

# Soccerscool

## FOOTBALL CLUB



*“Quality without results is pointless.  
Results without quality is boring.”*

Johan Cruyff





**Welcome** to Soccerscool F.C. a club established in the Highbury community since 2004.

Our aim is to create a fun, professional environment, which stimulates and challenges young players in order to maximize their potential as footballers.

For players selected to join Soccerscool's Football Club the goal of our approach is simple:

***'There is only one ball,  
so you need to learn to keep it!'***

## ***Our Approach***

Soccerscool has a distinctive *Play-Practice* coaching method. We pride ourselves on the level of fun, participation, skill and knowledge children gain from attending our sessions.

### ***Play-Practice***

Soccer skills are about being agile and recognizing patterns of play as they unfold to make smart, timely choices. It is our belief that these skills are better developed through activities which involve players constantly having to make decisions in relation to time and space.

Hence, Play-Practices reflect real situations within the game. This type of training develops players with the skills to be able to read, recognize and react accordingly to each situation they find themselves in.

Our sessions are designed to harness the fun, freedom and creativity of street football.



## ***A Soccerscool Player***

Key qualities we look for in the recruitment of players:

- Have a passion for the game.
- Display an appetite for learning.
- Ability to keep the ball as an individual.
- Regular attendance.

Key attributes we aim to instil in our players:

- Dedication to practice.
- Ownership of learning.
- Responsibility and hard work.
- Resilience and perseverance.
- Discipline and respect.
- Teamwork and competitiveness.



## ***Coaching Programme***

Our objective is to develop each player's individual technical ability and confidence on the ball within the context of a coherent and recognizable ***Style-of-Play*** outlined in our playing vision.

### ***Playing Vision***

- Running with the ball in a positive manner at every opportunity.
- Skills and confidence to dribble past opponents when necessary and with effect.
- Comfortable playing in tight areas.
- Receive and pass the ball in a variety of situations in order to play round or between the opposition.
- Combine cleverly and imaginatively with colleagues.
- Maintain possession of the ball in all areas of the field when no attacking advantage is possible.
- Aware of 'overload' situations with and without the ball.
- Finish positively and accurately from a range of distances and a variety of situations.
- Goalkeepers playing as the 'deepest sweepers'. A player who can use his hands.

Producing teams to replicate our ***Style-of-Play*** provides the benchmark for our coaching programme. It also creates the framework in which we assess the progress of each player.

## ***Membership Values***

Our values promote a culture of pride, respect, professionalism and best practice:

- Coaches and players wearing Soccerscool attire when attending training and matches.
- Good time keeping in order to be organised, prepared and ready to coach or play. Being early, not on time!
- Playing areas reserved for players and coaches only.
- Watching parents understanding the importance of not shouting instructions to the players.
- Parents notifying Soccerscool in advance if their child is unable to attend training.

## ***Membership Fees***

Membership fees are in addition to coaching fees, they help pay for the following:

- Affiliation to the Football Association.
- Training facilities.
- League fees.



## ***Match Programme***

### ***Under 8/9 – (Year 3/4)***

During the course of school years 3 and 4 players will develop their skills, knowledge and understanding in relation to playing 7 a-side football.

We have a u9 team which plays in the Regents Park league. This involves playing matches every fortnight from September to March. During the summer months they will also play in a summer league at the Arsenal Hub.

### ***Under 10/11 – (Years 5/6)***

Our u10 and u11 teams play in the Camden & Islington League at Market Road. Matches are scheduled on Monday, Tuesday and Friday evenings. Each team play on average three matches per month from September to May.

U9/10/11 teams play in non-competitive leagues. Therefore no results or league tables are recorded. They do however play in cup competitions with winners and losers!

### ***Under 12+ (Secondary School - Youths)***

Our age groups from u12 and above continue to play in the Camden & Islington League. Youth teams compete in competitive leagues with promotion and relegation. They also take part in a cup competition each season.

## ***Squad Sizes***

To be able to fulfil our fixtures we need to operate large enough squads to cover for all eventualities. Therefore, it may be the case that during some seasons we either have to play some children up an age, or merge two age groups together. ***Players are selected on a match-to-match basis.***

## ***Match Fees***

There is a £5 match fee for midweek fixtures and a £1 match fee for Saturday morning fixtures. This covers the coach and referee's fee.

## ***Communication***

We have a Google calendar on our website to keep updated regarding training times & venues along with fixtures and holiday periods.

We also really appreciate it when parents let us know in advance if their child is unable to attend training. This helps us when it comes to planning and preparing our sessions. Our new app ***Spond*** is the best form of communication. To join click <https://group.spond.com/EZHLA>





## ***Soccerscool Kit***

- Rain Jacket
- Sweatshirt
- Short sleeved top
- Black shorts, socks
- Shin-pads
- Football



## ***Ace Sports***

Soccerscool kit is available from our supplier Ace Sports. We recommend a visit to this classic old style sports shop. Alternatively goods can be purchased over the phone and delivered with an additional charge for postage.



***Ace Sports, 6 Fortess Rd, NW5 2ES***

**Tel: 020 7485 5367**

## ***Coaching Team***

### **Head Coach**



Malcolm Hercus

### **Senior Coaches**



Malik Suleman



Craig Hutchison



Alastair Neame

### **Assistant Coaches**



Robert Wright



Xavier  
Cumberbatch



Daniel Nerozi

## ***Ethos***

To create a fun, professional environment that stimulates and challenges young players to maximize their potential as footballers.

Provide children with an experience that teaches them valuable life skills associated with playing a team sport such as competitiveness, resilience, dedication, teamwork, respect, hard work and discipline.

Educate children in the virtues of taking responsibility on and off the field of play and ownership of their learning.

Raise standards at the grassroots level in relation to the coaching, playing and watching of children's football.



[www.soccerscool.net](http://www.soccerscool.net)