



Key Qualities of a U.S. Player	Player Behavior (World Class)	
	A WC player has, given their role in the team and position on the field, the qualities to give a decisive contribution to the general principles of Attacking, Defending and Transition to accomplish the goals and game result	
		age group
Game Understanding & Decision Making Read and understand the game and make autonomous decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • applies knowledge of the details and implications of the cues • reads and analyzes situations regarding A/D/T in a split second and/or under pressure, thinks fast • aligns own actions with the other players, positions (understands relationships/partnerships) • is the best player at their position based on the style of play of the team • recognizes the transition moment as an opportunity and threat • manages the game when it comes to the pace of the game and/or the moment in the game 	U-12+ U-12+ U-12+ U-13/14+ U-15/16+ U-17/18+
Initiative Take initiative, be pro-active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creates instead of reacts, confronts situations • takes people on (1v1, dribble to drag opponents out of position) • thinks ahead • moves into space ahead of time 	U-12+ U-12+ U-13/14+ U-15/16+
Focus Focused for 90+ minutes on their task	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • plays to win • has guts, is brave • deals with adversity (recovers quickly) • is composed in their behavior (emotional stability) • enhances the team and the other players by executing their task (is a giver) • executes their task under all circumstances 	U-12+ U-12+ U-13/14+ U-13/14+ U-15/16+ U-17/18+
Optimal Technical Execute their tasks for 90+ minutes with optimal technical ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is technically proficient to be effective (accurate) and successful in all situations • is proficient in 1v1 to create or to win/regain the ball • has the technical skills to create, even under pressure • has the technical skills to dictate the pace of the game 	U-12+ U-12+ U-13/14+ U-17/18+
Optimal Physical Execute their task for 90+ minutes with optimal physical ability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uses body (e.g to protect the ball) • has the physical fitness to execute their task at top level during the whole game (whole season) • exudes power and speed 	U-12+ U-13/14+ U-17/18+
Responsible (On & Off Field) Take responsibility and accountability for their own development and performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is involved and engaged throughout every game/session • delivers on agreements and promises • is adaptable and flexible in dealing with (un)expected challenges and problems • articulates their own learning needs and formulate personal development goals • evaluates and reflects on their own performance (analyzes game performance in relation to positional requirements in the system of play) • creates a personal development plan • is there when it is needed (leadership) • organizes and manages personal lifestyle and environment to perform at top level • is a coach on the field • is a role model under all circumstances, shows exemplary behavior • consults sources of knowledge/ 'experts' • creates own learning environment 	U-12+ U-12+ U-12+ U-12+ U-13/14+ U-13/14+ U-15/16+ U-15/16+ U-17/18+ U-17/18+ U-19/20+ U-19/20+