

Program. Football Nutrition Skills

Justification of the program

At Futbol Club Barcelona (FCB) and Gatorade Sports Science Institute (GSSI) we believe the appropriate nutrition is essential to support player health and performance. A greater understanding of the physical demands of football has allowed a more scientific approach to training/match preparation and the manipulation of macronutrient ingestion to support training and match day performance and recovery. The aim of the course is to teach the core principles for nutrition for football. Each module will summarise the key topics in sports nutrition based from peer-reviewed research, review articles as well as expert consensus statements.

The course provides a comprehensive learning experience which will not only inform the candidate on “how” to implement sports nutrition strategies but importantly ensure they understand “why” nutrition is important. Providing an evidence based approach to sports nutrition allows a consistent message with regard to nutrition education which in turn informs practice. This is something FCB and GSSI together have been partnering to achieve over the last 5 years. The sports nutrition for football course now provides the platform to share our learnings to the wider global football community.

Target Audience

This course is targeted for anyone with a passion or interest in nutrition for football. It is also appropriate for the following audience:

- Sports Scientists;
- Physiotherapists;
- Dieticians;
- Sports Nutritionists;
- Strength and conditioning coaches;
- Sports professionals;
- Sports medicine practitioners.

Program purposes

The Intended Learning objectives are to achieve knowledge and understanding of the main food groups and their roles in player nutrition; appreciate the factors that determine energy

balance; understand the effects of exercise on nutrient requirements and the effects of nutritional manipulation on football performance; understand the effects of dehydration on the physiological responses to football exercise; be aware of the place of dietary supplements in football.

Specific Purposes

- Understand use and best practice of dietary supplementation for football.

Skills

Please describe the four main skills the participant will develop during this certificate.

- Managing self-learning – setting/meeting targets
- Critical thinking – evaluation of practice
- Interpretation – managing and understanding data
- Communication- summarizing and prioritizing information

Syllabus

Module 1. Sports nutrition for player well-being and sleep

Unit 1.1 Sports nutrition for player well-being in football

Unit 1.2 Sports nutrition for players sleep

Module 2. Sports nutrition for the Injured player and player recovery

Unit 2.1 Sports nutrition for the injured player

Unit 2.2 In-season sports nutrition recovery strategies

Module 3. Nutrition for football in extreme environments

Unit 3.1 Nutrition for football in extreme environments

Unit 3.2 Playing at altitude and considerations for travel

Module 4. Continued Development of the Sports Nutritionist in Football

Unit 4.1. Best practice of sports nutrition in football

Unit 4.2. Continued development in sports nutrition for football