

Director of Coaching Seattle United

Seattle United is a new club within the Seattle Youth Soccer Association (SYSA), created by SYSA in July, 2009, to unify select and premier soccer in Seattle. SYSA serves a vibrant community of over 13,000 youth players between U-6 and U-19. Seattle United is centered on its kids. Its top priority is player development and creating an experience that builds love for the beautiful game and offers the best level of competition to every player in the club at every level.

Seattle United combines a set of city-wide premier level teams, with select teams organized across four geographic regions, operating as one entity with common direction. Premier teams are led by paid, professional coaches, and in order to meet a diverse set of family needs, the select teams offer a range of programs, some with paid and some with volunteer coaches.

The Director of Coaching position is a unique opportunity for a seasoned soccer professional and dynamic leader who is passionate about building a culture focused on player development and an inclusive community to influence every aspect of the Seattle United soccer program.

Soccer Program

The Seattle United Director of Coaching is responsible for the development of all players within Seattle United, from the top premier players through the regional select players, as well as influencing player development in SYSA's recreational program. The DOC's activities will include:

- Vision - Creating a consistent vision for the club that fosters a culture that supports being a player-centric and family-centric organization.
- Player Development – Creating and overseeing a full set of player development expectations at each age level, developing programs and detailed curriculums designed to achieve those expectations, and the creation and execution of models for regular assessment and feedback.
- Academy Direction– Overseeing camp and clinic programs, including an Academy program for younger players, to support players within the club, as well as interested recreational soccer players, who seek additional training.
- Team Observation – Attending periodic training sessions and matches of all teams within the club to observe and assess players, coaches, team dynamics and regional nuances.
- Tryouts – Organizing and implementing a program for team and player tryouts, overseeing those tryouts, and supervising team formation and placement.
- Fitness and injury prevention – Integrating fitness training as part of the soccer program, aligned by age and gender, designed to improve play and prevent injury.

- Tournament Placement Direction – Recommending in- and out-of-state tournaments appropriate for participation by Seattle United teams at each age level. Creating criteria for tournament attendance by teams, and providing guidance to ensure correct placement of teams in tournament play.
- League Placement Direction – Providing guidance to coaches to ensure correct placement of teams in appropriate competitive leagues and levels of play.
- Parent Interaction – Interacting with parents on issues that are elevated beyond the player/coach relationship and outside of the region.
- College Placement – Overseeing Seattle United’s college placement program and working with Seattle United high school age players, as well as identifying appropriate showcase tournaments for Seattle United team and player participation.

Coach Management

The Director of Coaching is responsible for recruiting, evaluating, hiring and training head and assistant coaches for select and premier teams, assigning coaches to appropriate teams, and all coaching-related matters. The Director of Coaching will manage Assistant Directors, paid coaches, and unpaid coaches across Seattle United’s regional programs, while assigning coaches to appropriate teams. Some of the duties of the Director of Coaching include:

- Coach Recruitment – Recruiting and hiring all premier coaches. Help recruit, evaluate and hire regional coaching staff, including solicitation of, collaboration on, evaluation of and approval of regional coaching slates.
- Coach Development – Directing and overseeing all programs for coach development that foster the growth of all coaches, including growing assistant coaches to move to head coaching roles, and helping to retain strong coaches. Being a technical and management resource to all coaches within the club. Holding regular coach meetings and training sessions to develop and provide services for the coaches.
- Salaries – Recommending salaries for coaches that are hired to coach teams, and creating criteria and recommendations for coaching contract renewals between seasons.
- Philosophy – Creating a coaching culture within Seattle United that helps the club fulfill its mission of being a player-centric and family-centric organization.
- Coach Licensing – Setting licensing expectations for coaching positions, and creating programs to assist in efforts to obtain higher licensing levels.
- Assessment – Developing programs for mentoring and assessing performance of head and assistant coaches on a regular basis in conjunction with other members of the organization.
- Volunteer Coaches – Creating a system that fosters a strong pool of volunteer coaches, including programs for education of interested volunteer select and SYSA recreational coaches.

Club and External Relationships

The Director of Coaching, reporting to the Seattle United Board of Directors, is an integral part of the management of the club. In addition, he or she plays an important part in fulfilling the club's mission, especially through their relationship-building off the pitch with different communities within and outside the world of soccer.

- Governance Liaison - Establish and maintain the primary relationship between the Seattle United Board of Directors and soccer operations.
- Regional Liaison – Keep regional program managers apprised on matters related to Seattle United player, coach and team development. Interact with regional program managers to stay apprised of regional operations and resource performance as it pertains specifically to delivery of soccer operations.
- External Soccer Liaison – Represent Seattle United as its liaison within the Player Development League (PDL), SYSA, Washington Youth Soccer (WYS) and other relevant organizations.
- Internal Liaison – Build relationships by interacting with all Seattle United teams, attending club meetings, games and practices, and interacting with players, coaches, and parents.
- Public Liaison – Represent Seattle United as an important public “face” of the club, building brand awareness, good will and support throughout the community.
- Membership Contact – Create a bond between club members and the club itself. Use feedback from surveys and other tools to create a positive and effective response to club members’ concerns and desires.
- Recreational Program Relationship – Build and promote a strong relationship between Seattle United and SYSA Recreational teams.
- Outreach – Build a strong outreach program to bring in players and families who have traditionally been outside the Seattle soccer mainstream.

Interested qualified candidates, please submit your resume to seattleunited@susa.org.