



GALAXY ALLIANCE SOCCER CLUB

## GALAXY ALLIANCE SOCCER CLUB OVERVIEW



### WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

Galaxy Alliance Soccer Club's mission is to provide the best coaching and support resources to enable each player to develop to his or her fullest potential, both as a soccer player and as an individual.

### WHO ARE WE?

Galaxy Alliance Soccer Club (GASC) is a non-profit 501c(3) organization dedicated to youth soccer on the Westside of Los Angeles. We form teams for players between the ages of 8 and 19 that compete in the Coast Soccer League, one of the largest and most competitive youth leagues in the country. We consider ourselves a service organization that focuses on the needs of its current and prospective members: players and their families in and around the Westside of Los Angeles whose primary extracurricular focus is playing high-level soccer.

We are a soccer community within which a player is encouraged to find the most appropriate environment given his or her desired level of competitiveness, commitment and intensity. **We emphasize both athletic and academic excellence, using soccer as a vehicle to teach important life lessons** and help our players develop into well-rounded young adults.

Through our focus on the development of the individual, we strive to build winning teams where success is measured in more than victories on the field. Our over-arching goal is to keep our players playing soccer as long as possible, because **we believe soccer teaches them life lessons that are hard to learn elsewhere. We have accomplished our mission if our players' lives are enriched through their involvement with the Club and if they experience the joy of playing quality soccer at the highest levels available** on the Westside of Los Angeles, and they keep coming back for more.

### WHAT MAKES US STAND OUT?

We believe Galaxy Alliance offers its members one of the best club experiences available in Southern California. Our club strives to provide the following to its members:

## Galaxy Alliance Soccer Club Overview

January 6, 2012

Page 2 of 5

- Outstanding coaching
- Consistent, reliable field space
- Strong club management and leadership
- Club and team level financial transparency
- Refined coaching curriculum and training philosophy
- Strong team manager guidance and cohesion
- Active and committed club membership

The Club's success has been evidenced by the development of its players, the competitive records of its teams, its ability to attract some of the top coaching talent in the region, and the matriculation of its players to professional clubs, development academies, Olympic development programs (ODP), college teams and other high-level programs.

The following statistics help substantiate Galaxy Alliance's success:

- According to 3Four3 Analytics (<http://analytics.3four3.com/>), Galaxy Alliance is the only Westside club in CSL with a winning record since its inception.
- In the 2010 and 2011 Coast Soccer League seasons, our teams have won or tied nearly 2/3 of their games (on par with the top clubs in Southern California).
- We achieved this while having more teams in the CSL Silver Elite, Gold and Premier brackets than any other Westside club.
- Over 60% of our teams earned promotion to a higher bracket for the Fall 2011 CSL season, and up to seven teams stand to be promoted for the coming 2012 season.
- In the Fall 2011 CSL season, 70% of our teams were Silver or above, 42% Silver Elite or above, and 26% Gold and Premier, which is across the board higher than any other Westside club.
- Perhaps the greatest evidence of our positive momentum is the steady stream of quality players and coaches coming to our teams, many of which are migrating not just from other Westside clubs, but nearby "Superclubs".

### **WHAT IS OUR COACHING & TRAINING PHILOSOPHY?**

Our ideal multi-year curriculum teaches age-specific skills and concepts in a gradual, progressive manner, and requires strong focus and commitment from players, families and coaches alike.

For younger players (13 years old and younger), our focus is on developing technical skills (ball handling, first touch, etc.) and promoting individual growth. At the older ages (14 and upwards), tactical skills (field awareness, game strategy, etc.) assume precedence, along with team advancement and player matriculation (to college and the upper echelons of soccer if desired).

Our philosophy of player development includes the following basic concepts:

- Winning is a byproduct of player development.
- Teams are vehicles for player development and matriculation, which take precedence over team and club advancement.
- The balance between intensity and "having fun" depends upon the charter of a team.
- Players improve "one touch at a time". While coaching is critical, soccer is in many ways self-teaching, and more touches in the right environment will result in faster improvement. Advancement is difficult to achieve without sufficient touches on the ball.

## Galaxy Alliance Soccer Club Overview

January 6, 2012

Page 3 of 5

- Success results from discipline, commitment and hard work within a positive and supportive environment. Players will get out of club soccer what they put into it.
- The balance between intensity and “having fun” depends upon the charter of a team.
- Keep kids playing as long as possible, because soccer teaches kids many life lessons in addition to soccer.
- “Don’t push them, don’t hold them back”, i.e., encourage players who want to strive for the highest levels, but let them set and attain their own goals.
- While it is important to emphasize team loyalty and fulfilling a commitment, players and parents should decide which club, team and coach is right for the player each season without fear of chastisement. Our primary concern is doing what is right for the player.

### **WHAT STYLE OF SOCCER DO WE TEACH?**

We believe that it is hugely important to have a shared vision and a desired style of play - an ethos that provides identity. We encourage our coaches to focus on the long-term goal of teaching a high-quality style of soccer that would be appealing to any soccer enthusiast. We are steadfast in teaching these basic tenets of quality soccer:

- Passing the ball on the ground and to feet;
- Playing the ball “out of the back” (building an attack out of the defensive area of the team formation);
- Utilizing open space and movement “off the ball” to develop a quick, aggressive and dynamic passing game;
- Playing “possession with progression soccer” to develop patience and enable our teams to control the speed of a game;
- Playing an adaptable, balanced and well-rounded game, incorporating different styles and systems of play, alternate formations, the ability to rotate positions, etc.

### **CLUB HISTORY**

GASC’s origins date back to 1983 with the founding of one of its predecessor organizations, the well-known and popular Real Madrid Soccer Club of West Los Angeles. In 1997, Galaxy Alliance Soccer Club was formed out of the merger of Real Madrid SC and two other local clubs. Today, GASC is the largest and most prominent youth-oriented soccer club on the Westside of Los Angeles.

We support the LA Galaxy professional MLS club and have a good working relationship with them, but we are not directly affiliated.

### **FIELDS**

Given the space constraints on the Westside, we are fortunate to have the recently renovated MacArthur Field (located in the Veteran’s Administration facility in West Los Angeles) as the primary practice facility for most of our teams. In addition, we utilize the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center (“Rancho Park”) near Westwood, and RFK Community Schools and Miguel Contreras Center in the Mid-Wilshire/Downtown area. GASC has a consistently available home field at Mark Twain Middle School in Venice, but we also play weekend games at the MacArthur Field, RFK Community Schools in Los Angeles, Paul Revere Middle School in Brentwood and on the artificial turf fields in the City of Santa Monica.

## **TEAM STRUCTURE & PLAYER DUES**

Each GASC team operates as an independent financial unit but is overseen by the Club. When players commit to play on a team for the coming year, their families pay annual Player Dues to the team, which are then used to pay for fields, coaching salaries, tournaments, etc. The club finances and the expense side of team budgets are fully "transparent", i.e., are broken out and available for review by members. Efforts are made to keep the Player Dues as affordable as possible, typically ranging from \$2,000-\$2,500 per year. Financial Aid is normally handled at the team level, as there is no club-wide financial aid program.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE**

Like most youth soccer clubs in Southern California, GASC is a primarily volunteer-run organization. It has a seven-person board of directors that is elected annually by the regular membership (usually represented by the team manager from each team). The board, in turn, appoints eight officers (President, Vice President, Club Administrator, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, Fields Coordinator and Director of Coaching) to run the Club's operations. Volunteers fill many other positions such as Uniforms & Equipment, Field Services, Webmaster, Fundraising, etc.

The current members of the Club's management and their responsibilities can be found at <http://www.galaxyalliance.org/club-administration.cfm>.

## TEAMS

As of Fall 2011, GASC has 19 teams (16 boys, 3 girls) competing in Coast Soccer League:

#	Team Name	Born on or After	Appx. Age	2011-12 CSL Division	Head Coach
---	-----------	------------------	-----------	----------------------	------------

### BOYS

1	Galaxy B02 Black	08/01/02	9	BU09 Silver North	Robert Risley
2	Galaxy B01 Black	08/01/01	10	BU10 Silver North	Roberto "Beto" Dos Santos
3	Galaxy B00 White	08/01/00	11	BU11 Bronze West	Jose Luiz Sobrinho
4	Galaxy B00 Black	08/01/00	11	BU11 Bronze West	Christian Chambers
5	Galaxy B99 Black	08/01/99	12	BU12 Silver West	Roberto "Beto" Dos Santos
6	Galaxy B99 White	08/01/99	12	BU12 Bronze West	Tim Pierce
7	Galaxy B98 Black	08/01/98	13	BU13 Silver Elite North	Tim Pierce
8	Galaxy B98 White	08/01/98	13	BU13 Bronze Zeta	Nicholas Madden
9	Galaxy B97 Black	08/01/97	14	BU14 Gold	Rosendo "Chendo" Gonzalez
9	Galaxy B97 White	08/01/97	14	BU14 Gold	Roberto "Beto" Dos Santos
10	Galaxy B96 Black	08/01/96	15	BU15 Silver North	Jose Luiz Sobrinho
11	Galaxy B96 White	08/01/96	15	BU15 Silver North	Christian Chambers
12	Galaxy B94 Black	08/01/94	17	BU17 Premier	Christian Chambers
13	Galaxy B94 White	08/01/94	17	BU17 Bronze Central	Lasan Darboe
14	Galaxy Banditz	08/01/93	18	BU19 Premier	Robert Risley
15	Galaxy B92 Black	08/01/92	19	BU19 Silver Elite West	Allofs Lima

### GIRLS

1	Galaxy G97 Black	08/01/97	14	GU14 Silver South	Manuel Coronado
2	Galaxy G96 Black	08/01/96	15	GU15 Silver Elite South	Rosendo "Chendo" Gonzalez
3	Galaxy G95 Black	08/01/95	16	GU16 Gold	Alex Yi

For more information, please visit <http://www.galaxyalliance.org/>.

