

## SD&G Blazers Soccer Club

### 2007 Tryout Process

The SD&G Blazers Soccer Club offers players with a high level of ability, skills and commitment an opportunity to play at a competitive level. The tryouts for all Blazers teams are rigorous in nature, and players will be assessed on many skills, areas, and levels. This year, some new initiatives have been brought in to augment the player selection process.

The Club has purchased numbered pinnies so that coaches can assign them to players who are trying out for a team. This will assist coaches with objectivity when final selections are made. Also, the Club is working towards having independent assessors work with the coaches to help select the best players. This will depend on the number of qualified volunteers that can be found for this purpose. However, the team head coach has the final say, and areas such as attitude, commitment, work ethic and coachability will be assessed as equally as talent.

Tryout attendance is key to increasing the chances of a player being selected for a Blazers team. First, it allows the coaches and assessors a chance to observe the player, and secondly, it demonstrates commitment on the part of the player. If a player cannot attend a tryout session, he/she must contact the head coach and state the reason(s) why. Also, where possible, the player may be able to attend a session for another team and be evaluated by the coach and/or assessors. It is up to the player/parent to arrange for this with the coach. Regardless, attendance to the majority of tryouts is mandatory to be considered for a Blazers team.

All players must tryout for his/her appropriate age level, unless they have played as an underage player previously. This applies most predominantly for the current U13 teams. Since this is the first year that the Blazers have run U11 teams, last year's U12 teams may have selected players who were underage. These players are therefore grand-fathered and will be permitted to play for the U13 team, if they are selected. However, since there is no guarantee that any player will make a Blazers team, it is recommended that any underage player who is grand-fathered also tryout for his/her age-level team. Any player who is grand-fathered who chooses to tryout for an older aged team and is not selected will not be automatically considered for his/her actual aged team. There is no additional charge for players attending additional tryouts.

The Blazers Executive will not be accepting any applications for non-grand-fathered players to play at a higher age level. The Executive feels that it is in the best interests of both the Club and the player to play at the age appropriate level.