



Comox Valley United

Soccer Club

United Development Program

Keener Player Series Introduction

2024

The United Development Program provides a challenging, enjoyable environment for players to develop the skills required to succeed in the game of soccer. All CVUSC players deserve a high-quality program where they can learn new skills and play games in a skills development model.

UDP is split into two programs, The Dedicated Player Series and Keener Players Series. The Dedicated Player Series is three individual phases offered over 10 months. More information on the Dedicated Player Series is available on the UDP web page.

This document focuses on the Keener Player Series. Two Keener Player Series are currently offered in the Spring. Spring Prep for U12 and U13 Boys and Girls. Plus Future Competitive for U11 Boys and Girls.



# Keener Player Series

Keener Player Series (KPS) programs are for those committed and capable individuals who wish to pursue a higher level of technical and tactical training and performance. Keener Player Series programs will include specialized group training, technical training, and games and/or tournaments against other clubs to allow players to play in a competitive environment.

Keener Player Series training sessions are led by the CVUSC Technical Staff / CVUSC UDP Support Staff and focus on specific aspects of the game such as passing, movement, possession, positional play and conditioning.

Opportunities to travel for Exhibition Series Jamborees and Tournaments may be offered to players in the Keener Player Series Program.

To participate in Keener Player Series Programs, players must participate in UDP: Dedicated Player Phase Three and in the Spring VYSL. KPS programs are designed to enhance programming to augment the development opportunities of the Core Programs. Players benefit from exposure to different environments that highlight different aspects of the four corner coaching model (Technical/Tactical, Psychological, Social/Emotional and Physical)

Keener Players Series program is once a week, alternating training and games. KSP will have a max of four training days a week within all three programs. A typical week would be Monday UDP: Dedicated Player Series, VYSL: one mid week practice and a Saturday game, KPS, either a mid week practice or Sunday game. A four day a week program is typical for committed players development programs.



The Keener Player Series will be “group” based rather than “team” based. Players will be grouped by ability and groups will be changed to match an opportunity. In training and for games groups will be tailored.

Keener Player Series Programs have limited entry. Not being “team” based allows the Technical Staff to create groups, more players between groups and tailor groups to match player development opportunities. All players have the opportunity to participate and technical staff will do their best to place players. All programming will have limits. Tournaments for example have a maximum roster. Technical Staff depending on the limits of each program may have to limit and select players.

### **Spring Prep U12 and U13 Boys and Girls.**

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Spring Prep is designed to develop our Super 8 (U12 and U13) players transition into full field play at U14. Targeting players to play in CVUSC Competitive Program. Also, those wishing to challenge for a spot on the Club’s Regional A-Cup teams or with the BC Soccer Premier League program with Nanaimo United.

### **Spring Future Competitive U11 Boys and Girls.**

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Spring Future Competitive is designed for our Junior (U11) players transition into Super 8 play. Targeting players to play in our Competitive Program who will play in the Upper Island Soccer Association Pacific Development League.

### **Structure**

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- Coaching
  - Training Session Lead by Club Technical Staff and Senior UDP Coaches

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- Training Skills based – Game Activity Game
- Weekend Games – Volunteer Coach Lead with assistance from Club Coach if available.
  
- Nine Week Program
  - April 10 to June 16
  - One session Per Week. Either a Training Session or Game Weekend
  - Game Weekends (2 to 4 including Slurpee Cup Tournament Participation)
  - Game Weekends Sundays. Travel within the Upper Island required.
  - Girls Train Wednesday at 5:00 to 6:15 Vanier Turf
  - Boys Train Friday at 5:00 to 6:15 Vanier Turf
  
- Game Weekends (Exhibition Series)
  - Possible 2 to 4 Weekends (TBD) playing 8 aside possible 11 aside against other Upper Island Clubs.
  - Exhibition Series ( Jamboree) style game play. Short games, inter mixing of players. Depending on our and the opposing club player availability.
  - Jerseys are provided to borrow for tournaments.
  
- Training
  - Girls Wednesday 5:00 to 6:15 Vanier Turf
  - Boys Friday 5:00 to 6:15 Vanier Turf
  
- Registration Exhibition Series Jamborees.
  - Registration closes Feb 10.
  - Players must also register for UDP Phase 3 and VYSL.
  - Cost \$100.00.
  - All refunds are subject to a \$25 admin fee.
  - No Refunds after April 15
  - Slurpee Cup Registration is not included. Players must register separately to attend the Slurpee Cup.
  
- Team Managers and Club Coaches
  - A team manager will be required to assist with Slurpee Cup planning and some organization on Game Weekends.
  - Club Coaches required to lead game weekend events and support training.
  
- Slurpee Cup Tournament Participation
  - Players have the opportunity to participate in the Slurpee Cup in Kamloops
  - May Long Weekend

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- Separate registration required.

## Exhibition Series Jamborees

A number of weekend game events are possible, planning events with Nanaimo and Campbell River. The goal is by the end of February to identify teams and create a schedule for game play starting in April.

- Possibly 2 to 4 Weekends (TBD) playing 8 aside, possibly 11 aside against other Upper Island Clubs.
- Exhibition Series (Jamborees) style game play. Short games, inter mixing of players. Depending on our and the opposing club player availability.

## Slurpee Cup Tournament

Players will have the opportunity to attend the Slurpee Cup in Kamloops. Slurpee Cup is an excellent tournament with very good development oppositions, offered at a unique and special setup.

- Slurpee Cup Tournament Kamloops. May 17 to May 20. Travel will be required on Friday May 17
- Registration \$55.00
- Registration closes Feb 10
- No refunds after Feb 29
- Targeted Teams U11, U12 and U13 Boys and Girls. Players may be placed on an older team.
- Limited Entry
- Hotels, Travel and Food not provided.
- i Players will have access to rooms reserved by the club at a fee.

## Coaches

The Club Technical team will coach all training sessions with support from Senior UDP and Club Coaches. The Tech Team will travel with the teams for the Slurpee Cup. Weekend games the help of Club Coaches will be required due to all the other Club commitment for the Tech Team

- Darrin McLeod CSA National Youth License, BC Soccer Provincial B
- Ali Murtland CSA National B Diploma Candidate, CSA C Licence
- Stefan Szkwerek CSA National A License, CSA National Youth License

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- Senior UDP Coaches Mike Oldale and Ash Mohtadi
- More UDP coaches TBD

## FAQs Spring Keeners Player Series

- **Do players have to be registered for both the UDP: Dedicated Player Phase 3 and the VYSL?**

Yes, Keeners is additional training to build on the core development opportunities in the other programs.

- **What does a typical program week look like?**

Players will have one event a week, either a training session or weekend games.

Spring Keeners Series Vanier Turf						
Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
UDP	VYSL U12 - 14 Girls 5:00 to 6:15	Keener Player Series <b>GIRLS</b> 5:00 to 6:15	VYSL U12-14 Boys 5:00 to 6:15	Keener Player Series <b>BOYS</b> 5:00 to 6:15	VYSL 9-12:30	Exhibitions 8v8 or 11v11
Alternating - No Training Game Weeks						

- **When will the game weekend schedule be determined?**

Nanaimo United has offered to schedule U12 and U13 divisions. Teams have to be identified by the end of February. Play will start the first or second week of April. Keener teams will not play weekly. 2 or 3 weekends will be determined for Comox game play. Travel will be required.

- **Will I train within my own age group?**

Not necessarily, training groups will be determined at the start of the sessions. Players will be grouped to offer various challenges and to suit the training environment.

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- **Will I be put on a team for the Slurpee Cup?**

Yes, but you may be asked to play up an age group.

- **Will I play on the same team for an Exhibition as for the Slurpee Cup?**

Not necessarily, exhibitions will be organized around attendance and who we are playing. Teams for the day will be created to maximize participation and maintain an appropriate competition level against the other teams. Players may be asked to play with different players on any given day.

- **Will we be playing 11 aside games for the Exhibitions?**

Potentially but not necessarily, exhibitions will be organized around attendance and who we are playing. Game size will be determined to maximize participation and appropriately challenge our players.

- **I'm a U13 player trying out for the BCSPL intake team. Am I able to participate in the Spring Prep team?**

Yes, BCSPL fully supports our players' participation in the Spring Prep program. Conflicting events will try to be avoided. Players will be able to participate in BCSPL training events. Players are not full time commitment to the BCSPL team until Aug.

- **Do I have to register separately to go to the Slurpee Cup?**

Yes, an additional fee is required to cover the cost of the tournament registration.

- **Do I have to participate in Keeners to go to the Slurpee Cup?**

Yes, the tournament is a key component of the development model.

- **Do I have to attend the Slurpee Cup to be in the Keeners Programs?**

No, players can choose not to participate in the Slurpee Cup.

- **Will we be playing 11 aside games at the Slurpee Cup?**

No, Slurpee Cup Games are played 9v9 for U13, 8v8 for U11 and U12.

- **Do I have to organize my own hotel rooms since the club does not provide them?**

Yes, But the club has secured rooms at Thompson River University dorms and a local hotel which will be offered to players at a fee. The club will require a team manager to help facilitate room allotments.



- **Can players be put on a waitlist to attend the Slurpee Cup.**

Yes, players may be needed to replace any who can not go through injury or illness.