

U7-U10 Program Description

Pearland United Soccer Club is proud to offer a skills-oriented, tier program for it's U7-U10 players. This program brings a data-driven approach to soccer training. It was designed by Space City FC professional staff -- [Randy Evans](#) & [Craig Foster](#) -- and follows [US Soccer Federation](#) & [South Texas Youth Soccer Association](#) (STYSA) recommended training regimens. For general questions and information about the program, please contact , Brian Talbot, First Vice President.

Within this age group the ability level from player to player is diverse. One player can dominate an entire game while another player never touches the ball. Pearland United is taking a data-driven approach to solving this problem and leveling the playing field for each player. Here's how it works - at the start of the season each player participates in a soccer skills and athleticism test (see date below).

Data from the test is consolidated and analyzed across the entire program. The results are used to form peer groups (or tiers) of players at similar developmental levels. Balanced teams are formed within each tier and games are played between teams in the same tier.

We aim to make every game competitive across the entire program and to place your child on a team where he or she has a chance to succeed. As the season progresses the results of each game are analyzed and both player and team adjustments are made when the data and/or common sense dictate. Another key goal of our program is to ensure that your child is learning what they *should* be learning -- individual skill development (i.e. dribbling & general ball mastery). A child's experience is largely influenced by the coach and the material the coach chooses to teach. The luck of the draw can end in discontent or a fantastically rewarding season. In most leagues it's a coin toss. We want to take luck out of the equation.

A U8 and U10 curricula has been designed that are used by every team at every training session. Our professional staff supervise all training sessions and provide support, mentoring and quality control for the volunteer coaches. Our goal is to make sure every child enrolled in this program gets the most advanced soccer training available while maintaining a fun environment for all. The program also offers training for our dedicated volunteer soccer coaches.

South Houston Academy League Games

Your U7-U10 child will play regular season games in the South Houston Academy League (SHAL). SHAL is a gaming league like BAYSA, PDF or EDDOA. Pearland United joined with Quest and Space City FC to form SHAL in the Fall of 2011. The goal was to give South Houston a competitive, academy-age gaming league.

Additional information about SHAL:

- ⤴ The SHAL season consists of 8-10 games played against other "at-level" teams from SCFC, Quest and Pearland United.
- ⤴ Travel to Friendswood, Clear Lake, League City and Deerpark is required for some games.
- ⤴ Games will be played on Saturday in both the Fall and the Spring.
- ⤴ SHAL hosts a competitive end of the season tournament for all U10 teams -- ALL U10 TEAMS are highly encouraged to participate!!!

Player Development Friendlies League Games -- An Additional Option for Competitive Players

U7 to U10 players have the additional option of playing in the [Player Development Friendlies \(PDF\) League](#). It's a gaming league like BAYSA, SHAL or EDDOA. The PDF league is effectively our competitive "travel team" league. Players in

SHAL have the option to try out for a PDF team (see dates below). Players that make a PDF team will get an extra "travel" game every weekend. PDF teams are coached by professional staff. Players that make PDF teams and wish to play are required to pay an extra \$100. This fee goes to cover the cost for the professional staff. The PDF is typically more competitive than SHAL but it has tiered brackets - Gold, Silver and Bronze. Ideally it's a good venue for those who want a little more soccer in their week and/or want to try out competitive soccer...before the price goes up! It's also a great mixing pot for kids from all our regions (Friendswood, Clear Lake, League City, Deer Park & Pearland) to come together and play on the same team rather than against each other.

For more information on the PDF league contact our Academy Director - [Craig Foster](#).

Important Dates for Spring 2012 Season

Regular Season Schedule for U8 & U10 Age Groups	PDF Schedule for U9 & U10 Age Groups
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-season clinic for all volunteer coaches: Sunday January 22, 2-4pm @ DFF 4 • Regional testing: Saturday January 14 • Regional training: Begins Monday January 16th • SHAL game dates: 2/18, 2/25, 3/3, 3/24, 3/31, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, rain-out 5/5 • Spring Break: March 12-16 – No practice • Easter: No games April 7 • SHAL Tournament: May 12-13 (U10 Only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PDF try-outs: 5:30-6:45pm, <u>ALL PLAYERS ATTEND BOTH</u> Tue January 17 & Thu January 19 @ Barcenas • PDF training two nights per week: 5:30-6:45pm, 1/24, 1/26, 1/31, 2/2 @ Barcenas • Houston Express Tournament: February 4-5 • *PDF training once per week: 5:30-6:45pm, Thursday February 9 – Thursday May 3 @ Barcenas • PDF Games (Sunday pm, schedule TBA): 2/19, 2/26, 3/4, 3/25, 4/1, 4/15, 4/22, 4/29, rain-out 5/6 • Spring Break: March 12-16. Optional practice Thursday March 15 • Easter: No games April 8 • SCFC Tournament (Spring Fling): March 17-18 <p><i>* Pearland PDF's skip Wednesday practice for PDF</i></p>