

## **LOPSIDED games**

We understand that there is some concern over lopsided games at age U10 and lower. As per BC Soccer Bylaws, the teams in these age groups should be balanced as best possible. As a District we are not allowed to form a streamed or tiered league. Whole teams are not to play up whole age groups, and we are not allowed to prohibit teams to our leagues from Clubs that belong to our District, including Academy Clubs.

At these age groups our goal is to provide an environment where kids are enjoying the game and working on their skills. As such we ask that coaches employ the following tactics to strive towards balanced games.

- Both sets of coaches should work together to ensure a positive experience for all.
- If needed the weaker team may bring on one or two extra players to balance play.
- Physically advanced and players with advanced skills should be moved up into older age groups. Please seek guidance from your Club's technical lead.
- Coaches should follow BC Soccer guidelines when coaching, The focus should always be on long term player development. BC Soccer's operational policy can be found here. <https://www.bcsoccer.net/media/nk2awspe/bcsoccersmallsidedsoccerdevelopmentpolicy.pdf>
- For further guidance in the first instance contact your Club's technical lead.