

BENEFICIAL NEWS

MAY 2012

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Tryout Schedule
- 2012 Benfica players' discounts
- The 'Journey' to Success
- Summer Camps
- Coaches Profile
- College Recruiting Forum

Open Tryout Schedule

Benfica USA and Shalrie Joseph SC have merged to enhance the premier youth soccer club experience by covering the South/Metro Boston area and northeastern Massachusetts. The club has a professional affiliation with S.L. Benfica of Lisbon, Portugal. If interested in playing under our professional coaching staff, or coaching, please come to our tryouts for the 2012/2013 soccer year.

Tryout schedule: North

U10 Boys & Girls U11 Boys & Girls	June 11, 2012
U12 Boys & Girls U13 Boys & Girls	June 18, 2012
U14 Boys & Girls U15 Boys & Girls	June 19, 2012
U16 Boys & Girls U17 Boys & Girls U18 Boys Make-Ups: U10-U15	June 20, 2012

Tryout schedule: South/Metro Boston

U10 Boys & Girls U11 Boys & Girls	June 12, 2012
U13 Boys U15 Boys	June 20, 2012

Visit our web site for more information, times, locations and register for a free tryout at

www.BenficaUSA.org

Check-in and Registrations will begin ½ hour before each tryout.
Please come dressed to play and bring a ball and plenty of water

If you cannot make the tryouts please contact Arthur@BenficaUSA.org or the team coach to make different arrangements

Tell a friend/Bring a friend

Summer Camp Discount

Dear Benfica USA/SJSC Player & Parents:

Summer 2012

This letter is to inform you of a special discount for the Benfica USA/SJSC members enrolling in the Benfica USA summer camp programs.

We strongly encourage all players to attend one or perhaps both camps and take advantage of the discounts provided. However we understand the busy schedules and conflicts we are faced with and for this reason we're providing the following recommendations:

Benfica USA/SJSC players, boys and girls U15-U18 should attend the July 16-20 camp at Cawley Stadium in Lowell. This will get them an early start in preparing for the fall school season.

Benfica USA/SJSC players, boys and girls U10-U14 should attend the August 6-10 camp at Ipswich River Park in North Reading. This camp will serve as the club's mini-camp to prepare for the fall season.

Why Benfica USA camps?

Great coaching staff

It's all about soccer

Continuous soccer development , advice and insight

Exposure to ODP, Region 1, college and National team coaches

Better preparation, we know your strengths and areas to improve on

The tuition for Benfica USA/SJSC players will be as follows:

Cawley Stadium- July 16-20

Full Day Camp (9:00-4:00*): \$295.00 (a \$60.00 savings)

Cawley Stadium-July 16-20

Half Day Camp (9:00-NOON): \$175.00 (a \$20.00 savings)

Ipswich River Park- August 6-10

Full Day Camp (9:00-4:00*): \$295.00 (a \$60.00 savings)

Ipswich River Park- August 6-10

Half Day Camp (9:00-NOON): \$175.00 (a \$20.00 savings)

*Extended hours

In addition to the special tuition, we can offer **group rates** for 5 or more participants. Bring a few friends and we'll give you and your group an additional discount.

We encourage your participation to ensure greater development while fostering a higher level of play.

Sincerely,

Arthur Dimitrakopoulos
Camp Director

Mario Prata
Camp Director

Sheelagh Kelly

Registrations

www.BenficaUSA.org

The 'Journey' to Success

Dear Benfica USA/SJSC parents,

In the club soccer circles today, an over emphasis is being placed on winning. In sports, we are obsessed with the 'outcome' rather than the 'process.'

Studies on the subject have classified individuals as having a 'task' or 'ego' orientation. 'Ego' oriented individuals view success in terms of winning and outperforming others. They do well as long as everything is going positive. However, when things don't go their way, they tend to make excuses, jump from one team to another, and a lot of times stop playing the game. On the other side, 'task' oriented individuals view success in terms of trying hard and getting better. Research has shown these players will remain motivated even at times of adversity. Since they view success in terms of attempting to improve, these players will stay with the game and will become better and usually will achieve their goals.

With sound technical, tactical, physical and psychological skills encouraged through a 'process' oriented philosophy, players will develop the necessary tools to maximize their potential. A thoughtful plan based on the level and needs of the players significantly increases the rate of retention, improvement, and enjoyment.

Therefore we always place players in an environment that is challenging but offer realistic chances of success. We will not keep players in conditions that result in self-imposed frustration and frustration from peer pressure. Players make adjustments at different rates and different times. Nobody has the magic dust or has greener grass. We will give all the players the necessary tools to play the game and to take them where their talent level and desire allows them to go.

Through communication and explanation of long term goals and rewards, between the club's administration, coaching staff, parents and players we can create a consensus in support of this 'journey' and ultimately the players' success.

Parents and players are always asking: "What should I (my child) work on"? Our answer is always, "on everything". Soccer is a package, that everything is intertwined together and should not be isolated or separated.

I will send, separately a Players' Self-Evaluation Questionnaire. Please help your child complete it and then set-up a time with the coach to discuss it. As George O'Neill, the club's Technical Advisor and Clinician preaches, "Look yourself in the mirror and ask the questions. The person looking back at you will never lie".

Your comments and suggestions regarding your team are considered with great respect and your support is crucial to the club concept.

I encourage you to email me with any questions, concerns, comments or suggestions at Arthur@BenficaUSA.org

Best Regards,

Arthur Dimitrakopoulos
President/Director of Coaching

Mario Prata
Technical Director

Summer Camps

Camp #1

Cawley Stadium
Lowell, MA
DATE: July 16th - 20th
Mon-Fri

Camp #2

Ipswich River Park
North Reading, MA
DATE: August 6th-10th
Mon-Fri

We are planning to schedule a third Camp in the Boston area. More details to follow.

Limited space on each location. Sign-up early to ensure a spot.

Registration/Payment

Please go to our Website and register online.

www.BenficaUSA.org

Payment is available via check or any major credit card

Registration Questions?

Ask Sheelagh@BenficaUSA.org

Soccer Questions?

Ask Arthur@BenficaUSA.org



The winning team plays against the coaches at the end of the day for bragging rights

Camp Philosophy

Our camps reflect the Benfica USA Club philosophy of creating an atmosphere that is safe, fun and challenging. This allows for some room for trial and error and decision-making, which will foster independent creative thinking.

Sample—Day Schedule:

Players are put into a rigorous , demanding training regiment while maintaining a friendly and fun atmosphere.

Camp opens (8:30)
Check-in and Assembly (9:00)
Dynamic Warm-Up (9:15)
Daily Technical/Tactical Topic Box (9:45)
Small-Sided Games (11:00)
Lunch (**Please bring your own**) (12:00)
Dynamic Warm-Up /Stretching (1:00)
Skills Competition (Individual & Team) with prizes (1:15)
Snack and free time (2:30)
Team Scrimmages (2:45)
Cool-Down/Review (3:45)
Check-out and Pick-up (4:00)

Half-day players will be combined with the full-day players until noon/lunch.



Goalkeepers' Training

Efrain or Yeprem “Chico” Chacurian



Efrain or Yeprem “Chico” Chacurian (born 22 February 1924 in [Córdoba, Argentina](#)) is a retired Argentine-American [soccer forward](#). He was earned four [caps](#), scoring one goal, as a member of the [U.S. national team](#) in 1953 and 1954. He was inducted into the [National Soccer Hall of Fame](#) in 1992.

Professional Career

Chacurian was born in Argentina to [Armenian](#) immigrant parents. In 1939, he signed with [Racing Club](#) of the Argentine [First Division](#). He was fifteen years old at the time. In 1947 at the age of twenty-three, he moved to the United States to live with relatives of his mother to find work when a players strike in Argentina left him penniless. When he arrived in New York, he joined the semi-pro New York Armenians of the New York Eastern District League. In the six months he spent with the Armenians, he was named the league MVP as his team took the league title. This brought him to the attention of [Brooklyn Hispano](#) of the [American Soccer League](#) (ASL). He signed with Hispano in 1947. When not playing Chacurian held several side jobs including time as a printer and as a watchmaker. He also played with several All Star teams against visiting European national and professional clubs. This included games in 1949 against [Scotland](#), [Inter-Milan](#) and [Celtic](#). However, in the fall of 1949, Chacurian considered returning to Argentina. As he related it, “I bought a ticket to go home and visit. It took 18 days sailing one-way to Argentina. I saw my mother, and I played professional soccer down there again. Everything was successful, but I realized, I can’t live here anymore. America is pulling me back.”^[1] He was back in the U.S. by the end of February 1950. When he returned to the U.S., he joined the New York Swiss of the [German American Soccer League](#) (GASL). He spent the next eight seasons with the Swiss. In 1958, he moved to Bridgeport City in Connecticut.

National Team

In 1949, the U.S. began preparations for the [1950 FIFA World Cup](#). While the team had considered adding Chacurian to the roster, his return to Argentina to visit his family in 1949 led to his not being selected for the team.^[2] Chacurian was not called up to the U.S. until 8 June 1953 when the team lost 6-3 to [England](#). He played the first three games in 1954 as the U.S. attempted to qualify for the [1954 FIFA World Cup](#). After two losses to [Mexico](#), the U.S. was out of the cup. However, the team had two more qualification games against [Haiti](#) yet to play. Chacurian played in both losses to Mexico and the first game against Haiti. In that game, a 3-2 win in [Port-au-Prince](#), Chacurian scored. It was his last game with the national team.



Coaching

After he retired from playing, Chacurian entered the coaching ranks as an assistant at [Southern Connecticut State University](#). He spent ten years with Southern Connecticut. In the fall of 1972 Yale University hired Chacurian to coach Freshman Soccer at Yale. During his first season there Chico guided the team to an undefeated season (10-0) and established a culture of winning and camaraderie; his charges scored 34 goals and had only four scored against them, posting seven consecutive shutouts and even beating the Yale Varsity team. In 1976, when freshman were allowed to join the Varsity directly, and the Ivy League discontinued Freshman Soccer in favor of a Junior Varsity program, [Yale University](#) moved Chacurian up to work in both the men’s and then the women’s soccer programs. In May 1989, he became the head coach at [Bridgeport College](#) after serving as an assistant coach for six years.^[3] He also won five league titles as the coach of [Bridgeport Vasco da Gama](#) between 1974 and 1980

Chacurian lives in [Stratford, Connecticut](#) and has a soccer field in [Short Beach](#) named after him.

Chico is the longest serving coach in Region 1 ODP and currently Region 1 Technical Director. He also serves as Benfica USA/SJSC Technical Advisor and Clinician. We have all benefited by Chico’s friendship and vast knowledge of the game. We are all looking forward to his guidance for many years to come, in our summer camps, clinics, practices and games.

College Recruiting Forum

On March 15, 2012 we held yet another college recruiting forum with an overwhelming success. The two rooms were filled, many standing, with parents and players. The discussion was stimulating and informative filled with great questions and answers.

Thank you, Arthur

Presenting:

Colin Goin, Emmanuel College Men' soccer coach

Laura Ray, Dean College Women's soccer coach

Mrs. Dimitrakopoulos, UMass-Boston Instructor



Initial Decision Making

Take player to visit as many college campuses as possible to help him narrow down where he might like to go.

Take him to soccer games at all three division levels to see the team play, which will help player decide what level he would most like to play at, knowing he would not want to sit on the bench. Pay close attention to how the coach coaches the team. Remember that coaches can be smooth talkers off the field. It's also best to talk with the players on the team so that it's a team you're going to want to play with rather than just for. This is where the overnights with a team later on in the process are beneficial.

Promoting Player to Specific College Coaches

We must connect with and talk with the coaches that player is interested in playing for. Sophomores and juniors – the coaches cannot contact players directly (except through a general email blast) until July between their junior and senior years.

Send player's resume with a photo, the video of entire game (preferably on YouTube), and playing schedules to all colleges he is interested in, especially ahead of all showcases, which could be the initial time they see him. Let them know schedules of wherever they can see him play - regional, maple, showcases, and High School varsity.

Provide every coach with a photo of the player. Coaches need a recognizable face to find in the crowd of players they are looking at each year. Also provide them with the field# he is playing on as well as the color of the uniform his team will be in at each game.

Follow up with the coaches that you are interested in via email, to show your interest in that team and their college. Speak specifically about your interest in that college and soccer program. Have a parent review every email before it is sent out.

Be informed about the particular college – know both the soccer team and the school's academics. Read up on them so player can speak intelligently about the school when he speaks to the coach - know the team's record, and for your own benefit, the breakout of freshmen, sophomores, junior, and seniors on the team.

Remember that grades will impact where a player plays more than any other factor, including the number of and division level choices that will be available to player. Remember the basics – get your financial aid information in on time; send your college essay to your English teacher and make all the recommended edits; use your guidance counselor proactively; think about who you want to request recommendations from and ask them early

Involvement in Extracurricular Activities matter – Clubs, Community Service, Employment, etc. Coaches and colleges want a well-rounded player.

Thank You, Carolyn Osgood for taking and providing us with your notes.