

SPACE COAST UNITED SOCCER CLUB

Thank you Coach Ellery!

Coach Leigh Ellery has been involved with Space Coast United for over 11 years. His older boys, Wesley and Ben, began playing U6 in the fall of 2002. They are still playing U16/18. His son, Daniel, is still playing U14. His daughter, Grace, played U6 to U10, but now concentrates on dance.

Coach Ellery has lead rec teams from U6 through U14 following his kids as they progressed through the club. He has coached at least one team each season since 2002 and several times coached three teams in the same season! Recently he's been coaching Daniel's U14 team.

His favorite thing about soccer is the simplicity of the game. He said, "I always have a chuckle when I look across at the Viera football fields and see all the equipment that has to be set up and put on to get a game or practice underway, and then most of the playing time is spent standing around talking about what to do next. With soccer, nothing more is really needed than a ball, and a group of people can get together and just play, and at the end everyone will be really tired and will have had a great time."

Coach Ellery thoroughly enjoys being a small part of guiding a group of players who don't know each other at the beginning of the season learn to respect one another and their opponents, and work together as a team to achieve a common goal while having fun and doing their best. (cont. page 3)



Space Coast United Announces Partnership with PUMA

Space Coast United is proud to announce that PUMA and the Club have entered into a long term partnership agreement in which **PUMA** will be our designated apparel provider. Besides being afforded the opportunity to wear high quality uniforms, training apparel, and spirit wear that will distinguish the Club at the national level, the Club will receive significant benefits from the partnership.



Benefits include: an invitation to PUMA's Elite tournament held in conjunction with Disney, the designation of a player to participate in the PUMA's Women's Elite Showcase to be selected by the Club, International coaching opportunities, and more.

PUMA will also be a tournament and event sponsor for our annual Challenge Sports 3 v 3 tournament, the Space Coast Cup and our TOPSoccer program.



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Board of Directors

- President: Kevin Neighbor
- Vice-President: Jeff Etrick
- Treasurer: Jeff Leonard
- Directors:

Danica Blanchard
Lisa Cerrato
Kim Chairvolotti
Ann Fuller
Toby Gutierrez
Rob Irons
Mike McGonagle
Kevin Murtha
Jennifer Neighbor
Lew Storum
Jerry Zinone

Staff

- Director of Coaching:
Scott Armstrong
- Director of Academy:
Rob Dinnie
- Administrator: Marisa Whisel

Remember!

To Submit Game Results and Pictures

They'll be posted to Facebook and included in future Newsletters!

[Media Email](#)

Scott Rooke Joins Space Coast United's Communications Team

Scott has graciously volunteered his expertise running social media for a non-profit professional organization. His web development and newsletter experience will definitely help improve our club's communication.

Scott has two children playing for Space Coast, one on a U10 Academy team and the other in U8 YDP. He says, "Although we're just wrapping up our first year with the club, we feel like they've always been our family. We're very happy to have found such a supportive community for our kids."

And we're thrilled you found us!



Board Elections To Be Held on Wednesday, March 12

The Club is holding the annual Board of Directors election at Viera Regional Park in the Soccer Meeting Room/Concession Building on Wednesday, March 12 from **5:00 to 9:00 pm**.

Please come out and vote! Your participation in selecting the new members of our Board of Directors will help shape the future of the club and continue to move the club in a positive direction – making Space Coast United Soccer Club *the* place for all kids in our community to play soccer – at all levels.

All parents will have one vote per player pass. Don't worry if you don't know your child's player pass number, most people don't! Every child registered in a Space Coast program has one and we will have a list at the polling site.

Space Coast United Board of Directors Elections!



Voters may choose up to five candidates from the list of nominees: Kevin Koegel, Gene Lewis, Brian Lundy, Gran Roe, Steve Snow, and Nick Walker. Their photos and bios can be reviewed on the club website at <http://bit.ly/1fJqWxY>

TOPSoccer: That's a Wrap!

Another year of TOPSoccer came to a close on Sunday, March 02. The final session was marked by spectacular weather and a great turn out ~

the participants ranged from toddlers to teenagers. The workout ended with a celebration to honor the hard work of all of the participants and their buddies.

TOPSoccer, a modified version of the game of soccer, designed to provide opportunities for children ages 4-19 with physical and/or mental disabilities is an important part of the Space Coast United Club. It provides a very affordable opportunity for fitness, fun and building self-esteem. The benefits to everyone involved are simply priceless.



The program caters to player development rather than competition. TOPSoccer takes the kids off the sidelines and allows them to participate in the game of soccer. Kevin and Jennifer Neighbor work hard to make sure the Space Coast program runs smoothly. Please take a moment the next time you run into them at the fields to thank them and congratulate them on another successful year.

Space Coast Fields a St. Baldrick's Team

We're delighted to once again be a part of the St. Baldrick's Foundation fundraising efforts with a team captained by U13 player, Robbie Murtha. St. Baldrick's raises funds to help kids with cancer.

In 1999, Tim Kenny issued a challenge to colleagues John Bender and Enda McDonnell: How will you give back in return for your own good fortune in business? Enda's thick head of hair gave John the big idea—shave their heads for donations to raise funds for kids with cancer.

St. Baldrick's volunteers raised more than \$30 million in 2012 by shaving heads and raising funds in bold new ways. That year's record-setting fundraising efforts allowed the foundation to mark a milestone—\$100 million in childhood cancer research grants since 2005.

In addition to finding cures, a lot of research is focused on *preventing the life-long damage* that results from surgeries, radiation and chemotherapies given while young bodies and brains are just developing. To learn more about the unique issues concerning childhood cancer, go to the St. Baldrick's website.

To donate to the Space Coast team click [here](#). To see Space Coast heads shaved, be at The Avenue in Viera at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 15.



2013 Shavees ham it up at The Avenue.

"Do you know what my favorite part of the game is?"

The opportunity to play." — Mike Singletary

(okay, he's American football, but it's still a great quote!)

Brevard's Bravest for St. Baldrick's presenting the
St. Baldrick's Brevard Pre-party
Hosted By: World Of Beer

Friday March 14, 2014 | Kicks off at 6pm

2290 TOWN CENTER AVE, SUITE 119
MELBOURNE, FL 32940

WORLD OF BEER
VIERA
Melbourne, FL

10% of all beer and wine sales between
6pm and midnight will be donated
to the St. Baldrick's Foundation!

50/50 Raffle as well as many other raffle items

"BREVARD'S BRAVEST for St. Baldrick's" team t-shirts available
for purchase at the door. \$20 per shirt or three for \$50

St. Baldrick's
FOUNDATION
Conquer Childhood Cancer

Craft & Cuisine
Craft Beer and Gourmet Food Pairing for St. Baldrick's

In an effort to help St. Baldrick's in the fight to find a cure
for childhood cancer, our Culinary Team has created a
four course menu and beer pairing that is sure to please the
palates of connoisseurs and novices alike.

1st Course
Southern Hummus Platter

2nd Course
Fresh Beet, Leek and Arugula
Salad with Beer Vinaigrette

3rd Course
Citrus Cured Pork Belly with Fava Beans
Sunburst Squash and Baby Carrots

4th Course
Cracker Jack Ice Cream Bars with
Salted Caramel Sauce

Thursday, March 13th from 6pm-8pm
Pizza Gallery & Grill, The Avenue Viera
\$40 per person

Sponsored By

A portion of proceeds donated to St. Baldrick's!

St. Baldrick's
FOUNDATION
Shaving the Way to Conquer Kids' Cancer

Reservations Required
321.633.9494
Seating is Limited
Reserve Your Seat Now!

321.633.0397 • PizzaGalleryandGrill.com • facebook.com/pgyviera

Coach Ellery

Cont. from page 1

One of his proudest moments was at a U14 game a few years ago, and we'll let Coach tell the story in his own words:

The team had only won one game so far that season, and we were playing against a team that had played all season with only nine players and had yet to win even one game. We started the game with nine players to make it fair, but by half time we were up by a score of 5-0, which was exciting for a team with only one win. However, it was clear the spirits of the kids on the other team were deflated. I talked about this with the team during the break and asked the players for volunteers to play for the other team to even things out and make it 11 v 11 for the second half. Four players on the team, without hesitation, went to play with the opposition and a wonderful 11 v 11 game of youth soccer ensued. Each team scored a goal during the second half, and the smile on the faces of the players, the spectators, the coaches, and especially the nine players that had been so sad in the first half, was something I will never forget. Later that night I was surprised to get a call from the father of one of the players that had gone over to play with the other team. He called from Afghanistan, where he was stationed, to hear more about the game and about the sportsmanship shown not only by his son, but by all the players on the team.

Coach is proud of how his own children have developed from little kids chasing a ball all over the field into respectful and smart soccer players. He appreciates seeing how much their skills have improved and how much they still enjoy playing the game.

Advice from someone who has been there is worth its weight in gold. Coach Ellery advises new soccer families not to be too hard on their children, the coaches or the referees since they are all sincerely trying to do their best. - What one piece of advice would you offer to new soccer families? He says, "Encourage and support them and you'll be treated to some really great moments."

Very wise words, Space Coast United completely agrees and wants to thank Coach Ellery for over a decade of dedication to the Club.

The Crazy, Intense Schedule of Competitive Youth Soccer? Bring It On

By **LISA CATHERINE HARPER**

If my husband and I had to choose, we would live in Athens. While we were both athletes as children, as adults we make our home firmly in the world of content creation. Our daughter, however, lives much of her life in Sparta, by which I mean the world of highly competitive team sports.

I can tell you our daughter is 11, her sport is soccer, and that she has been playing competitively since age 7. If I revealed anything more — her position, her team or club, what she does with her downtime, or anything specific about her play — she would kill me. Remember, she trains in Sparta.

Some friends wonder: Why do we spend thousands of dollars a year on team fees? Why do we shuttle her to the field three to five days a week, 50 weeks a year? Why do we organize weekends around game schedules? And why are we allowing her younger brother to follow in her footsteps?

....

Read the full article at [The New York Times](#)

Mostly, our daughter just loves to play. She doesn't fully realize what we've come to know in our bones: whether or not she ever sets foot on college turf, she is already finding some of what will matter most in her life on the field.

Space Coast United Adopts New Bylaws

Bylaws of any company, whether private or public, profit or nonprofit, set forth the rules and procedures that govern the operation of the entity, its officers, and directors. Our bylaws now provide a useful reference for the officers and directors to verify and confirm that their acts comply with the Articles of Incorporation, Florida's Business Corporation Act, and other state rules and regulations.

The current Board of Directors adopted and restated our new bylaws to provide a broad, as well as, day to day guidance in operating the Club. The bylaws also provide the needed flexibility so that the board could tailor its efforts to the current needs of the Club, and to take steps in meeting its current and long terms objectives to become an elite club in Florida. We have also addressed various key issues for the operation of the Club, most importantly, the election of future board members.

Click on the link below to access the club's bylaws.

Space Coast United Soccer Club Bylaws

“Work as hard as you can at whatever you love. Find people who are better than you, learn from them.” - Lisa Catherine Harper, Soccer Mom

Space Coast United's Taylor Eller Signs with Florida Tech



Taylor attended Melbourne High and earned six varsity letters. She was a member of the back-to-back State Championship teams in 2013 and 2014. Taylor was the team captain her senior season and led the Bulldogs in assists. She was named All-Cape Coast Conference her junior season and was NSCAA Player of the Week.

Taylor played for Space Coast United for seven years. Her 2010 team won the State Championship!

From the [February 11 article](#) on the Florida Tech Sports website: “I have watched Taylor play for a long time, and coached her U-15 team,” (Florida Tech Panthers Head Coach) Haig said. “She was a key player for us then, and was a key player in high school. She is extremely consistent, can handle the physical game, and can come in and make an impact right away.”

We are very proud of her and know she will be in good hands with Coach Haig. Congratulations Taylor!



U13 Girls NPL/State Cup Team CDL Showcase Champions

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U16 Girls Travel Team CDL Showcase Champions

Spring Striking/Finishing Camp

We are offering a soccer camp Monday through Thursday mornings during the Brevard County School System's Spring Break open to any child ages 4-18 years old.

The mini-camp for four and five year old children will be held from 9:00—10:30 and the regular camp for six to 18 year old players will be held from 9:00—noon. Both camps are at Viera Regional Park.

The min-camp is \$79 and the regular camp is \$110. Register on-line at our [Camp page](#) on the Space Coast website.



Academy Striker in Action!



To improve their chances in the next World Cup, the American team hires a drama coach.

SCUSC PROGRAMS

Micro/Mini-Kickers
Ages 3-5

Youth Development and Academy
Ages 4-11

Competitive: Select/NPL
Ages 9-19

Recreational
Ages 13-18

Goalkeeper Academy
Ages 9-19

TOPSoccer
Ages 4-19

CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

Established in 1984, Space Coast United Soccer Club is a non-profit organization run by volunteers dedicated to families who wish to enjoy the sport of soccer and to provide opportunities to play at all levels from ages three to eighteen with the highest quality of programs available in the State of Florida. Our efforts and energies are directed to the following objectives:

- We strive to develop players at all levels of play – recreational and competitive – by building and improving their skills, confidence, fitness, initiative and a sense of teamwork.
- We are committed to developing coaches and referees to the highest level through a quality instructional, licensing and mentoring program.
- We aim to ensure all of our players' personal goals are met whether they be enjoying recreational soccer, playing on an elite or premier competitive team, playing on your high school team, playing in college, or on an U.S. National team someday.
- We promote and encourage high standards of sportsmanship and fair play and strive to ensure all players are doing it "For the love of the Game!"

Spring 2014 YDP and Rec Season Is in Full Swing

Practices began February 18 with the first day of game play on Saturday, March 01. This season the Youth Development Program continues to field teams in Indian Harbour Beach, Wickham Fields, and Viera Regional Park. The club currently has 12 U6 teams, 14 U8 teams, 11 U10, five U12, three U14, and four U16/18 teams. We have over 650 children registered in our Micro/MiniKickers, YDP, and Rec programs this spring. That's a lot of laughter and sweaty shin guards!

Parent Challenge:

Visit our [Facebook page](#) throughout the week and share comments and photos of our players having fun, learning valuable skills, and demonstrating good sportsmanship. Catch them doing something right!



Youth Soccer Websites

[Florida Youth Soccer Association](#)

[National Premier Leagues](#)

[US Youth Soccer](#)

[Brevard Youth Soccer League](#)

[Greater Central Florida Youth Soccer League](#)

Space Coast United Soccer Club

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Please send any article suggestions, photos, and information you feel important to include in future newsletters to mediadirector@spacecoastsoccer.org

