



MENTOR SOCCER CLUB

A CLUB, A COMMUNITY, A FAMILY

April 2014

The DOC Is In - with Jim Buchan

Dear Mentor Family,

First of all I would to thank everyone who contributed to the great success of our third annual Festival. I was very glad to see so many mentor players with smiles on their faces. I would also like to thank the other communities who came to play. Also I must congratulate the participants of the coed games for their cooperation on playing Friday and Saturday evenings. I must admit I heard the refereeing on Friday night was the best it's ever been. The highlight of that evening was sending Scott Brown to the sin bin for one minute.

Now our attention focuses on the outdoor. We have had some teams move up and some move down. However I feel that our teams have fared well overall. But again I stress the importance of our player's progression. Our coaches focus on player development. It is not the winning line that is important. It is the journey to the winning line that is the most important part to a child's development.

A final word before I go on how much I enjoy coaching here at Mentor. Prime example would be of the u-11 black girls who have developed through the winter into an organized unit. I know that Amy Freeman and Coach Christy are very excited about these kids development. And I will make a point of coming to watch them play during the season.

Well that's all for now, see you at Krueger in the spring.

Jim
DOC Mentor Soccer



In This Month's Issue:

(click on article title to be passed right to it)

[2014/15 Registration Opens Monday](#)

[MSC Summer Soccer Camps](#)

[4v4 Tournament - Thank You](#)

[MSC Partners with Dick's Sports](#)

[World Cup 2014](#)

[Keeping Our Fields Green](#)

[On the Sidelines – Parent Tips](#)

[Order Spiritwear Online](#)

[Follow and Like MSC Online](#)

[Club Calendar](#)

[Soccer Web Links](#)

[MSC Contacts](#)

[Mentor Soccer Club Sponsors](#)



If a field looks like this, please stay off of it and read [Keeping Our Fields Green](#) below.

2014/15 Registration Opens April 14th

Registration for Fall 2014/Spring 2015 soccer opens April 14th. Visit www.mentorsoccerclub.com to sign up. There is an early bird discount for those that register before June 30th. Tryouts for Wave travel and premier teams will be the first week in June (2nd -5th) and your child must be registered prior to trying out.

MSC Offering Several Summer Camps

MSC Wave/Rec Soccer Camp

When: June 16-20

Where: Krueger Park

9:30-10:45am (1st -3rd grades), 11:00am-12:30pm (4th -8th grades)

Exciting and Fun camp **for all players** in 1st-8th grades at the Rec, Travel and Premier levels. Note there are two time slots depending on grade. Participants in Wave Camps will receive soccer instruction at a level that will both challenge them and ensure they have a fantastic experience at soccer camp. Our professional, qualified coaches will cover different soccer topics and themes each day. Players will learn various soccer skills and techniques of the game and have ample scrimmage time in order to put into practice everything they have experienced.

Cost: \$60 per player includes camp t-shirt

MSC Wave Pre-season Soccer Camp

When: July 21-25

Where: Krueger Park

6:00-7:15pm (U9-U11) and 7:30-8:45pm (U12-U14)

The Wave Pre-season Camp is geared for **more experienced players U9-U14**. Note there are two time slots depending on age group. Participants in the Wave Pre-season Camp will receive soccer instruction at a level that will both challenge their travel/premier skills and ensure their passion for the game continues to grow. Our professional, qualified coaches will cover different soccer topics and themes each day for the more experienced soccer players. Players will learn various advanced soccer skills and techniques of the game and have ample scrimmage time in order to put into practice everything they have experienced. Limited enrollment for this camp.

Cost: \$60 per player includes camp t-shirt

MSC Rec Soccer Camp

When: August 4-7

Where: Krueger Park

9:00-10:15am (U7-U10) and 10:30-11:45am (U11-U14)

This camp is available ONLY to MSC Rec players who are registered for the 2014-15 season. Note there are 2 time slots depending on age group. Campers will learn the fundamental elements of soccer through a carefully structured program of activities and fun based games for the Rec level player.

Registration for this camp will be opened up on July 1, 2014.

Cost: \$25 per player includes camp t-shirt

To register for Mentor Soccer Club Summer Camps, go to www.mentorsoccerclub.com beginning April 14th.

4v4 Tournament a Success – Thank You

Dear Mentor Soccer Club families:

Thank you! Our 3rd Annual Mentor Soccer Club Indoor Festival this past weekend, sponsored by Mentor Soccer Club was a huge success. It was an outstanding weekend for soccer, fun, and community as we transition between indoor and outdoor seasons. The weather has not been kind to us here on the North Coast this winter and this was a great way to spend some time as a Mentor Soccer Club family. In total, the event raised approximately \$8,000 that will go back into the club for more training programs.

Thank you to all who participated in this event as players, parents, coaches, and volunteers. I would also like to thank everyone who contributed prizes for the big board and silent auction. Your generosity and commitment is appreciated.

Finally, I would like to extend a thank you to the core team who made this event a success that includes Chris Andreano, Frank Bilaver, Scott Brown, Jim Buchan, Gary Carr, Jim Hodkey, Shawn and Heather Maffit, Andy Marson, and Melissa Read.

Mentor Soccer Club serves nearly 1,200 youth soccer players, and without the work of dedicated volunteers we would not be successful. We would be grateful if

you would consider volunteering some time to the Club. If you would consider helping out, please e-mail us at admin@mentorsoccerclub.com and leave a phone number if you would like to speak in person. Thank you very much for your support of Mentor Soccer Club. We know that you have put faith in us to help provide a good experience for your child. We take that responsibility very seriously.

Thank you for choosing Mentor Soccer Club.

Jeff Petro
President, Mentor Soccer Club



MSC Partners with Dick's Sports

Mentor Soccer Club has secured Dick's Sporting Goods as a Club Sponsor. Part of this sponsorship includes a Mentor Soccer Club Shopping Day at Dick's Sports on August 2nd, 2014 where Club members will receive 20% off their entire purchase. Just in time for the Fall season! Look for more updates to come.

World Cup 2014

This summer, the World's greatest sports tournament will take place in Brazil, World Cup 2014. 32 of the best soccer teams from around the world will come together to crown a champion. Over the next few months, we will give a summary of the teams involved and some other interesting information, such as, did you know that Brazil has won the most World Cups with 5, followed by Italy with 4. Now a look at the teams in groups C and D.

Group C:

COLOMBIA

How do they play?

Style & formation: Coach Jose Pekerman is a tactical chameleon who favors attack-minded variations on 4-4-2, 4-2-2-2 and 4-2-3-1 formations.

Napoli pair Pablo Armero and Juan Zuniga provide width as adventurous full-backs, with Fiorentina's Juan Cuadrado and Monaco's James Rodriguez the key creative influences. Rodriguez plays his club football alongside striker Falcao, and the duo have a deadly understanding.

Strengths: The squad is top-heavy with attacking talent playing for leading European clubs - so much so that Porto's Jackson Martinez and Inter Milan's Fredy Guarin struggle to get a game.

Conditions in Brazil may also suit them. They played qualifiers in the sweltering Caribbean port of Barranquilla, opting for mid-afternoon kick-offs in the belief rivals would wilt in the heat.

Weaknesses: The potential absence of Falcao would be a huge blow - he scored a third of their qualifying goals. Falcao's usual partner, River Plate's Teofilo Gutierrez, has questionable pedigree, so Jackson Martinez is the best alternative to lead the line.

And while Colombia conceded fewer goals than anyone else in South American qualifying, there is a dilemma at centre-back. Mario Yepes, 38 in January, lacks any pace, but is the captain.

AC Milan's Cristian Zapata, 27, deputised successfully last month in a 2-0 win in Belgium and 0-0 draw with the Netherlands. He may be a better bet in Brazil.

Key player

Radamel Falcao, 27, scored nine times in qualifying and has 151 goals in 193 club games since coming to Europe. He can drift out of games when starved of service, but his predatory instincts are undeniable. The fourth best player in the world, according to FourFourTwo, "El Tigre" made a surprising move to Monaco this summer for a £51m fee, but tore his anterior cruciate ligament in January and is a major doubt for the World Cup.

One to watch

While Falcao invariably grabs the headlines, it is James Rodriguez, 22, who makes Colombia tick. He has seamlessly adapted to international football since making his debut in 2011. The gifted attacking midfielder cost Monaco £37.5m this summer but has been ordered by Claudio Ranieri to work harder defensively.

How they qualified

Fairly comfortably, finishing a close second to Argentina. Their haul of 30 points from 16 games represents their best ever return. Outstanding performances included a 4-0 win at home to Uruguay

and 3-1 win in Chile, plus a gritty goalless draw in Argentina.

World Cup record

In four campaigns they've reached the last 16 only once, losing to Cameroon in 1990.

Painful memories still linger from USA '94; defender Andres Escobar was murdered in his hometown of Medellin after scoring a crucial own goal at the tournament.

Fifa ranking: 4

IVORY COAST

Prospects

The Ivorians' golden generation now has a distinctly grey-ish tinge, and this tournament is set to be the last of Didier Drogba's international career. Their talented squad has flattered to deceive, with their failure to win at least one Africa Cup of Nations particularly mystifying.

Key player

Manchester City powerhouse Yaya Toure scored four times in six qualifiers, a tally bettered only by Lille forward Salomon Kalou.

How they qualified

Along with Nigeria, they were the only African side to end unbeaten. They easily topped their preliminary group ahead of Morocco before winning a play-off against Senegal 4-2 on aggregate. There were some nervy moments when they trailed 1-0 in the second leg in Casablanca, but Kalou's injury-time equaliser booked their place in Brazil.

World Cup record

They were drawn in the 'Group of Death' in their two previous tournaments. On both occasions they ended third, trailing Argentina and the Netherlands in 2006 and Brazil and Portugal in 2010.

Fifa ranking: 17

GREECE

Prospects

Greece conceded four times in their qualifying group, a record bettered only by Spain. They are not the most thrilling team, but they do get the most out of limited resources. The bookies rate them as Europe's weakest side in Brazil but it is worth recalling they upset Russia to reach the quarter-finals at Euro 2012.

Key player

Target man Kostas Mitroglou has been in incredible form for club and country. He scored three goals in two play-off matches against Romania and a hat-trick for Olympiakos at Anderlecht - which made him the first Greek to score a Champions League treble.

How they qualified

Greece finished as runners-up to Bosnia in Group G but were seeded for the play-offs, and beat Romania 4-2 on aggregate, thanks largely to Mitroglou.

World Cup record

Their two previous campaigns (1994 and 2010) ended at the group stage.

They did at least claim their first victory in South Africa, beating Nigeria, but bowed out following defeat by Argentina in Rehhagel's final game in charge.

Fifa ranking: 12

JAPAN

Prospects

Expect the unexpected from the technically gifted yet defensively susceptible Asian champions. They breezed through qualifying but exited the Confederations Cup with three defeats. Losses to Serbia and Belarus then led to calls to sack coach Alberto Zaccheroni.

November's draw in the Netherlands and a win in Belgium have revived hopes that Japan could yet be a surprise package.

Key player

Keisuke Honda, 27, is Japan's talisman, with Shinji Kagawa and Shinji Okazaki the rising stars. Attacking midfielder Honda, who will join AC Milan from CSKA Moscow in January, can drag his team-mates to another level if in the mood.

How they qualified

Japan was the first country to qualify for the 2014 finals, doing so in early June 2013. They achieved the most points (17) and top scored (16 goals) in Asia's final qualifying group stage.

World Cup record

Japan made their debut in 1998 and will be appearing at their fifth straight World Cup finals. They have twice reached the last 16, first doing so on home soil in 2002 when beaten by eventual third-placed team Turkey.

Fifa ranking: 48

Group D:

URUGUAY

Style & formation: As qualifying went on, coach Oscar Tabarez settled on a pragmatic 4-4-2. The industrious Edinson Cavani leads the line, with Luis Suarez given license to roam.

Tabarez, however, is not afraid to switch formations, doing so in away matches and during the Confederations Cup to counteract the opposition, including playing 3-5-2 and 4-3-3. Expect him to vary it up in Brazil.

Strengths: In Suarez, Cavani and the evergreen Diego Forlan, Uruguay possess magnificent striking options. Tabarez has also reintroduced the Uruguayan characteristic 'garra' - an inner belief that they are tougher than their opponent, both technically and mentally.

Weaknesses: An ageing Uruguay defense conceded 25 goals in qualifying (16 away). Experienced centre-back pairing Diego Godin and captain Diego Lugano can have their lack of pace exposed and are prone to committing fouls once beaten.

Uruguay need Sebastian Coates to return from his anterior cruciate injury and recapture the excellent form he showed at the 2011 Copa America.

Key player

Liverpool's Luis Suarez, 26, is Uruguay's all-time leading scorer with 39 goals in 76 caps; he beat Diego Forlan's previous record during this year's Confederations Cup. The Liverpool forward's pace, fleet-footedness, power and control make him one of the game's most potent strikers. He may have scored three goals at the 2010 World Cup but his handball on the line in the quarter-final against Ghana is the abiding memory of him from South Africa.

One to watch

Attacking midfielder Nicolas Lodeiro, 24, has been reinvigorated at Brazilian club Botafogo and is back in the international fold. The youngest member of Uruguay's 2010 World Cup squad was sent off just 18 minutes into a substitute appearance in Le Celeste's group opener and later fractured his foot against Ghana.

World Cup record

Winners of the inaugural World Cup on home soil in 1930, they also lifted the trophy in 1950 - the only other time Brazil have hosted the tournament. Uruguay have also finished fourth on three occasions: 1954, 1970 and 2010.

Fifa ranking: 6

COSTA RICA

Prospects

The Central American side are defensively organized, with an emphasis on pressing the opposition. At the other end of the pitch, they will need key contributions from the likes of talented but erratic captain Bryan Ruiz and promising Arsenal forward Joel Campbell if they are to reach the knockout stage.

Key player

Goalkeeper Keylor Navas has already reached a half century of caps at the age of 26 and he kept seven clean sheets in 14 qualifying matches. He is now first choice

for Levante in Spain's top flight, with bigger clubs taking an interest.

How they qualified

They finished comfortably as runners-up in the final group stage, with their five wins all coming at home. They only conceded seven goals in the final phase, fewer than any other team.

World Cup record

They made a winning World Cup debut against Scotland in 1990, going on to reach the last 16. Group exits have followed in 2002 (W1, D1, L1) and 2006 (L3).

Fifa ranking: 31

ENGLAND

Prospects

Optimism is not high among fans and media alike that England can make much headway in Brazil. A mixed qualifying campaign ended strongly but back-to-back friendly defeats at Wembley to Chile and Germany were a reality check. Aside from at left-back, England arguably do not have top-class cover in any position.

Key player

This will be Wayne Rooney's third World Cup and he admits the previous two have been far from successful. Nonetheless, seven goals in just six qualifiers helped him nudge ever closer to Sir Bobby Charlton's England record of 49. England will need him at the top of his game - and to keep his cool - in Brazil.

How they qualified

England finished their qualifying campaign unbeaten and conceded just four goals. However, they left it to the last game to secure their ticket to Brazil, despite their opposition not being the strongest. Laboured draws against Ukraine, Poland and Montenegro were a tough watch.

World Cup record

Since victory in 1966, England have reached just one semi-final - in 1990. Their capitulation against Germany in 2010 was symptomatic of their struggles when pitted against top-class teams. And don't talk about penalties...

Fifa ranking: 13

ITALY

Prospects

Italy are a possession-based team with a dynamic attacking threat. Their 2013 Confederations Cup experience could prove to be a trump card in dealing with the heat. Recent defensive frailties at crosses and high balls are a concern but the bookmakers predict Italy will reach the last eight.

Key player

AC Milan forward Mario Balotelli, 23, heads to the World Cup as a maturing performer. He inspired Italy to the Euro 2012 final, scoring twice in the semi-final against Germany, and top scored in qualifying with five goals. Balotelli has managed 12 goals in 29 appearances - and Italy have never lost when he has scored.

How they qualified

Arguably too easily. Italy qualified with two matches to spare, along with the Netherlands becoming the first European nation to book their place. Prandelli experimented for the final two matches - both games were drawn, crucial ranking points were dropped, and Italy's seeding hopes dashed.

World Cup record

Italy are four-time world champions (1934, 1938, 1982 and 2006); only Brazil (five wins) have won more. The two-time runners up have reached eight semi-finals in 19 previous World Cups. However, the Azzurri went home without a win to their name when defending champions four years ago.

Fifa ranking: 7

Keeping Our Fields Green

All MSC Coaches, Assistants Coaches, Parents and Players,

We Need Your Help!

We believe that the Mentor Soccer Club, as a whole, has been doing its best over the past few years to keep people off of wet fields. We understand that excessive wear and tear is placed on a field and it's root structure if it is used during wet or rainy conditions.

Unfortunately, there are still some coaches who have not gotten the message or are just not listening. Many still believe that playing in poor weather conditions is 'part of the game'. We watch TV or attend games played in downpours or even in the snow. Unfortunately, not much thought is given to the 'torn up field' by coaches, players or spectators. It is just assumed that the field will be in good condition for the next practice/game. While this might be true at the professional or collegiate ranks, it is not the case at the youth level. We have limited financial and manpower resources. There are no work crews waiting on the sidelines to replace the damaged turf with new sod. On the contrary, once one of our

fields is damaged, it usually remains that way throughout the year. To make matters more difficult, our Fall season does not end until late October and then we expect to get right back onto these same fields towards the end of March. The window of opportunity to repair and grow new grass is almost non-existent once damage is done. According to leading turf specialist, the amount of wear and tear that an athletic field endures during wet weather is equivalent to FIVE TIMES that endured for dry weather play.

There is another reason, even more important, to stay off of wet fields. That being the safety and welfare of our young athletes. Certainly, children enjoy playing in the rain on a slippery, wet field. Simply put it is FUN to them. However, the possibility of injury increases dramatically whenever you have a slick ball and a slippery surface. It is our responsibility as adults to see that we minimize the risk of injury for our young players. Staying off a wet, slippery field is certainly one way of doing this.

We know that you all want your fields to be in good shape and your players safe, so do we. In order to accomplish this, we need 100% cooperation from all coaches, players and fans. Please support us this year and if you see someone 'forgetting' to adhere to our request, remind them of the damage they are doing and the risk they are placing on their players.

When is a field too wet to use? If ANY of these conditions are met, the field is too wet and practice should be held in the side areas off the playing field or postponed:

1. Standing water anywhere on the field – THE FIELD IS TOO WET TO USE
2. When you walk on the field you hear squishing under your feet – THE FIELD IS TOO WET TO USE
3. If your shoe leaves an impression when walking on field – THE FIELD IS TOO WET TO USE

On the Sidelines – Parent Tips

Top Ten Things Soccer Coaches Wish Soccer Parents Would Do

1. Get the players to practice on time, fully equipped, and ready to go. While we understand some kids have back to back activities and account for that, there's no reason for a player without a previous activity to arrive at the field the minute practice starts, in Crocs. Players should arrive 5-10 minutes early, ready to play, with cleats/shinguards on, with a properly inflated ball and a water bottle.
2. Let us know more than 6 hours in advance if your child won't be able to make practice or a match. Based on the number of players who can't make a given event, it can affect how we plan to run things. You don't need to ask permission – just let us know a couple days in advance if you can.
3. Pay attention at practices. If you have a child that can be, er, a handful – stick around at practice at least once a week and watch. If your child starts to become a distraction to the team during practice, ask the coach if they want you to step in and take care of it. Some may, some may not. But don't just drop your child off and run away, knowing they may be disruptive. It's not fair to the rest of the team. And don't ignore the obvious because it's your child. We coaches want EVERY child to have a chance to play and enjoy the game, but disruptive children sometimes become too much for a coach to handle and a parent really needs to step in and handle things.
4. Refrain from coaching from the sidelines. I say this as someone who is as guilty as any. Being a coach AND a parent, it can often be impossible to keep my mouth shut. But coaches want the players to focus on the game and any instruction they may shout out from the team touchline. So stick to cheering and encouragement. If you find the urge to coach overbearing – ask the coach if they need an assistant!
5. Put your folding chairs at LEAST **2 yards** away from the touchline. Many fields do not include 'parent boundary lines', so often parents are so close to the touchline that players can't even take a step to throw the ball in. Plus it's a danger to players trying to make sliding saves or who collide/trip/lose control near the parents.
6. Respect our decisions as coaches and if you have a problem, approach us about it. Don't bottle it up inside, let it stew, and share it among the rest of the parents. We're not perfect, but perhaps given some additional explanation you might understand what we did. If not, at least you know why we did what we did.
7. Try to have your paperwork, fees, and any other administrative stuff taken care of well in advance. Even teams with adept team managers can be affected by parents dragging their feet with paperwork. We coaches just want the kids to play, have fun, and learn. The less that paperwork intrudes on that, the better.
8. Don't scream at your kids on or off the field if they make mistakes. That's how they learn. As a coach, I tell my players ALL the time that I'd rather see them take a risk by trying out a soccer move and losing the ball, than taking the safe route using the inside of their foot all the time or passing the ball as soon as they get it. Too many players are afraid of making mistakes at a young age on the field. Risk taking and creativity should be *encouraged*.
9. Volunteer to help your league. Every single one of you. While a few top coaches do get paid, most do not and most of the league volunteers do not. They donate tons of time ensuring the league operates smoothly. So when they ask for help doing concessions, paperwork, field maintenance, fund raising, etc., offer to help. While top level competitive soccer can be expensive, most recreational programs are dirt cheap, primarily because they are run by volunteers. Where else can you get 2-3 hours a week of healthy activity for your child for \$25-\$100 a season? Too many leagues rely on a core group of committed but overworked volunteers to run things because parents aren't willing to donate an hour or two during the season. They aren't asking you to commit to multiple hours every week for the entire season (though they'd love it if you could!). Just an hour or two a month.
10. Have fun. Youth soccer should be fun for kids AND adults alike. By keeping a level head and a positive attitude, you can have about as much fun as your child does. So keep things in perspective and ***have fun!***

Mentor Soccer Club and Wave Spiritwear

Soccer.com has opened its new MSC Wave Spiritwear Online shop. Check it out at this link for some of the coolest Wave gear available:

[MSC WAVE SPIRITWEAR](#)

Mentor Soccer Club gear with the new Mentor Logo as well as Wave gear is now available at our other Spiritwear shop:

[MSC SPIRITWEAR](#)



We are also on Twitter. Keep up to date on field closings and other important announcements by following us at:

https://twitter.com/intent/user?screen_name=mentorsoccer

Follow and Like Mentor Soccer Club online.



Mentor Soccer Club is on Facebook and Twitter! Keep up to date with all the latest team news and announcements as well as having fun and seeing pictures of some of our teams. We would love for you to like our page and post whenever you can. The link is:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mentor-Soccer-Club/325866336713>

Club Calendar

April 14 th	Registration open for 2014/15 Season and Summer Camps
May 11 th	Board Meeting at Longo's on Lakeshore 7pm
May 23 rd	Rec All-Star Day - The World Comes to Krueger
May 31 – Jun 1	Rec Tournament
Jun 16-20	Wave/Rec Summer Camp at Krueger
July 21-25	Wave Pre-Season Summer Camp at Krueger
Aug 4-7	MSC Rec Soccer Camp at Krueger

Soccer Web Links

Mentor Soccer Club: www.mentorsoccerclub.com

MSC Wave Spirit Wear: http://www.soccer.com/teamGateway.php?club_id=701460&spiritwear=1

MSC Spirit Wear: www.mentorsoccerclub.shopgraphx.com

Ohio Youth Soccer Association North: www.oysan.org

Northern Ohio Girls Soccer League: www.nogsl.com

Club Contacts

For general club questions:

admin@mentorsoccerclub.com

440-954-4326 (voice mail)

For questions about Rec Soccer:

rec@mentorsoccerclub.com

For questions about Wave Academy Soccer:

wave@mentorsoccerclub.com

Mentor Soccer Club Sponsors – Thank You

If you would like your company on the back of a Rec team jersey, listed on our website and in our monthly newsletter for the 2014/15 soccer season (10 months), contact admin@mentorsoccerclub.com for prices and details.

Mentor Soccer Club would like to acknowledge its 2013/14 season sponsors:

Andrews Osborne Academy
Family Karate
Frankie & Dylan's Collision ***
Great Lakes Eyecare
Jemm Construction
Legends Sports Photography ***
Levin Furniture
Longo's Pizza
Macy Family Dentistry
Mentor Heisley Indoor Soccer*
Murphy Orthodontics*
NAPA Auto & Truck Parts
Orthodontics by Dr. Ken Lawrence *
SC Industries, Inc.
Serena's Trophy World
The UPS Store

*** Entire division sponsor

* Multiple team sponsor