

# Youth Policy

# Skene IF

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## Objective

To provide good football training in socially secure ways to active members of the association with drive and ambition.

**FOOTBALL MUST BE FUN AND OFFERED TO AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE** – this is our guiding principle.

- Training for children and young people must involve lots of time on the ball for all players. This is achieved by playing lots of small team games and doing lots of ball training, as well as creating a club feel from an early age.
- We believe that playfulness, pleasure in playing and creativity are promoted by encouraging children to take the initiative themselves.
- Children and young people must be allowed to play in different positions in the team so that they develop as football players. The association must cooperate with other clubs and Västergötlands FF in respect of its talent operation.
- All players must get the same amount of game time. All players must be given the same opportunities to play.
- If selection is to take place, attendance at training is the first criterion.
- Train players for our club team in the first instance, but also players who can and want to progress.

## Activities

### **3-a-side, players aged 6-7**

The aim of our 3-a-side games is to make matches and training sessions joyous occasions based on the children's needs. All players must be given the opportunity to play lots of football.

### **5-A-side, players aged 8-9**

The aim of our 5-a-side games is to make matches and training sessions joyous occasions based on the children's needs. All players must be given the opportunity to play lots of football.

### **7-a-side, players aged 10-12**

The aim of our 7-a-side games is to ensure that players have fun while also learning as much as possible. All players must be given the opportunity to develop in line with their own personal situations.

### **9-a-side, players aged 13-14**

The aim of our 9-a-side games is to ensure that players have fun while also learning as much as possible. All players must be given the opportunity to develop and participate in line with their own personal situations.

### **11-a-side, players aged 15**

The aim of our 11-a-side games is to ensure that players have fun while also learning as much as possible. All players must be given the opportunity to develop in line with their own personal situations.

Teams should participate in 1–2 cup matches involving overnight stays, a number of internal cup matches per year and a training camp, where applicable.

Training should take place twice to four times a week all year round, with brief breaks at the end of the season, Christmas and holidays.

## Insults and bullying:

\*Zero tolerance to bullying and bad attitude – anyone failing to observe this rule will not be welcome in the association.

\*Players must be warned and talked to in the first instance, and their parents must be brought in if the situation doesn't improve. If the situation still doesn't improve, exclusion from the team for a time will be an appropriate consequence. For example, players may be "sent off" for 5 minutes, for instance, and then be allowed back onto the pitch. If this doesn't help, they'll have to go home and will then be automatically banned from the next match or session, and a parent will be contacted after training to discuss what's happened and what will be done about it.

\*If there's a shortage of players: if players are excluded, it's better to borrow players from the younger levels rather than cancelling the exclusion, if possible.

\*If bullying and nasty things happen at school, this has to be dealt with by a leader so that the child being bullied is able to carry on playing football with the association and feel secure. This may involve talking to the bully, for example, and in a worst-case scenario they may be permanently excluded from the team and association.

\*Parents must be notified quickly and early on if their child is misbehaving at training or is the victim of bullying.

\*The team will be a more harmonious place if you take action quickly and clearly in matters relating to discipline.

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*"Sports for children must be based on play and pleasure"*

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## Skene IF is a supporter of the Swedish Football Association's Fair play – rent spel

When it comes to football for children and young people in Sweden, leaders, players and parents support the following:

- We follow the rules of football.
- We respect the referee's decision.
- We encourage fair play.
- We support and cheer for our own team and aren't nasty to our opponents.
- We thank our opponents and the officials after the match.
- We work to keep football drug-free.
- We behave both on and off the pitch.

## Leaders and trainers



The job of our leaders and trainers is to:

- act as a role model for the children, the team and the association; and always be prepared for the task.
- be receptive to the thoughts and feelings of others.
- support, encourage and be on hand for the children in good times and bad.
- make sure that team spirit is promoted. Nobody should feel excluded, create security.
- encourage the children to pursue other sports.
- help to ensure that children who want to are able to play football all year round.
- have a desire to see the benefits of including participants from other cultures. Everybody is welcome here!
- counter all forms of bullying, sexism and racism.
- always strive to watch their language.
- devote one-on-one time to all players.
- maintain a positive attitude towards the children, encourage good performance and comment on everything that goes well. Encouragement and positive comments build up self-confidence.

**\*Zero tolerance to alcohol and drugs when we represent the association.**

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*“Some people believe football is a matter of life and death. It is much, much more important than that”*

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## Parents

The role of parents is to:

- act as a role model for your child and the team, providing support from the side of the pitch. You also represent the association and must watch your language.
- support, encourage and be on hand for the children in good times and bad.
- maintain a positive attitude towards your child in all situations. Comment on everything good, even if the team loses. Encouragement and positive comments build up self-confidence.
- be aware that football is a team sport, which means that individual parents must not devise private tactics for their children. The trainer provides coaching at matches.
- have reasonable expectations of their children. Look after your own child’s development, and don’t compare with other team members.
- help out at association events.

## Young people

\*We want to be perceived as honest, humble, specific and clear in our actions.

\*We are likeable and friendly both on and off the pitch – usually with a twinkle in our eye and a large helping of humour and self-distance.

\*Zero tolerance to: Bullying, sexism, racism and violence

\*Respect: we show respect for football, our opponents, team mates, officials, the public and leaders.

\*Failure to observe the association’s statutes may result in exclusion.