

Sports Camps

(refer also to CFL resources)

Description:

Sports camps have been an integral strategy implemented by churches and agencies for more than 40 years. The strategy isn't new and doesn't need a lot of explanation. What makes a TUG Sports Camp more impactful is when it is held prior to, during or following the World Cup. Our opportunity is to maximize the interest in soccer training because of the worldwide television coverage.



Objectives:

A Sports Camp can be either a residential or non-residential period of time with sports coaching and competition, and opportunities to teach about the good news of Jesus.

- Provide quality soccer skill development, competition and spiritual nurture
- Introduce churches to ongoing sports-related ministry development
- It's about soccer coaching- plus much more!

Target Audience:

There are three distinct criteria when thinking about who to target the Sports Camp at:

- i. Standard of the player - this dictates the level of coaching and tempo of competition. There are three universal standards – 1- recreational/development 2-participation 3-performance/elite
- ii. Background of belief - are the young people Christians, non-Christians or both together? This dictates the Christian content.
- iii. Age of the young people: For coaching drills and serious competition it is important to monitor the age range.

How to Organize/Implement:

- i. Identify a coach or coaches who are qualified to teach soccer skills
- ii. What age group are you best prepared to provide a soccer camp
- iii. What number of participants can you accommodate in the soccer camp
- iv. Is it best to provide the soccer camp where the participants live or use an overnight facility
- v. How many volunteers are needed to provide a quality camp

The Ultimate Goal Strategies

- vi. Who will provide high quality devotionals and or Bible teaching for the soccer campers
- vii. Is this an opportunity to begin annual soccer camps
- viii. What is your plan for follow up
- ix. Is the soccer camp an opportunity to introduce ongoing Ubabalo Soccer Whole Life Skills

Equipment/Resources Needed:

Camp facility, promotional materials, medical kit, sports equipment relevant to the sport ie. Core football equipment, organisation aids: ground markers, coloured bibs, whistles, etc

Extras:

In most countries a soccer camp happens in the community where kids, youth or young adults live. In some locations soccer camps happen each Saturday for a number of weeks to fit school or work schedules. In other locations TUG soccer camps happen during the school break week or weeks and happen each morning or afternoon in the community. In some locations TUG Soccer Camps have overnight facilities where the participants stay for a number of days of soccer training.

It is useful to get feedback from leaders and young people about the Sports Camp. This can then be used for planning in the future. It is also crucial after the Sports Camp has finished that young people are followed up and cared for away from the Sports Camp.

Encourage leaders to continue to communicate with the young people in their team. This means that the communication is visible and parents can also be part of the communication process.