



# PALM BEACH SOCCER CLUB

ESTABLISHED 1966

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## Shark Squad, JPL and Competition Age Group information for Parents

At Palm Beach Soccer Club we endeavour to become a club that is a genuine alternative to SAP/NPL clubs. In 2019 we appointed Brett Budwee as the Junior Technical Director and have been upskilling our Shark Squad and JPL Coaches with the opportunity to complete their Asia C coaching licence. This means that across all our age groups we are putting together a highly skilled coaching staff roster to be able to give your child a very high quality and fun opportunity to learn and develop.

The role of a head coach for each age group is to ensure that all teams and their coaches have a point of contact regarding coaching advice and soccer structures. If any team is struggling in a certain area, it will then be escalated to Brett Budwee (Director of Football in 2022) for a more targeted approach with guidance and sessions to become available for that team. Having said that, just because a team is not winning every game it does not constitute the requirement for the Director of Football to step in.

We as a club are about the kids and its members to become part of a community who are there for each other and each year have grown the culture with our link between the juniors and seniors.

### SHARK SQUADS

The two development teams in the age groups of 8s-11s inclusive are called the 'Shark Squads' and that is exactly what they are, A Squad. There will be a head coach for both squads in each group, that will have a C license or as a minimum be working towards it and to be completed by the end of 2022. This Coach will run each training session in conjunction with the other Shark Squad coach for that age group (in most cases will be a parent) so the kids get the same training and can learn more advanced structures.

The idea of having two shark squads is to have as many technical able kids that will then perform in our JPL teams when the teams require 15 players. As a parent it is important to realize that the kids develop at training more than they do in the games and is where many of the skills are learnt.

In most cases training will involve one session based on technical skills and structures then a second session which will be half technical and half a game against the other shark squad in preparation for the weekends game.



As a parent, please help the coaches and your kids by encouraging them to learn all positions across the field. We understand that at a young age most kids want to play up front, but soccer is a team sport and, in most cases, kids will need to play wherever the coach directs them to play. This is entirely up to the coach's discretion and is going to be what's best for the players development. These are some of the reasons as to why this is important.

- A child who can play multiple positions is more versatile and will have more opportunity to progress into the JPL Squads. If a child can only play striker, chances are that when it comes to selections for JPL squads the child will be up against a lot more people which will lessen their chances of getting in.
- Kids that play multiple positions develop a more intuitive soccer brain and will have a much better understanding of the technical side of soccer.
- Kids that are willing to do what's best for the team are more coachable and more selectable for future shark squads and JPL sides. You can be the most skilled kid in the group but if you are not coachable it will limit your child's progression.
- If kids at a young age have attitude when asked to play other positions this will reflect poorly when it comes to next year's selection. Palm Beach Soccer Club will pick a team player any day of the week. This also helps kids develop mentally as well as to follow instructions.

It is entirely up to each coach of the Shark Squads on where and who they play on any given day. Please understand that the coach is doing what's best for their development and when they are older in a JPL team, they will be more focused on individual positions, and it will all make sense as to why it was important for them to learn all positions. Please read below a few situations on why Shark Squad players may be benched. As a parent, please talk to the coach privately about a resolution and a plan can be made.

- Poor attitude at training: All kids are at training to learn, the coach expects kids to be switched on, focused and respectful.
- Not Coming to training: All kids in the Shark Squads are expected to be committed to the team and to be at both training sessions each week. If anyone can't make a session, please communicate this with the coach. Palm Beach Soccer Club reserves the right to drop a Shark Squad player if you continue to miss training sessions without a valid reason. There would be many other kids who would love the opportunity.
- Bullying: Bullying will not be tolerated in any circumstances. Please encourage your child to lift other players up if they are struggling and not to belittle them. We want all teams to be in a safe encouraging environment for everyone to enjoy. Players that are found to be bullying will be asked to leave the Shark Squad.
- Not willing to play in other positions (as above).

As above it is up to the coaches where and when your child plays. While equal game time is ideal there may be some occasions where it is necessary for some kids to play more or less time during a game.

If at any time you wish to speak to a coach about any issues, please don't do it during training or during a game. Please contact the coach to set up a time to talk.

### **JPL AND COMPETITION AGE GROUPS**

**POSITIONS:** As a parent it is important to understand in competition age groups that players are selected to fill certain positions and while some kids have a preferred position they may not be selected in that particular position. The kids also need to know that they are an important member of the team and they must be adaptable in multiple positions and may be called upon to play other positions when players are unavailable.

**GAME TIME:** While it is always preferred that players get equal game time, please understand that this may not always be the case. In competition age groups players must always accept that they need to do what's best for the team and when games are in the balance, we must field our strongest players to ensure that the overall results for the club are as strong as possible across all JPL and divisional sides. It is totally up to the coach on when players play to optimize a team's impact against the opposition. Some players may not have as much game time one week but may play a full game the following week against a different team. Therefore, game time will balance out over the year. Please approach the coach respectfully to have a discussion regarding player feedback. There are other contributing factors which may result in players not getting equal game time which include.

- Poor attitude at training: All kids are at training to learn, the coach expects kids to be switched on, focused and respectful.
- Not Coming to training: All kids in the competition age groups are expected to be committed to the team and to be at both training sessions each week. If anyone can't make a session, please communicate this with the coach. Palm Beach Soccer Club reserves the right to drop a JPL player if you continue to miss training sessions without a valid reason. There would be many other kids who would love the opportunity. It is unfair to the other kids if players do not come to training to learn the game day structures and tactics. These players can be detrimental to the team on game day.
- Bullying: Bullying will not be tolerated in any circumstances. Please encourage your child to lift other players up if they are struggling and not to belittle them. We want all teams to be in a safe encouraging environment for everyone to enjoy. Players that are found to be bullying will be asked to leave their perspective team.
- Not willing to play in other positions.

**COACHES FOR JPL SIDES:** The club has a fantastic roster of coaches planned for the 2022 season. All coaches in the JPL teams will have an Asia C license or will be working towards them and to be completed early 2022. All these coaches have lots of experience and will be supported by Brett Budwee when required. Please know that the modern curriculum which is supported by Palm Beach Soccer Club is that coaches do not necessarily yell out to players during a game. Feedback to players will be given at half time, bench time, full time and training sessions. Players need to have the freedom to be creative and make mistakes on the field and while some parents may not agree with this it is what is best for their development as football players. As a parent, please make time to communicate with the coach if you have any concerns. It is not ideal to interrupt training sessions so please be respectful on when you approach a coach regarding feedback.

**COACHES FOR DIVISIONAL TEAMS:** The divisional teams in 2021 had amazing results right across all age groups and the coaches that we had were amazing mentors throughout the season. Palm Beach Soccer Club will again endeavour to have all coaching positions for divisional teams full but in some cases there may be a requirement for a parent to fill this roll to ensure we are able to field the team. All divisional coaches will have the support of their respective age groups JPL coach and the support of our Director of Football, Brett Budwee. There will also be coach development sessions held throughout the year for any coach that wants to attend.

**JUNIOR COMMITTEE AND VOLUNTEERS:** We as a committee and volunteer group are committed in doing our very best for the kids and the club. There may be occasions in the past where we have had issues regarding communication. As a parent, please help us improve this by always ensuring that your email address and phone numbers are accurate and current. For separated parents please provide both parents emails to ensure all communications are received. As a parent please also know that as volunteers that are trying to look after 56 teams there may be occasions when we make mistakes. Please approach these mistakes with respect and consideration as aggressive conversations and emails with spiteful undertones can have a massive impact on someone that dedicates countless hours for free. Without the volunteers the club would not run - it is simple as that. Having said that we are always looking for more volunteers and new committee members to help steer the ship, especially representatives from the younger age groups. The more people that come on board the more efficient the club will be as a whole.