

AVALANCHE SOCCER CLUB

FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER



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HOW TO HELP US CREATE THE OPTIMAL CULTURE FOR OUR CLUB

At Avalanche SC, we believe the purpose of soccer is bigger than scoring goals and winning games. We are here to build joyful, resilient, confident young humans who love competing, love learning, and feel a part of something bigger than themselves.

As we make some structural changes to our trainings (outlined in the following section), we also want to be very intentional with how we are teaching and how those sessions look. Training sessions are important and we are continuing to dial in how to create the most impactful sessions for our players. Within this we feel that the most important part is not what drill or exercise is being run but rather how the sessions are run.

With that in mind these are the things we really want to be focusing on and reinforcing every practice and game:

FUN AND COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT

We want sessions to be joyful and intense. We are aiming to create purposeful play where the challenge is “just right” so there is a sense of accomplishment and not just aimless fun which doesn’t help acquire skill.

GROWTH MINDSET AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

We want all of our players to understand that their development is first and foremost up to them. We celebrate effort, intention, courage and willingness to try. If players bring this to each game and session and understand that it’s in their control, improvement happens quickly. Our job as coaches is to continually challenge and remind them of this responsibility and support them with our own encouragement and modeling of the behavior.

DEVELOPMENT FIRST

We want to focus on becoming better players not just winning. At younger ages certain “tactics” can be conducive to winning but really detrimental for player development.

We want to win but not at the cost of the long-term growth of our players.

CHANGES TO PRACTICE FORMAT

This is still a work in progress, but expect to see more mixing of groups, either with the age group above and/or below your own, as well as the levels of each age group.

The reason for this change is that we believe it will create more resources for our coaches with slightly larger numbers in training as well as multiple coaches at the sessions. With larger groups It also creates more fluidity and ability to challenge each individual player more appropriately at practice. It will also create consistency in coaching and a significantly higher amount of collaboration and community feeling within the club.

For a couple of examples: If player A is exceptional in their age now, they will have the chance to train against older players and be pushed . . . If player B is undersized and still developing, they may also find more balance playing against younger players or players from a lower team to help build confidence and skill.

STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES AS WE REFINE THIS MODEL!



HOW TO BE THE MOST HELPFUL FROM THE SIDELINES:

We want Avalanche Soccer to be known for having the best sideline culture in Colorado — **positive, classy, loud, and supportive**. This is imperative to a healthy environment and takes equal cooperation from Parents and Coaches. All things coming here are directions for all of us, not just parents.

Like we said. . . Be loud and support the heck out of your kids **and** think about these three things:

1) Cheer, don't instruct

Encourage effort, teamwork, and persistence.

Leave the “SHOOOOTTT IT!” coaching to... absolutely no one 😭.

We want players thinking for themselves. We rob them of the chance to learn and make decisions when we do it for them. Yes, coaches should be providing a bit more instruction. . . parents giving instructions as well is a lot of information to take in and we want to avoid “joysticking” the players from both sides.

2) Refs are humans too (we think)

They will miss calls.

Sometimes really obvious ones.

But yelling has never made a ref say:

“You’re right, random dad — goal kick becomes a penalty.”

Our kids learn emotional control from us. Staying calm = leadership. The calmer we are as coaches and parents, the safer and smoother the game stays. This is *especially* important the more chaotic the game gets. I understand player safety is of the utmost importance and us as coaches and parents have the greatest ability to influence that by staying calm.

Many of our referees are part of our club- let’s show them the same level of understanding and respect that we show our players.

3) DON'T SPEAK TO OTHER TEAMS' PLAYERS OR PARENTS

As a coach I understand how easy it can be to get into it with the other side. Sometimes it definitely feels like they “deserve it” or our emotions just get the best of us. Please under no circumstance do we want to be “that guy.” These are kids and they are playing a game. Let refs or coaches handle the discipline and let's all teach our kids to remain resilient, focused, and composed when others' antics are less than ideal. This is a life skill.

In short, we want to build a club where the kids feel supported, challenged, confident and joyful. This means cheering for who our kids are becoming and how they are acting- not just the score.

We need all members to be standing on the “same sideline.” Thank you for being part of this. Truly. Our kids feel it. They notice and will benefit from all of our efforts.

Sincerely,
The Avalanche Soccer Club Staff
The Avalanche Soccer Club Board of Directors

Thank you to our Director of Coaching (Competitive level) Levi Rossi for sharing his perspective and providing the content for this newsletter! You can read Levi's bio [here](#).

Questions or comments? We want to hear them! Send us an email at levi@avalanchesoccer.org



**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSOR WESLEY AUTOMOTIVE
FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF AVALANCHE SOCCER!**



WE'RE SO GRATEFUL FOR ALL OF YOU!

THANK YOU

TO ALL OF OUR COACHES, MANAGERS,
PARENTS, PLAYERS, REFEREES, FANS,
STAFF, SPONSORS, AND BOARD MEMBERS!

WE TRULY APPRECIATE ALL OF THE WAYS YOU
CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF
OUR TEAMS AND OUR PLAYERS!