

U12 Boys Academy – Fall 2011 / Spring 2012

Head Coach Gary Noonan – (541) 488-1224

After a highly successful U11 Academy season in 2010/11, the academy training model will be carried forward to U12 for the Fall 2011 / Spring 2012 season by Head Coach Gary Noonan. There will be continuity in the coaching staff, as Mark Shibley, Jeff Franklin, Miles Inada, and Travis Staples have all signed on for the coming year.

Coaching Philosophy of Gary Noonan

It is imperative for the head coach to understand the maturation process of the boys at this age level and how small amounts of time can make a huge difference in any one child's ability. Some children will be more capable than others, but my personal philosophy is that until they have fully gone through their maturation process, no one can determine who is going to be the "best" two years down the road.

Giving all boys equal opportunity to learn skills and perform competitively in the games at this age is important to the long term vitality of any club, but particularly to a club as small as ASC. As we showed in the U11 Academy, when a group of dedicated coaches focus their time and effort on getting a large group technically better they can all have greater success on the field.

So, this is how I envision the Academy moving forward to the U12 level keeping in mind that the number of kids enrolled in the Fall will determine how we field teams.

1. I believe there will be enough players to field two competitive 11 v. 11 teams. We would continue to train all of the boys at the same time for the continuation of the academy style.
2. If we lack the numbers for two 11 v. 11 squads, then we would field one 11 v. 11 squad and one 8 v. 8 recreational squad. The boys would still all train together, academy style and we avoid the cut that has occurred in the past.