



## **COMMITMENT TO LONG-TERM PARTICIPATION AND DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS**

### **1. Purpose**

The Brazilian Soccer Academy (BSA) is committed to providing a safe, inclusive, and development-focused soccer environment that encourages long-term participation in sport for all participants, regardless of age, ability, background, or personal goals. This document outlines BSA's philosophy, programs, and operational practices that support sustained engagement in soccer and lifelong physical activity.

### **2. Our Philosophy**

BSA believes that soccer is a powerful tool for:

- Physical literacy and healthy lifestyles
- Personal growth and self-confidence
- Social connection and community belonging
- Education for life through sport

Our approach prioritizes development over early specialization, ensuring participants are supported at every stage of their journey.

**BSA's core values are represented by PRICE:**

- Professionalism – high standards in coaching, organization, and safety
- Respect – for oneself, teammates, opponents, officials, and the community
- Inclusiveness – welcoming participants of all abilities and backgrounds
- Caring – prioritizing well-being, mental health, and enjoyment
- Education for Life – using sport to teach transferable life skills

### **3. Long-Term Participation Approach**

BSA aligns its programs with long-term athlete development principles that emphasize:

- Enjoyment and motivation at early stages
- Progressive skill development appropriate to age and stage
- Reduced pressure to specialize or compete too early
- Opportunities to participate at recreational, developmental, and competitive levels

Our goal is to ensure participants remain engaged in soccer for as long as they choose, whether their pathway leads to competitive sport, recreational play, leadership roles, or lifelong fitness.

### **4. Inclusive Programming for All Abilities**

BSA is committed to removing barriers to participation by:

- Offering multiple program levels (Academy and Elite)
- Adapting activities and training environments when needed
- Providing flexible pathways based on individual development, not just performance
- Creating a respectful and supportive culture for participants with diverse needs

Participants are encouraged to progress at their own pace, with success defined individually rather than solely by competition outcomes.

### **5. Program Pathways**

BSA offers clear and flexible pathways to support long-term participation:

Academy Level (Beginner / Intermediate)

- Focus on fun, creativity, and fundamental soccer skills
- Emphasis on physical literacy, confidence, and teamwork
- Ideal for players new to the game or seeking a balanced recreational experience

Elite Level (Advanced / Competitive)

- Higher-intensity training and competitive opportunities
- Continued emphasis on development, not short-term results
- Support for players pursuing competitive soccer while maintaining well-being and balance

Participants may move between pathways as their interests, goals, and development evolve.

## **6. Coach Education and Environment**

BSA ensures that coaches:

- Are trained to work with diverse abilities and age groups
- Promote positive motivation and growth mindsets
- Create safe, respectful, and engaging learning environments
- Encourage creativity, decision-making, and enjoyment

Coaches play a key role in supporting long-term participation by fostering positive experiences and strong relationships with participants and families.

## **7. Health, Safety, and Well-Being**

BSA prioritizes participant well-being by:

- Promoting appropriate training loads and recovery
- Emphasizing proper warm-ups and injury prevention
- Supporting mental health and emotional well-being
- Encouraging open communication between players, parents, and coaches

A positive and safe experience is essential for sustained participation in sport.

## **8. Community and Lifelong Engagement**

BSA views soccer as a lifelong activity. Beyond playing, participants are encouraged to stay involved through:

- Recreational leagues and futsal programs
- Leadership and mentorship opportunities
- Coaching development pathways
- Community events and programs

This holistic approach ensures that soccer remains a meaningful part of participants' lives well beyond their youth years.

## **9. Commitment Statement**

The Brazilian Soccer Academy is committed to fostering an environment where every participant feels welcome, supported, and motivated to remain involved in soccer for the long term. Success at BSA is measured not only by competitive outcomes, but by enjoyment, personal growth, and lifelong engagement in sport.