AFC PARENT *CLUB SOCCER* HANDBOOK

At the heart of every great youth soccer experience are the parents — your support, encouragement, and involvement shape the journey for every player. This handbook is designed to be your go-to guide: clear, accessible, and aligned with our Airdrie & District Soccer Association **(ADSA)** club values. Whether you're new to the game or a seasoned sideline supporter, you'll find everything you need to feel informed, connected, and confident in your role. Together, we create an environment where kids thrive, learn, and love the beautiful game.

2026-27

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Presidents Message and Club Overview..... 01

Club Contacts 02

Club Mission, Vision & Values..... 04

Kicking the Season Off.. 05

Pre-Season Checklist..... 06

Facilities..... 07

Apparel 08

Code of Conduct & Ethics..... 10

Respect..... 14

Supporting your Teammate..... 15

The AFC Soccer Parent..... 16

The Parent Team Role..... 17

Setting your athlete up for success..... 18

The Coach Parent Partnership..... 19

Team Selection Process 20

Financial Information..... 23

Refund Policy..... 24

Safe Sport Guide for Parents..... 25

VIDAR Sports Medicine..... 28

Thank You and Stay Connected..... 29

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Dear Airdrie Soccer Families,

On behalf of our board, staff, coaches and volunteers, welcome to Airdrie Soccer.

Our mission is to provide a safe and inclusive soccer experience where everyone can grow, on and off the field. Our athletes are at the centre of that mission. Soccer builds skills and confidence, but it also builds friendships, teaches life lessons and brings our community together.

As parents, you have the biggest influence on your player's experience. As members, your voice helps shape this club. We are listening.
To our volunteers, thank you. You are the heart of this club.

To our staff, thank you for the steady improvements you continue to make. Your hard work shows.

Our players are ready to compete. Let's bring the energy, back every team and show what Airdrie FC is made of.

Please keep this handbook as a reference, and reach out anytime you have questions or ideas.

Yours in soccer,
Tim Ogilvie
Interim President
Airdrie Soccer

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

ADSA provides extensive soccer programming so that players of all ages and experience levels can enjoy the beautiful game in an environment that not only helps build their soccer skillset but a skillset that goes far beyond the pitch. In short ADSA wants to ensure that your child's sport experience is a vehicle to building confidence, resilience, self esteem and enjoying the benefits of a healthy, active lifestyle.

To learn more about all of our programs and our player pathway, we encourage you to connect with our Indoor Program Guide.

Airdrie FC Indoor Program Guide

CLUB CONTACTS

OPERATIONS & ADMIN

Executive Director
Jennifer Hogg -execdir@airdriesoccer.com

Technical Operations Coordinator
Melissa MacEachern - m.mac@airdriesoccer.com

Bookkeeper
Karen Fuller - bookkeeper@airdriesoccer.com

Member Services & Events Coordinator
Rachel Hugh - rachel.hugh@airdriesoccer.com

TECHNICAL TEAM

Technical Director
Michal Misiewicz- michal@airdriesoccer.com

Director of Coach Development
Allan Siwela- allan.siwela@airdriesoccer.com

Sporting Director
Paul Schultz- paul.schultz@airdriesoccer.com

Grassroots & Community Coordinator
Quayes Haji- quayes.haji@airdriesoccer.com

CLUB CONTACTS

EXECUTIVE

President:
Tim Ogolvie - president@airdriesoccer.com

Vice President:
Vacant

Treasurer:
Lori Ann De Bokx- treasurer@airdriesoccer.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Director: Nykol Kroeker **-** nykol.kroeker@airdriesoccer.com

Director: John Okoye - john.okoye@airdriesoccer.com

Director: Cory James - cory.james@airdriesoccer.com

Director: Darla Tidball - darla.tidball@airdriesoccer.com

Director: Ezio Deiana - ezio.deiana@airdriesoccer.com

CLUB MISSION & VISION

Vision

To be the LEADING sports organization within the communities we serve.

Mission

Committed to being a community leader by providing a safe and inclusive soccer experience with opportunities for everyone to succeed in the areas of leadership, teamwork, relationship building, healthy living and personal development, both on and off the field.

Club Values

Respect - We all commit to accept everyone for who they are, treating them as we would want to be treated, regardless of our differences. We will be considerate of others feelings, beliefs and cultures building a community of trust, safety and wellbeing.

Integrity - We all commit to demonstrating integrity and transparency in our day-to-day activities, both on and off the field. We will hold strong ethical and moral principles, acting with honesty, honor and truthfulness.

Excellence - We all commit to meeting the highest standards possible in everything we do, regardless of our role. We will collaborate, support and challenge each other to develop, grow and lead on the soccer field and in all aspects of our lives.

Fun - We all commit to looking for every opportunity to create a safe and fun environment that allows every participant to exhibit their own passion for the game of soccer.

Inclusive - We all commit to providing opportunities for EVERYONE in our communities to enjoy soccer. We will look for ways to provide safe and accessible experiences for all, regardless of role (staff, volunteers, spectators, players). We value and celebrate diversity within the game and the community.

PRE-SEASON KICKOFF
INDOOR 2026

Sept

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- 23 — Outdoor Coaches Appreciation Team Notification day
- 28 — Club Coaches Pre-Season Meeting (In Person)
  AFX Indoor Program Registration Opens
- 29 — U8-11 Club Parent Meeting (Virtual 6:30pm)
  U12-U19 Club Parent Meeting (Virtual 8:00pm)

Oct

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- 1 — Indoor Managers Meeting (In Person)
- 3-4 — U12-U19 Fitness Combine
- 5 — Club Training Commences
  CMSA game schedules released
- 13 — U10-19 CMSA League Kicksoff
- 30 — AFX Training Starts
- 31 — U7-U9 CMSA League Kicksoff

PRE-SEASON CHECKLIST

Player Cards/Coach Cards

Players on teams that are U11 and older are required to have a valid CMSA player card. ALL coaches are required to have a valid CMSA coach card. Please check to make sure your cards are not expired. To obtain your card please follow this link.

Cards are processed through the CMSA office, not ADSA. Your child will not be allowed to play in any CMSA game until a player card is obtained. Player cards are valid for four (4) years and team official cards are valid for three (3) years. The cost for new cards or replacement cards is $10.00. If you have an old card that has expired, there is no cost for a new one if you bring in your expired card.

Proof of Age

Is required by Airdrie FC upon registration so there should be no further requirements once players are officially registered with Airdrie FC.

Player Waivers

New this season! CMSA/ASA waiver is now incorporated into our waivers when registering in Powerup.
This should expedite the process with the understanding that all parents have completed this waiver. All waivers must be signed electronically, NOT on paper.

Schedules

Training and game schedules will be shared as soon as possible, and we appreciate your patience as several moving pieces come together.

Our goal is to have all club teams on the field beginning Oct 5th, kicking off the season with energy and a number of exciting new initiatives designed to support players and families as we get started.

Final scheduling depends on the release of the CMSA U10–U19 game schedule, which allows us to thoughtfully plan coach led team training, technical sessions, skills programming, and sports science support around each team's match commitments.

Once game schedules are finalized, we will move quickly to establish consistent and balanced weekly schedules.

Updated schedules will also be available in the PowerUp app once uploaded.

Team Communication

Airdrie & District Soccer Association will be using the Powerup App. Teams will be able to communicate with each other through this platform. Our other programs have been successfully using powerup to communicate for several years.

Please download the PowerUp Connect APP on your device (Google Play app & Apple App store). This will be used to share your roster, schedule, game locations, and team chat.

Instructions:
This quick and easy PowerUp User Guide will help guide new platform users.

INDOOR FACILITIES

Tri-Fit Fitness Center (U12-U17)

2914 Kingsview Boulevard SE

All of AFC Strength and conditioning will be held at the Tri Fit Center with our strength and conditioning leaders at Tri-Fit!

Athletes are asked to bring clean indoor footwear, athletic gear and ensure they are wearing socks!

Airdrie Soccer Fieldhouse

1000, 505 Gateway Rd NE Airdrie

Club, Community and Grassroots Training

Footwear- Cleats welcome!

Genesis Place

800 East Lake Blvd NE Airdrie
Community Training and Games

Footwear- Cleats welcome!

CMSA Game facilities

Maxwell Soccer Center

7000 48 St SE Calgary AB T2C 4E1

Macron Facility

111 Exploration AVE SE Calgary AB T3S 0C2

Shane Homes West Soccer Dome

11014 Bearspaw Dam Rd NW Calgary AB T3L 1S4

Shouldice Seasonal Dome

4911 13 Ave NW Calgary AB T3B 1J1

Genesis Center Calgary

7555 Falconridge Blvd NE Calgary AB T3J 0C9

APPAREL OVERVIEW

Player Equipment
The following key information outlines the expectations, needs and essentials to ensure your player has everything they need to adhere to safety, CMSA and AFC apparel standards.

·ADSA is very proud to outfit our players in game jerseys that have been sponsored by Global Controls Inc.

Equipment Required for All Players
These items are required for all programs:

- Shin guards (worn under socks)
- Appropriate footwear
- Indoor: soccer cleats (no metal studs). Players in Club U10/U11 may need indoor shoes depending on the CMSA game schedule
- Outdoor: soccer cleats (no metal studs)
- Water bottle

What ADSA Provides by Program
Below are only the unique items provided based on program.

Club Program – U8-U19; CUSA/CWSA

- Match jersey set *(returnable unless otherwise noted)*
- U10+ teams: must be returned undamaged. $100 fee for loss/damage.

U8–U9

- Required: Black shorts & socks, blue training top
- Optional: Adidas backpack, blue track jacket, black track pants

U10–U19

- Training Gear:
- *Required Training*:
- Black shorts & socks, light blue training top
- *Required Games*:
- Blue Shorts, Blue Socks
- *Optional Gear*:
- Adidas backpack, blue track jacket, black track pants, blue shorts, blue socks

Official Apparel & Gear Supplier
World of Soccer is the official supplier for all Airdrie & District Soccer Association apparel and branded gear. All club shorts, socks, jerseys (where purchased), and additional team items are to be sourced through World of Soccer.
Shop the Airdrie FC collection: https://worldofsoccercanada.com/collections/airdrie-fc

Airdrie FC will also provide game jerseys.

ADULT REC PROGRAMS
ADSA will supply the following equipment:

- Jerseys - to keep!

APPAREL AFC POLICY

AFC is proudly branded by our blue and white jerseys. Team apparel is designed to help us provide a consistent professional appearance throughout our Club. The following are the guidelines for all teams to adhere to. Any apparel outside of these guidelines must be approved by the Executive (President, Vice President, Treasurer & Executive Director) of ADSA. Teams may have any optional items sponsored.

Additional apparel would be purchased through 'vendor' and can be printed through a 3rd party. All sponsor image sizing and placement must be approved by the Executive (President, Vice President, Treasurer & Executive Director) of the ADSA. ADSA is not held responsible for the purchase of apparel that have not been pre-approved, that do not meet our guidelines and that are not suitable.

Kit #1
Adidas Blue Jersey (supplied by Airdrie FC)
Adidas Blue Shorts (purchased through 'vendor')
Adidas Blue Socks (purchased through 'vendor')

Kit #2
Adidas White Jersey (supplied by Airdrie FC)
Adidas Blue Shorts (purchased through 'vendor')
Adidas Blue Socks (purchased through 'vendor')

Training Kit (Technical Training & Coach Practices)
Adidas Light Blue Training Top (purchased through 'vendor')
Adidas Black Shorts (purchased through 'vendor')
Adidas Black Socks (purchased through 'vendor')

Fan Club & Additional Apparel (purchased through 'vendor')
Adidas Track Suits (mandatory for players)
Adidas Player Bags (mandatory for players)
Adidas Rain Jackets (optional)
Adidas Hoodies (optional)
Ball Caps (optional)

Additional Items we want to include (optional)

Any 3rd kits previously purchased are exempt from these guidelines for the indoor 2025-26 season, as formerly approved by the Board of Directors.

ADSA is currently exploring other vendors and a 3rd kit option that can be provided to our Club. Use of Club names and logos are the property of ADSA and may not be used or reproduced in any manner without the express written consent of the Executive and Board and goes against trademark law.

Teams and/or individuals found not abiding by the AFC Apparel Policy may face fines/suspensions as decided by the Board of Directors.

AFC CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS

All parents/guardians agree to the Code of Conduct at the time of registration.

Clause 2. Purpose

The purpose of the Code of Conduct and Ethics ("Code") is to ensure a safe and positive environment by making everyone aware there is an expectation of appropriate behaviour consistent with ADSA's core values. ADSA is committed to providing equal opportunity in an environment where all individuals are treated with respect and where discriminatory practices are prohibited.

This Code is not intended to outline every instance of misconduct. Misconduct that does not fall in line with ADSA values or with the purpose of this Code may still be a breach of the Code and will be subject to sanctions even if not directly included in the Code.

Clause 3. Application of this Code

This code applies to Officials, Staff, Team Personnel, Athletes, Spectators and Parents or any other individual who perform duties on behalf of or engaged by ADSA in soccer-related activities sanctioned by ADSA, Alberta Soccer Association and/or Canada Soccer. This Code is applied to conduct of action on and off the field of play. Any breach of this Code will be addressed by the ADSA Disciplinary Committee and may be subject to sanctions.

Clause 4. Responsibilities All parties referred to in Section 3 have a responsibility to:

- Comply with ADSA By-laws, Rules and Regulations, policies, procedures and directives.
- Work in a spirit of partnership to collaborate with ADSA and all its Members and stakeholders to align efforts to achieve the mission of ADSA.
- Resolve conflict professionally.
- Demonstrate respect to individuals regardless of body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, age, colour, race, citizenship, ethnic origin, creed, disability, family status, marital status, gender identity, gender expression, sex and sexual orientation.
- Direct comments/criticism appropriately.
- Demonstrate the spirit of fair play, sport leadership and ethical conduct.
- Treat all individuals fairly and reasonably.
- Demonstrate respect for the principle of fair play:

Continued on next page

AFC CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS

- Respect for both the letter and spirit of the rules o Respect for referees and their decisions o
- Respect for opponents
- Respect for Team Officials (Coaches, Managers)
- Respect for Fellow Teammates o Facilitation of access to sport o Maintenance of self-control at all times
- Not use power or authority in an attempt to coerce another person to engage in inappropriate activities.
- Promote the sport in the most constructive and positive manner possible.
- Respect the property of others

Integrity of Sport

Abstain from the non-medical use of drugs or the use of performance-enhancing drugs or methods.

- Refrain from consuming alcohol and marijuana in excess and from the use of illicit drugs while participating in ADSA programs, activities, competitions or events.
- Reject and condemn all forms of bribery and corruption.
- Refrain from accepting or giving gifts or other benefits that influence and act that is related to their official activities.
- Refrain from offering or accepting cash, other than reasonable per diems, expense reimbursement or salaries as approved by ADSA.
- Ensure information obtained while carrying out one's duties is treated as confidential if that information is received or can be understood as confidential. Respect the confidentiality of the information after the relationship with ADSA ceases.
- Ensure transparency in all actions and decisions.
- Remain politically neutral.
- Refrain from betting in connection with soccer and not tolerate any form of manipulation of match results – whether for financial, sporting or political gain, and ensure information in any form that is not publicly available is not used for the above purposes.

AFC CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS

4.2 Harassment

All parties have a responsibility to:

- Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes harassment as defined according to the Canadian Human Rights Commission as a form of discrimination that involves any unwanted physical or verbal behaviour that offends or humiliates. Generally, harassment is behaviour that continues over time but serious one-time incidents can be considered harassment.

Behaviour that constitutes harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Written or verbal abuse, threats, or outbursts o Displaying of visual material which is offensive or which a reasonable person ought to know is offensive in the circumstances
- Unwelcome remarks, jokes, comments, etc.
- Suggestive or obscene gestures o Condescending or patronizing behaviour which is intended to undermine self-esteem, diminish performance or adversely affect conditions of participation
- Practical jokes that cause awkwardness or embarrassment, endanger a person's safety, or negatively affect performance
- Hazing
- Retaliation or threats of retaliation against an individual who reports harassment
- Bullying
- Offensive or intimidating phone calls, text, voice mails, emails, use of social media
- Displaying or circulating offensive pictures, photographs or materials in print or electronic form
- Psychological abuse
- Discrimination
- Words, actions or an environment which is offensive, embarrassing, humiliating, demeaning or intimidating to a reasonable person
- Any behaviour as described above that are not directed at an individual or group but have the same effect of creating a negative or hostile environment

AFC CODE OF CONDUCT & ETHICS

- Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes violence as defined as physical force, that causes or could cause physical injury; and attempt of physical force that could cause physical injury; or a statement or behaviour that is reasonable to interpret as a threat of physical force. Types of behaviour that are applicable to this section include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal threats to attack o Sending or leaving threatening notes, texts, voicemail or emails

- Making threatening physical gestures

- Wielding a weapon CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICS 3 | PAGE o Hitting, pinching or unwanted touching which is not accidental or deemed to be generally accepted as part of sport participation o Throwing an object in the direction of someone outside of normal play

- Blocking normal movement or physical interference, with or without the use of equipment outside of normal play o Any attempt to engage in the type of conduct outlined above

- Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes sexual harassment as defined as unwelcomed sexual comments, sexual advances, request for sexual favours, or conduct of a sexual nature. Types of behaviour that constitute sexual harassment include but are not limited to:

- Sexist jokes o Sexual violence

- Display of sexually offensive material

- Sexually degrading words used to describe a person o Inquiries or comments about a person's sex life

- Unwelcome sexual flirtations, advances, requests, invitations or propositions

- Inappropriate sexual touching, advances, suggestions or requests

- Unwanted physical contact including, but not limited to, touching, petting, pinching, or kissing o Physical or sexual assault

RESPECT

AFC is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Further, AFC supports equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices.

All participants are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of AFC, which include fairness, integrity, open communication and mutual respect. Conduct that violates these values may be subject to sanctions pursuant to the AFC Discipline Policy.

In addition to the above, the following specific behaviors will be subject to sanction pursuant to the discipline policy:

- not complying with the by-laws, rules, regulations or policies of Canada Soccer and Alberta Soccer as adopted and amended from time to time;
- verbally or physically abusing opponents, officials, spectators or sponsors; CMSA, ASA or CS personnel, teammates, coaching staff, support staff, peers or volunteers.
- showing disrespect to officials, including the use of foul language and obscene or offensive gestures;
- abusing soccer facilities or equipment;
- failing to comply with the conditions of entry in a CMSA or ASA sanctioned event, including any rules with regard to clothing or advertising;
- any other unreasonable conduct which brings Airdrie FC, its sponsors and/or the sport of soccer into disrepute, including but not limited to, abusive use of alcohol, non-medical use of drugs, use of alcohol by minors.

SUPPORTING YOUR TEAMMATE

As a member of an ADSA team, players are an important part of the team's success and accept the commitment outlined at each level of play. Players must understand that their commitment to practices and training will directly impact performance on the field. As a parent it is our role to support them in contributing the best they can, supporting them as a teammate.

Players are required to show up fully prepared at the designated time for training and games as outlined by the coaching/management staff. Fully prepared means that the player is ready to play with gear, hydration and nutrition requirements met. Players are responsible for communicating with coaching staff when they have questions or concerns.

Players will treat all teammates, coaches, opponents, and officials with respect. This includes monitoring and controlling language and rough play. Players are required to control temper and emotions and must understand that the inability to adhere to this expectation will impact their role on the team.

Players agree to take risks, make mistakes and understand that failure is a very important part of learning. If a child wants to improve, they must practice -- not just play. Even if a child is not the "star" player, practice stresses the importance of teamwork, establishing goals, discipline and learning to control your emotions, all of which are important lessons players can use both in and away from sports.

Players understand that playing time is impacted by their commitment and level of play. Playing time will be fair, not necessarily equal and ultimately determined by the coaching staff. Any concerns should be addressed directly to the coaching staff following a 24-hour grace period.

All players at ADSA will win with humility as a team and lose with dignity as a team.

As a parent it is our role to promote the habits and behaviours of a positive teammate, reminding them the role they play and setting them up for success as a contributing, prepared and supportive teammate.

PARENTS

THE AFC SOCCER PARENT

Our mission is to have spectators play a positive role in the game of soccer and positively support the participating athletes, officials, and coaches.

With a supportive attitude and a fundamental understanding of the "basics" of soccer by a parent or guardian, everyone will come away from their youth's sports experience with a positive feeling.

On the Sidelines: Parents and other spectators can help keep the fun in soccer by enjoying the game and applauding good plays. The side-lines are not a place from which parents should try to personally coach their children. Kids often mirror the actions of their parents; if they see mom or dad losing their cool on the sidelines, they'll probably do the same on the pitch.

Parents will take the fun out of soccer by continually yelling or screaming from the sidelines. Instead, parents should enjoy the game and applaud good plays. The sidelines are not a place from which parents should try to personally coach their children. Kids often mirror the actions of their parents; if they see mom or dad losing their cool on the side-lines, they'll probably do the same on the pitch.

Car and Home: Some parents believe that the car is the perfect place for post-game or practice instruction. Parents should keep a perspective that there is more to life than soccer, and the car and home are not places to critique your child's performance or that of their team

At Practice: If a child wants to improve, they must practice -- not just play. Even if a child is not the "star" player, practice stresses the importance of teamwork, establishing goals, discipline and learning to control their emotions, all of which are important lessons children can use both in and away from sports.

As a parent, you play a very valuable role in our club. Without your role as volunteer, nutritionist, chauffeur, cheerleader, first aid and TLC specialist, we couldn't do what we do and your aspiring superstars experience just wouldn't be the same.

PARENTS
YOUR TEAM ROLE

To ensure we are creating a team culture on and off the field, we ask that all parents adhere to the following AFC Club expectations.

- Parents will ensure that players arrive at all events on time, as determined by the coaching and management staff, and ready to play.
- Parents will ensure that players have a complete soccer kit for the season as outlined by the team staff.
- Parents will correspond proactively on the team communication platform used by their team regarding absences, injuries and questions. Parents understand that frequent absences may affect playing time.
- Parents understand that day-of correspondence regarding absences should be restricted to sudden illness or family emergencies. When corresponding on the day of the event, please contact the coach directly.
- Parents will adhere to the 24-hour rule when they have concerns/questions. Parents will not communicate with coaches directly at the field. Parents will communicate first by email or phone and understand that the coach will return communication within 72 hours.
- Parents will cheer for each and every member of the team and will not coach the team from the sidelines. Parents agree to stay in the 'parent' section and not join players in the coaching area unless asked.
- Parents will treat all parents, officials, coaches and players with respect. Parents understand we are all representatives of Airdrie FC and agree to conduct ourselves in the spirit of fair play and sportsmanship.
- Parents will never criticize a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning.
- Parents will place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- Parents understand that by not adhering to the above expectations, the coaching team has the right to bring their behavior to the attention of the club Technical Director and/or General Manager which may result in affecting their child's role with the team.

PARENTS

SETTING YOUR ATHLETE UP FOR SUCCESS

Support Your Child: There are many benefits to playing youth soccer. Athletes learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. They learn to work together, how to sacrifice for the good of the team, how to enjoy winning and how to handle defeat. In the process, they also learn important lessons about physical fitness and personal health. The degree to which your child benefits from their soccer experience is as much your responsibility as it is theirs. For your child to get the most out of youth soccer, it is important for you to show support and offer encouragement while maintaining a genuine interest in the team.

Always Be Positive: Parents serve as role models for their children, who often look to adults for advice, direction and approval. Never lose sight of the fact that you are a role model and strive to be a positive one. As a parent, one of the most important things you can do is show good sportsmanship at all times to coaches, referees, opponents and teammates. Remember that your children are PLAYING soccer. It is important to allow them to establish their own goals and play the game for themselves. Be careful not to impose your own standards or objectives.

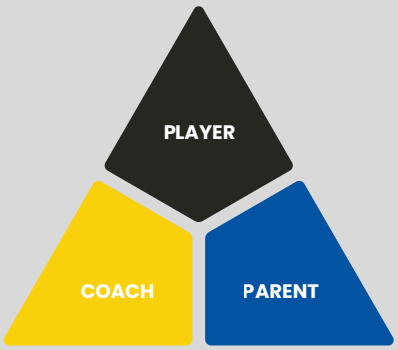
Let the Coach "Coach": Parents are responsible for supporting and respecting the coach's decisions and abilities. It is unfair to put children in a position of having to decide who to listen to -- their parents or the coach.

Parents must also respect the mission, vision, values, standards and practices of the Club and the Team Officials who act under those guidelines.

Positive Reinforcement: Avoid placing an exaggerated emphasis on winning. The most important aspect of your child's youth soccer experience is for them to have fun while developing physical and emotional skills that will serve them in life. A healthy, risk-free environment that emphasizes the importance of fair play, sportsmanship, discipline and, most importantly, the fun, will be invaluable for your child as he or she continues to develop a positive self-image. The best way to help children achieve goals and reduce any fear of failure is through positive reinforcement. After all, no one likes to make mistakes. If your child does make a mistake -- and they will (remember, they're human) -- keep in mind that mistakes are an important part of the overall learning process. Strive to be supportive and point out the things they do well. Make your child feel like a winner. Telling them "I love watching you play" is more valuable than any other feedback.

Team Dress Code: All athletes and coaches must dress in an appropriate manner when representing ADSA/AFC at any event including, but not limited to: meetings and travel, games, tournaments, etc.

THE COACH-PARENT PARTNERSHIP



The following are guidelines for how parents can contribute to a Coach-Parent Partnership that benefits their child as a youth soccer player.

Let Coaches Coach: It can confuse players to hear someone other than the coach yelling out instructions. Also, your instructions may counter the coaches' strategy and tactics, undermining team performance. At no time is it acceptable for the parents to coach from the sidelines.

Recognize the Coaches' Commitment: Your child's coaches have made a commitment that involves many hours of preparation beyond the time spent at practices and games. Quite likely in youth soccer they are volunteers. Respect their commitment and imagine yourself in their place before approaching them to discuss any issues you may perceive.

Make Early, Positive Contact with the Coach: As soon as you know who will coach your child, contact those coaches to introduce yourself and offer any assistance you may be able to provide. Establishing a positive relationship with the coaches will help you proactively shape a positive experience for your child and will lay the foundation for respectful, productive conversations with coaches should a conflict arise later.

Fill the Coach's Emotional Tank: Too often, coaches hear only from parents who have complaints. Filling the coaches' emotional tanks with specific, truthful praise positively reinforces them to continue doing the things you see as benefiting your youth soccer player.

Don't Put the Player in the Middle: Don't share your disapproval of a coach with your children. Doing so may force the child to take sides, and not necessarily your side! If your child has an issue with the coach and can maturely articulate it, encourage your child to approach the coach and at the very least learn some life lessons in self-advocacy with an authority figure. If you disapprove of how the coach handles a situation, seek a private meeting to discuss the matter away from the field.

TEAM SELECTION PROCESS -CLUB-

AFC is unique in the depth of programming we make available to our members, from grassroots, community to club, we want to ensure players find a valuable experience and meaningful competition.

Commencing at U8, players are provided with two pathways and at any time in their soccer journey can choose to explore either program. Each program features a distinct evaluation process with varying purposes and objectives.

Although evaluations can be a daunting and intimidating process for all participants, they are a fundamental tool ensuring players are placed in an environment where they can be successful and develop with peers at a similar stage of development.

CLUB TEAM SELECTION PROCESS

Competitive Player Evaluation Process
Evaluations are required for all CMSA (competitive) players U10 and above

Where a player is returning to AFC from a previous season, far more emphasis/weight is placed on their season end player development report (submitted seasonally by team coaches in collaboration with the team technical lead) than the 2-3 hours dedicated to the pre-season assessment.

AFC strives to ensure that all players are provided with a fair, transparent and objective evaluation by using independent (or non-parent) technical assessors. Player results are based on a combination of these evaluations, and data collected from the player's history with the Club (where applicable).

The Technical Committee, comprised of the Player Development Director, Sporting Director and Coach Development Manager, with the aid of independent assessors, finalizes each team's pre-season (or draft) roster.

Here is an outline of what you can expect to happen during the evaluation process.

1st Evaluation

The initial evaluation session (1 to 1½ hrs) consists of splitting the players into smaller groups with at least one evaluator assigned to each group. Players at this stage are traditionally placed with peers whom they have played with the season prior.

New Players are traditionally placed with peers who match the reported previous level of play.

TEAM SELECTION PROCESS -CLUB-

This session is designed to allow the club to sort/rank the players by their specific stage-of-development, technical ability, and game presence. This initial assessment will give the Age Group Coordinator and Technical Director an assessment of how many teams we will have for the season and at what levels (tiers) they will be entered.

2nd Evaluation

A second evaluation session will be staged using the information gathered from the initial assessment and coach's evaluations from past seasons (if applicable). This second session will feature a series of small-sided games, where players will be asked to play a variety of positions and roles. There may be movement between fields as we get closer to establishing team cores.

Missed Evaluations

A missed evaluation will not work detrimentally to a player's selection as the pre-season team draft will be used as another assessment opportunity. Players will be placed on a team where we are confident they will have a competitive environment and where we can provide players with an opportunity for promotion.

Before Evaluations

For the evaluation your player should be dressed appropriately :

- Shin pads and suitable footwear for the facility (outdoor cleats or indoor soccer shoes)
- Athletic / soccer T-shirt and shorts
- Water, in a PLASTIC bottle with their name marked on it.

Please note that parents are asked to remain in the parent viewing area. We know you are anxious for your aspiring soccer star, but we want to ensure the environment is controlled, minimizing distractions to the athletes.

Team Notification

Based on the information gathered, the Technical Group will draft teams. Team draft notification day for all age groups will be communicated by the club for each season.

All players will be contacted directly by email initially indicating their 'drafted team', coaching staff, notified of their first team session and contacted by the coach within 96 hours of team confirmation.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Club Dues

The majority of the expenses incurred by AFC are financed through the player fees. Fees are set each season and communicated by the Club.

Club Player Fees include the following:

- CMSA Fees and Insurance
- Practice, Academy and Training Sessions
- Facilities Rental and Maintenance
- Club Administration Fees
- Club Programs and Equipment
- Coaching costs

Additional fees

The following is a partial list of additional expenses not covered by player fees and are the responsibility of each team. Typically these are covered by fundraising activities.

- Tournament Entry Fees
- Coaches and Players Travel expenses to tournaments
- Additional Team Gear
- Team Building Events
- Extra Training Time / Friendly Games

The payment and timely collection of fees is a critical component to establishing long- term viability for our Club. It is also one of the most difficult. We have spent a tremendous amount of time establishing fees that balance the needs of our Club and the resources of our families.

We firmly believe when families experience the professional training and coaching as well as character development of their players', they will realize a tremendous return on their modest investment.

Fundraising

Soccer rightfully enjoys a reputation as a sport less costly than many others. However, when you reach the level of high-performance soccer, you necessarily begin to experience the need for better facilities, the cost of traveling to and playing in tournaments, extra uniform costs, better shoes, and so on.

The battle to meet the rising costs of building and sustaining a top-flight soccer program is constant. On a few occasions, we have benefited from the generosity of contributing businesses and individual friends of the Club. We need that type of special financial assistance on an ongoing basis. If you or your company could help us in meeting this challenge, please contact Executive Director.

Teams are encouraged to explore fundraising possibilities that will help defray the cost of tournament travel and play. Typical fundraisers include bottle drive, raffles, various food/vendor fundraising events, keeping in mind all Alberta Gaming and Liquor AGLC regulations. If you have any questions regarding fundraising, discuss with your team manager.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering can be a rewarding experience. Non Profit Organizations like ADSA rely on people like you to take advantage of our volunteer opportunities to be successful in reaching our organizational goals.

At the time of registration, you paid a volunteer deposit. This is your opportunity to earn that fee back as a credit on your next season's registration!

Volunteer Reimbursement: Families will be reimbursed for the following roles at the end of each season and can use the credit provided for future use. More opportunities to volunteer will be communicated throughout the season.

- Coach (Must be listed on roster)
- Assistant Coach (Must be listed on roster)
- Team Manager (Must be listed on roster)

Note: Field Marshal and bench parent is not a refundable volunteer role.

Financial Assistance

The ADSA works with both KidSport and Canadian Tire Jumpstart programs to assist those who may need some financial support to ensure their kids can participate. Funding is also available through Their Opportunity.

Funds received from these agencies may only be used towards registration fees. They cannot be used towards player equipment or tournament fees.

Application Process

- Complete registration in full for ADSA program. Program must be paid in full at time of registration.
- Complete the application forms for KidSport Information & Application , Jumpstart, or Their Opportunity (below).
- Submit applications.
- If approved, KidSport, Jumpstart, and Their Opportunity will send funds to ADSA, a refund will then be issued to the applicant.

REFUND POLICY

Program fees are NON-refundable after the registration deadline.

There will be no refunds issued after half the season is played.

All refund requests can be made through refund@airdriesoccer.com

- Scheduling conflicts with other activities and obligations outside of ADSA are not grounds for a refund.

- Tier placement disputes do not qualify for refunds.

- Weather cancelations are not grounds for a refund. Reschedules will be made when possible but refunds will not be given for smoke or weather.

All eligible fee refunds will be assessed an administration fee* as follows:

- $20 (U3 & U4 Parent & Tot Timbits)
- $20 (U5 - U7 Timbits)
- $20 (U8 - U17 Community & Adult)
- $20 (U9 - U19 Club)

- Expenses incurred on behalf of the player, including uniform costs, are NON-refundable.

NOTE: Refunds will not be provided for any COVID-19 related isolation periods

CLUB LEAGUE REFUNDS: Any player who has been granted a refund for an injury will be placed on the Do Not Release List with CMSA. Transfer to another Club will not be granted until the following season.

CAMP REFUNDS: $20 cancellation fee on all camp registration in which the member wishes to cancel. No exceptions. No refunds at all within 1 week (7 days prior to start day) of the camp week starting.

SUMMIT CUP REFUNDS: Once registration has closed there will be no refunds if your team drops out of the tournament. Refund requests prior to the registration deadline will be refunded by cheque, less a $20 administration fee.

SAFE SPORT
A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Primary Liaison for ADSA Child Protection: Jenn Hogg safesport@airdriesoccer.com

At ADSA the safety and well-being of every athlete is our highest priority. We are proud to uphold the national standards of the Responsible Coaching Movement and Safe Sport Canada, which guide our policies and procedures to ensure a safe, respectful and inclusive environment.

Our Commitment to Coach Screening & Accountability

We take coach screening seriously. Every adult working with players must meet standards before stepping onto the field:

- Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening is required every 3 years.
- Coaches must complete Respect in Sport Activity Leader Training, NCCP Make Ethical Decisions, and additional modules based on the age group they coach.
- All coaches are trained in the Rule of Two, Emergency Action Planning and Concussion Awareness.
- Youth coaches (under 18) receive mentorship and are always supervised by screened adults.

All training, screening and communications are tracked and reviewed seasonally by ADSA staff to ensure full compliance. We believe that transparency builds trust, and we share key safety information with families each season.

Rule of Two

The Rule of Two ensures that no adult is ever alone with a minor athlete. This protects athletes from harm and coaches from false allegations.

Key Guidelines

- Two screened adults must be present during all interactions with athletes.
- Coaches must not be alone with athletes before or after practices.
- No coach should travel alone with an athlete unless they are the athlete's parent.
- Youth coaches (under 18) are not considered Persons in Authority and must always be supervised.

Person in Authority are

- NCCP-trained or certified coach
- Screened volunteer (IE, manager, chaperone, director)
- Parent of another player (if no screened adult is available)

SAFE SPORT
A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

Examples of Rule of Two in Practice

- Two NCCP-trained team officials present during training (Gold Standard)
- One screened adult + multiple players (minimum acceptable standard)
- Room checks during travel must be done by two adults
- Coaches must not be alone in a car or hotel room with an player unless they are the player's parent

Gender Identity Considerations:

- For single-gender teams, at least one adult of the same gender identity should be present.
- For co-ed teams, one adult of each gender identity should be present.

Youth Coaches – Boundaries & Support

Youth coaches are valuable mentors and role models, but they are still minors.

To ensure safety:

Youth Coaches

- Must always be supervised by an adult Person in Authority.
- Cannot be alone with players.
- Cannot transport players.
- Cannot hold private meetings.
- Receive mentorship and training on safe conduct and boundaries.

Zero Tolerance for Abuse & Harassment

ADSA enforces a Zero Tolerance Policy for all forms of abuse—verbal, physical, emotional, and sexual. Bullying and harassment are not tolerated under any circumstances.

All team personnel must:

- Treat players with dignity and respect.
- Maintain professional boundaries.
- Communicate respectfully.
- Never engage in private or inappropriate relationships with players.

SAFE SPORT
A GUIDE FOR PARENTS

How to Report Concerns

If you witness or experience inappropriate behavior, please report it. All reports are taken seriously and handled confidentially.

Reporting Options:

- Speak directly to a coach or ADSA staff member.
- Submit an Incident Report Form via the ADSA website.
- Reports can be made anonymously.
- Serious incidents may be referred to police with consent.

Parent Responsibilities

Parents play a vital role in maintaining a safe sport environment.
We ask parents to:

- Support Safe Sport policies and the Rule of Two.
- Encourage fair play, inclusion and sportsmanship.
- Communicate respectfully with coaches and staff.
- Report concerns promptly and constructively.
- Complete the Respect in Sport Parent Program respectgroupinc.com

Transparency & Communication

Each season, families will receive:

- A summary of Safe Sport policies and expectations.
- Updates on coach training and screening.
- Information on how to report concerns and access resources.

We believe in open communication and shared responsibility.

Together, We Keep Sport Safe

Safe Sport is not just a set of rules—it's a culture of care. Thank you for helping us protect our players and foster a positive soccer experience for all.

If you have questions or need support, please contact ADSA staff or visit airdriesoccer.com.

VIDAR SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Airdrie FC Announces New Physiotherapy & Return-to-Play Partnership

Airdrie FC is excited to announce a new partnership with Dr. Presley and the AT Team as our Official Physiotherapy and Return-to-Play Partner.

This partnership represents an important step in our commitment to supporting the long-term health, safety, and development of our players.

Through this relationship, Airdrie FC families, players, coaches, and staff will have access to trusted physiotherapy, injury assessment, rehabilitation, and return-to-play support from experienced professionals who understand the demands of youth sport.

The partnership will focus on:

- Priority Access to Care for AFC Players

Helping players receive timely assessments and treatment when injuries occur.

- Return-to-Play Support

Providing guidance and recommendations to players, families, and coaches throughout the recovery process to ensure a safe and confident return to training and competition.

- Injury Prevention & Performance Education

Supporting our club with educational resources, workshops, and information sessions for players, parents, and coaches.

- Athletic Therapy & Club Support Services

Providing expertise and resources that help keep our athletes healthy, active, and performing at their best.

At Airdrie FC, we believe that player development extends beyond the field. By partnering with leading health and performance professionals, we can better support the physical well-being of our athletes while providing families with trusted resources throughout their soccer journey.
We are excited to welcome Dr. Presley and the AT Team to the Airdrie FC community and look forward to working together to support our players and families.

To contact Vidar for a service for an expedited appointment contact Vidar @
Tel: 587-775-5740
Fax: 587-387-7006
Email: admin@vidarsportmed.ca

To complete an appointment form Click Here

Together, we're helping players stay healthy, recover safely, and continue enjoying the game they love.

Paul Schultz
Sporting Director, Airdrie FC

THANK YOU

On behalf of all of us at ADSA we look forward to working with you, your athlete and providing you with the best possible soccer experience, leading to a life long love for the game.

Stay Connected with us and stay updated with all of our club updates, initiatives and successes.

https://airdriesoccer.com/home/

Airdrie & District Soccer Association

airdriefcsoccer