



Balderstone Sports Institute (Pty) Ltd
Golf / Football / Multi-Sport Study Centre

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BSI FOOTBALL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If I joined BSI, what are the chances of me being scouted to Europe?

We provide a complete holistic football program which will maximise the potential of any footballers who join our program. For players who are at a high standard and have the right attitude, we can provide opportunities at the right time both locally and in Europe through our network of coaches and clubs. There are no guarantees of success in this regard as once a player gets an opportunity it is up to him to take it and impress.

In what league do you play football matches?

We will play in the ELFA (Easterns Local Football Association) league in 2021 along with friendly games against other academies and tournaments to which we are invited. We have planned for a busy and competitive year in terms of fixtures.

Do you take players on international tours?

As an academy we have identified international trips as an important aspect of what we offer. Players may be offered the opportunity to travel individually or as a team during their time with us at BSI.

Which European clubs does BSI have links with?

We have links with multiple South African and European clubs. Football is a dynamic environment in which individuals are moved around clubs on a regular basis. Our relationships are closely tied to the people who are involved at the clubs at the time of our relationships. As an Academy we value honest and reliable relationships, this often means that we have close relationships with individuals in the football industry.

What is the assurance that after completion of the U23 program I will be at professional level of football? Is there anything to show for the completion of the program?

There is no assurance or certifications for the 1 year U/23 football program. The program is designed to offer players with individualised programming within a team environment. We assess and develop players in the program and provide them with the professional advice on the possible routes they may take. Without full assessing your current level, it would be irresponsible for us to give you any indication of what

the possibilities are. As with any sporting code, progression into the professional level is not guaranteed.

I am turning 23 this year. Am I still eligible for your Under 23 program?

With regards to players over the age of 21 we require them to submit a football related CV with verifiable references. Our technical director and coaching staff will then assess and should they be satisfied, players may be invited for an assessment or permitted to join the program.

How different is the U19 program to the U23 program?

The U23 and U19 are run separately. The U23s train 5 times per week on the field and are 3 x per week in a gym. They train as a group under our U23 Head Coach. Their program also includes life skills and football tactics once per week. These sessions are conducted in the classroom. The specific needs of each player is assessed by our technical team and program directors, and slight changes may be made to an individual's schedule based on any recommendation.

The U19 program includes an academic schedule 4 mornings per week. Students are expected to attend the BSI Study Centre from 07:30 to 13:00 Monday to Thursday. They have football training Monday to Thursday from 14:00 to 15:30. On Fridays they have classroom based life skills and football tactics sessions, as well as strength sessions conducted by our Sports Scientist in our gym. These sessions are then followed by football training.

Is BSI linked to Moroka Swallows?

BSI is not linked to Moroka Swallows, other than that our Technical Director Zeca Marques is a former coach at the club. We have connections at many PSL clubs.

Do you offer trials?

We do not offer trials. We are a private institution, dependent on parents to pay fees. The U19 program is full-time and includes schooling. The U23 program is also full-time.

Can I join the U19 program part-time and stay at my current school?

No. The U19 program is full-time and includes schooling at the BSI Study Centre. The entire program is based on the European academy model combining extensive high performance training with academics.

What are the chances of gaining a football scholarship to college in USA?

Very strong if you work hard at your academics. We have strategic partners that assist our student-athletes in this regard.