



Napa United 1839 Academy: Winning V Development



Throughout the course of the season our coaching team will approach each competition with a different focus. The table below indicates on a sliding scale whether we view a competition as part of our long term development plan or if our focus will shift towards an approach that is more aimed at winning games or competitions. It is important as players & parents you are aware of this as it gives you an understanding of the playing minutes you can expect, how rosters will be selected & the strategy we will use as coaching staff.

Weekly Practice Program	NorCal League: Premier or Gold	National Premier League (NPL)	State Cup Tournament
<p>Our four day per week program is specifically designed to offer every player the opportunity to develop all aspects of their game.</p> <p>Our practices are planned & reviewed daily to ensure we are delivering practices that are high quality & meet a professional standard.</p> <p>The practice program has an annual syllabus that incorporates technical, tactical, physical & character development. This offers every player the opportunity to improve their own areas of development throughout the season.</p> <p>The commitment of every individual in our practice program will directly influence your long term development & determine the game minutes & opportunities in all aspects of our academy.</p>	<p>Throughout the course of the fall &/or spring season all players can expect to be offered a good amount of game minutes.</p> <p>This will include starting games & being a substitute at different times of the season.</p> <p>Playing positions may be varied as part of an individual long term development plan. We will also look to use a 'play up' approach for players who are excelling in their age pure group. This is designed to challenge players who are performing well & stretch their development.</p> <p>We do not value winning league titles above long term player development but we do believe winning is a by-product of a good program.</p> <p>Successful league campaigns are a target for all teams without focusing solely on finishing #1.</p>	<p>The NPL rosters will be selected on current performances, commitment & quality of play.</p> <p>Game time will not be shared & players should not expect equal playing minutes. The NPL level of play is now more elite & our team selection must reflect this.</p> <p>NPL has a promotion & relegation format so league position is a vital part of the calendar.</p> <p>If you finish top 2-4 in NPL you can be promoted to a higher league & if you finish bottom 2-4 in your league you can be relegated out of NPL.</p> <p>Starting line ups, playing position & formations will be more consistent throughout the season to offer optimal conditions for success.</p> <p>The NPL level is for U14 teams & above.</p>	<p>State cup rosters will be selected with a view to progressing as far as possible in the event & looking to reach the knockout phase & beyond.</p> <p>This means rosters may be 'age pure'. A player who is used to playing up an age group in the regular league season may be asked to play in his own age for state cup games.</p> <p>State Cup is a good opportunity for our players, teams & coaches to test themselves against the other elite programs in our state.</p> <p>This is an important event that we will always look to be competitive in & attempt to win.</p> <p>Game minutes will not be shared or equal & coaches will be instructed to select starting line ups that we believe will help the team get a positive result.</p>
DEVELOPMENT FOCUS	DEVELOPMENT & WINNING FOCUS	WINNING FOCUS with DEVELOPMENT	WINNING FOCUS

Development

Winning

Development Level Tournaments	State Level Tournaments	Elite Level Tournaments
<p>Throughout the season most age groups will attend one tournament that is considered a development level event.</p> <p>At this event we will look to play individuals in different positions &/or set different team or individual targets, as an example we may set a striker the target of scoring goals with his weak foot only.</p> <p>The team may be asked to play three touch maximum in possession to develop our fast passing & movement.</p> <p>These events will also allow our coaching team to offer more game minutes to players who may not have played a high volume in the regular league or state cup fixtures.</p>	<p>Every age group will attend at least two state level tournaments that should be high level completion. The bracket we enter may depend on each spec idci age groups current development.</p> <p>We will always look to play at Prmeior or Gold level as we believe these are the quality of games our players need to continue testing themselves.</p> <p>We may use a play up approach & game time will be shared in the league phase of these tournaments. If we reach the knockout phase of any event our coaching team will select the starting line up based on quality of performance in the early games & recent games.</p>	<p>It is our belief that unique & highly competitive experiences will help a player reach their maximum potential. With this considered we may look to attend out of state or international level tournaments. Selection for these events will be based on the quality of recent play, overall commitment & your behavior as an academy player .</p> <p>If your age group is offered an event of this type it is because our coaching team believe you are ready for this level of challenge.</p> <p>Playing ability & also maturity of a player to be trusted with travel & staying as a team is a huge factor in roster selection.</p> <p>Not all age groups will be selected for these tournaments & game time is not guaranteed.</p>
DEVELOPMENT FOCUS	DEVELOPMENT & WINNING FOCUS	WINNING FOCUS