

**COMPETITIVE
U9 and U10
SHARKS ACADEMY
INFO GUIDE**



Naples Sharks provides top level coaching and competitive playing opportunities for U9 and U10 players through its Sharks Academy.

As the club continues its growth, it continues refining its programs to provide top quality player development opportunities. With this in mind Naples Sharks provides its Academy for U9 and U10 competitive teams in the 2009/2010 year.

What is Naples Sharks?

Naples Sharks is the competitive soccer program provided by Naples Youth Soccer Club.

What is Competitive Soccer?

Competitive soccer is an opportunity for soccer players to experience better competition and challenges by playing in a traveling league. The league we play in is based in Southwest Florida and extends from Naples to Cape Coral. Half of the regular season games are played at home here in Naples at North Collier Regional Park. The season is longer and runs from Sept thru March and players train two times a week. Competitive soccer also gives players greater access to the quality coaching that Naples Sharks provides. Players are expected to have a greater level of commitment to the game than at the developmental level, and usually have more experience at the game, particularly at the older age levels. The teams also play in 2 or 3 jamboree and tournament style events.

What is the Academy?

Naples Sharks believes that the youngest age group competitive players should be exposed to the highest level coaching available. This allows players to be introduced to the competitive game in a structured training program that will accelerate their playing ability.

Who will coach?

We are excited to assign the very best coaching staff to the Academy. Our full time Director of Coaching and Operations, Gavin Spooner (USSF A License) will oversee the programs, and will also act as the U9 and U10 Boy's Academy Director. The U10 Girls Academy Director will be Paul Kindred.

How does the Academy work?

Naples Sharks hopes to field 2-4 teams of U9 /U10 Boys and 2-3 at the U10 girl's age groups next year. The players will practice under the direction and training of the specific Academy Director's and the assigned coaches and will receive professional training. The age group teams would train with the other teams in that same gender and age group. Occasionally they will practice independently for team objectives but all trainer-led sessions will be combined. All player practice two times a week. Within the training players will receive Speed and Agility sessions from professional physical trainers and additional skills training sessions will be provided free of charge.

Why train together?

For a number of reasons. At younger ages physical maturity appears at different rates in children. A strong 8 year old, may not be that at 14. By reducing training group size too early, many players are left behind, for the wrong reasons. Training together allows all players to receive the same training, and the opportunity for less experienced players to learn from their peers. More experienced players will also be continually challenged by the expert training.

This sounds different. Why this approach?

Actually this structure is becoming common place in the leading youth organizations in this country. Its idea is supported by the leading soccer educationalists in the world. Simply put its Skills development over winning at all costs. It also fits perfectly the small sided games concept that competitive players will play through the U12 age group.

What are the long term benefits?

The concept is individual player and group development. Winning trophies at U9, U10, and U11 mean little in the player's long term skills development. This program will allow players to play in a competitive environment to continue being challenged, but will work on removing the pressure to win at all costs. The long term outcome will be more capable Shark players, which in turn leads to more capable Shark teams and to increased successes on and off the field at older age groups.

This sounds good. How do I join and how much is it?

Players are selected through a tryout process. These will take place at North Collier Regional Park.

U9 + U10 BOYS	TUES MAY 26TH SAT MAY 30TH	6-7.30 PM 8.30-10 AM
U9/10 GIRLS	WED MAY 27TH SAT MAY 30TH	6-7.30 PM 10-11.30 AM

All tryout info online: www.naplessoccer.com

How much does it cost?

This year the club has reduced the fee for the Academy program to \$399. Compare to other youth competitive sports and you'll see this is great value for 70 hours of training, 20 + games, specialized skills and speed and agility training and professional state and nationally qualified coaches. New players will need to purchase a uniform package (\$100).

What about Older Players?

Naples Sharks provides competitive soccer teams for ages U9 through U18/19. We offer a highly qualified and experienced coaching staff. These coaches work under a curriculum of player development and are overseen, by our full time Director of Coaching and Operations, Gavin Spooner.

Soccer Camps?

The club provides a variety of soccer camps during the winter, spring and summer. This summers camps are the weeks of June 8, June 22 and Aug 10th weeks. Please visit www.naplessoccer.com for schedule and full registration info.

Contact?

Visit www.naplessoccer.com or

Contact Gavin Spooner:

doc@naplessoccer.com

(941) 545 8874 for more information.
