or play with a different team for specific games or tournaments.

CALL UP POLICY

From time to time, players may be called up to play on a higher age group level team. The coaches of both teams will consult to ensure the player's physical and social development and agree to the player playing up.

PICKING UP FELLOW WOU TEAM PLAYERS

If you have another team at your age group the WOU coach shall:

1. Work with the other team to use guest players (schedule games at different times -plan ahead!).
2. If you do not have another team at your age group but have limited subs: Work with the team at the age group below you for guest players and communicate early - plan ahead!
3. A player may be "picked up" as long as the requesting coach receives the consent of the coach of affected team.
4. The requesting coach can then proceed to contact the player's parents/guardians for permission for the player to play on the team for the length of time agreed to all parties.
5. A player thus "picked up" and joining the team temporarily should not have more field-time during a game than a regular full-time player on that team.



Western Ohio United/WOU - Top 10 “Principles of Play”

1. FUN...

Everything has to involve some type of fun. Soccer is a fun game! We want our players to enjoy the game and we can control that for them by having fun ourselves.

2. Touches, touches, touches...

Nothing can make a player better, faster than touches on the ball. A coach who spends 15 minutes having players touch the ball will develop players faster than one who ‘talks’ tactics/strategy.

3. Two touch minimum or 3 touch maximum...

Minimizing number of touches improves speed of play. Be aware of times when 1 touch is acceptable - a good player can play 2 touch just as fast (and more accurate) than one who plays 1 touch.

4. Both feet...

There are so few minutes a coach has with players each week. If a player trains at home, they will spend every minute using their dominant foot. To balance it out, have players spend more time using their weak foot during coaches training time.

5. First Touch...

You can tell how comfortable a player is with the ball by watching how they receive it. Focus on improving 1st touch of our players (with both feet), and on getting rid of the "Let's Kick It" when it comes to me attitudes that many of our players still have. **KINGS** - Kicking Is Not Good Soccer!

6. Encourage 1v1...

Give our players the freedom to take players on. Be positive even if the player loses the ball.

7. Team Shape...

EVERYONE plays offense & defense. As we move together into ‘strong side & ‘weak side’ formations, it’s okay to "get out of position", as long as a teammate can cover for them (advanced).

8. Communication...

What our players say and when they say it is vital to the game of soccer (offensively and defensively). We need to teach and then praise our players on good soccer communication.

9. Proper Technique...

Dribbling, passing, receiving, and shooting should be taught properly to our players. Bad habits equal players who fall behind when the game gets faster and more athletic.

10. Teaching multiple positions...

Even though a player may be more adept at one position, disservice is being done if the player is forced to play that one position all the time. Allow players to learn and experience other positions.



EXPECTATIONS FOR THE SEASON

FROM **7v7** TO **9v9** AND **11v11**

FOR YOUR PLAYERS

1. FUN!
2. Player Retention
3. Look forward to the next training session.
4. Look forward to the next game.
5. Look forward to the next season.
6. Want to play at home and in between sessions and games. Want to watch and talk about soccer.
7. Family atmosphere - new friends, new team improvement. experiences, etc. (Develop a team bond)
8. Individual Improvement - TECHNICAL IMPROVEMENT FIRST.
9. Take each player to the "next level" – team success is secondary.
10. Develop a sense of pride and "family" to wear the Western Ohio United SC jersey (by supporting all the other teams).

FOR YOUR PARENTS

1. EDUCATE!
2. Family Retention.
3. Look forward to the next season and WOU event.
4. If you're losing - convince parents that the individual improvement and team improvement is the key to success in the long term.
5. If you're winning - convince parents that there is still a lot of room individual and team improvement.
6. The score board will start to be more important as we progress from 7v7 to 9v9 to 11v11. At WOU, we value getting better individually and collectively. As a result, winning will take care of itself.
7. Encourage playing at home and in between sessions and games with their child.
8. Family atmosphere - new friends, new experiences, etc. (Develop a team bond)
9. Develop a sense of pride in being a member of the WOU family.