The U7 and U8 seasons begin the transition from the less structured environment of intramural or recreational soccer to the more defined player development curriculums of the Director's Development Program (DDP).

DDP players are trained as an age group by the same professional training staff that works with our travel teams year-round, under a curriculum specifically designed for our U7 and U8 DDP players by Andy Wilkes, Director of Coaching. Festivals are held jointly with other like-minded clubs to allow players to use their developing skills in short, small-sided 3v3 and 4v4 games that maximize their number of ball touches. By not keeping score and maintaining a consistent and singular focus on the application of the skills learned in training, we eliminate the pressure of competitive travel soccer, while still maintaining the high training standards.

Director's Development Program Eligible Birthdates: Jan 1, 2015 - Dec 31, 2016			
	Summer/Fall August - November	<b>Winter</b> January - March	<b>Spring</b> <i>March - June</i>
Weekly Training	Two (2) 1-hour sessions  Beginning August	One (1) 1-hour session as part of Winter Academy	Two (2) 1-hour sessions as part of Spring Academy
League	Fall IM Soccer (4v4)		Spring IM Soccer (4v4)
Festivals	~3 Festivals (Dates TBD)		~2 Festivals (Dates TBD)

## **Program Objectives**

- Allow for proper player development with equal playing time and rotation among all positions
- Encourage creative freedom in training and games
- Reduce fear of failure by emphasizing individual player development over winning games
- Eliminate the labeling of "A" and "B" players
- Move players freely between teams in order to aid and accelerate development
- Provide appropriate competition levels
- Maintain an appropriate ratio of travel to playing time

## **Player Commitment**

All FC Montco players are encouraged to play other sports. However, due to the level of play, players are expected at most training sessions in the Fall and 65% in the Winter and Spring.

## Annual Program (\$475) includes:

- Year round professional training led by Andy Wilkes, Director of Coaching
- Fall Intramural soccer
- Spring Intramural soccer
- 4v4 ADVANCE Festivals in the Fall and Spring
- Marc J Small 3v3 Tournament
- Friendlies and playdates with other clubs
- Full uniform: jersey, shorts, socks
- Referee fees for DDP events
- Field usage costs
- TeamSnap (web based team management tool)

## **Additional Costs:**

Potential for additional tournaments (optional)