



## ***EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League Questions & Answers***

### ***Player Evaluation Process and Selection of players born within the year 2000***

In efforts to continue to provide information regarding the newly formed EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League and its technical guidelines, policies and their developmental advantages, below is some valuable information and answers to frequently asked questions regarding the evaluation, assessment and selection of players within the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League.

**Q' - What is the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League and why should my son or daughter play in this league?**

**A' -** It is the goal of BC Soccer to continue to be committed to a comprehensive approach to improve player development in British Columbia, ultimately, to make Canada a stronger soccer nation. Part of the broad-based plan is the creation and development of a High Performance League in BC. This league is known as the ***"EA SPORTS BC SOCCER PREMIER LEAGUE"***

The EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League will deliver on the following key development initiatives;

- ✓ *Support CSA's "Player First" mentality and it's Long Term Player Development strategy*
- ✓ *Harmonize all elite level of programming*
- ✓ *Eliminates congestion and provides greater clarity for all stakeholders*
- ✓ *Works within existing and supporting structures*
- ✓ *Drives improvements to all aspects of elite soccer*

**Q' - What are some of the development benefits for players within this high performance league?**

**A' The EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League is built on the following guiding core principles of development;**

### ***Core Principles***

- 1. To allow players to further develop their skills in an environment, this includes other technically advanced players playing within a competitive and demanding atmosphere.*
- 2. To enhance the technical and tactical components of the players game through extensive on and off field training and education.*
- 3. To provide the players with access to certified and experienced and professional levels of coaching.*
- 4. To provide the players specific guidance in the areas of diet and nutrition, mental preparation, physical fitness and post-secondary education.*
- 5. To provide leadership and information on life skills and promote the importance of commitment to excellence and citizenship.*
- 6. To provide a healthy and safe training environment to ensure responsible and sustainable development of the player.*

**Q' - What are the overall objectives of this high performance league?**

*A' The EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League development objectives are the following;*

- ✓ Provide an elevated level of competition for elite players within BC*
- ✓ Provide a strong contribution to player development for the Canadian National Team level of play*
- ✓ Provide a recognized pathway for players to be identified for BC Soccer Provincial Teams Program, Canadian University, US Colleges and Universities and ultimately the Professional level of play with the Vancouver Whitecaps FC of Major League Soccer.*

**Q' - Where can my son or daughter born in the year 2000 be evaluated for potential selection to the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League?**

*A' - The EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League is made up of eight (8) founding member clubs. Each of these clubs is responsible for the implementation of a evaluating and assessment program within each of their clubs. For more information on these clubs please go to official website and click on the club logo for more information regarding their evaluation and assessment program.*

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

**Q' - When do evaluations begin and when do they end?**

*A' - To assist with the overall process the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League and its Technical Subcommittee has established and agreed evaluation and assessment window.*

*This window of time is the following;*

*Member Clubs may begin evaluations and assessments on SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> 2012*

*All member clubs must complete the evaluation and assessment process by SUNDAY MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> 2012*

**Q' - How do I register my son or daughter for these evaluations?**

*A' - Each EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League member club has established its own schedule and registration process for the evaluations and assessments. Please consult the club websites for further details.*

**Q' - Are the Vancouver Whitecaps FC involved in these evaluations and assessments for potential selection the Academy Program?**

*A' - Yes! As part of the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League and the leagues overall commitment to the high performance player and his overall development, the Vancouver Whitecaps FC Academy Program will use the established evaluation and assessment window as phase one of their process of selecting players for the full time academy program for this age group.*

*They will complete phase two with one additional evaluation and assessment combine which will be followed by their official selections into the Whitecaps FC Academy Program.*

**Q' - What happens if my son is selected for both an EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League member club and the Vancouver Whitecaps FC Academy Program?**

*A' - The process of evaluation, assessment and ultimate selection will be conducted stage by stage with the 1<sup>st</sup> selection going to the Vancouver Whitecaps FC Academy Program which then be followed by the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League member clubs selecting the next group of players.*

*This is designed to eliminate any confusion with the parenting group and the decision process of where their son will play.*

**Q' - Is the Vancouver Whitecaps FC Academy Program only for boys?**

*A' - Yes! At this time the only age group for girls the Vancouver Whitecaps FC has full time programming in is the U17/18 Elite Girls level of play.*

**Q' - What can I expect at the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League member club evaluations and assessments?**

*A' - As per the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League Technical Operations Manual, all evaluations and assessments must be conducted within an environment which provides for the health and safety of the players participating and should follow the following guidelines;*

- ✓ Maximum number of players within each session to provide responsible environment for evaluations*
- ✓ Responsible players to coach ratio as it relates to the evaluators and assessors*
- ✓ Provide technical and match playing environments to assess player age specific competencies*
- ✓ Provide access to information regarding the overall process from beginning to end*

**Q' - If my son or daughter is approached by an individual from the member club following the evaluation and assessment to join the member club team within his/her age group do we need to agree immediately?**

*A' - No! However, as a parent of a son or daughter participating within the evaluation and assessment process you are free to agree to join a member club who has approached you after the evaluations and assessments. The framework and support surrounding such a decision may include the following;*

- 1. Your son or daughter is a longtime member of the member club and its development programming*
- 2. As a longtime member you are satisfied with the overall development programming being provided to your son or daughter within the member club*
- 3. Member club resides within your community*
- 4. Pleased with the service, communication and opportunity being granted your son or daughter*
- 5. Member club, age group team and coaching staff meet your expectations for the overall development of your son or daughter*
- 6. You have no interest in joining any other member club*

**Q' - Are players allowed to attend multiple evaluations and assessments at other member clubs?**

*A' - Yes! Players are allowed to attend multiple evaluations and assessments at other EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League member clubs but it is not encouraged if you are not serious about joining the member club hosting the evaluations?*

*In addition it is the agreement of the technical subcommittee and its members (who include the eight (8) member club technical directors) to discuss with all players and parents who are participating within the member clubs evaluation and assessments their true motivation if these players are coming from other jurisdiction's within the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League.*

**Q' - What are some of the selection protocols I should be aware of if my son or daughter is participating within the evaluations and assessments?**

*A' - It is the goal of the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League to promote a responsible and positive experience within the evaluation and assessment process. The following are not acceptable practices within this process and if you encounter any of these practices you are advised to report them to the Soccer Development Department of BC Soccer.*

- 1. You are asked to sign an agreement for your son or daughter to commit to a team immediately following evaluation and assessment*
- 2. You are given a short time frame (e.g. 24 hours) to commit to a team following the evaluation and assessments*
- 3. You are asked to supply a deposit to guarantee your son or daughters position within a team of a member club following the evaluation and assessments. (Please note that some member clubs may require existing players within their club to pay a portion of the next seasons registration fee as part of the evaluation)*
- 4. Member club coaching staff uses pressure tactics to convince you to agree to have your son or daughter join a member club team*

**Q' - When is the deadline to commit to an EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League team?**

*A' - Evaluations and assessments will be completed on Sunday March 11<sup>th</sup> with phase two of the Vancouver Whitecaps FC Academy selections be completed within a week.*

*Member clubs will begin to look for commitment following the March 11<sup>th</sup> date if you have not already accepted an invitation to join a team with a member club of the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League.*

**Q' - How many players may be on an EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League team?**

*A' - The official roster of players may not exceed eighteen (18) players at this level of play.*

For further information on the EA Sports BC Soccer Premier League please go to:

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