



MENTOR SOCCER CLUB

A CLUB, A COMMUNITY, A FAMILY

May 2014

The DOC Is In - with Jim Buchan

Dear Mentor Family,

I would like to thank you all for the support you give to our coaching staff. Their position is tough enough making team selections and training sessions to allow the players to improve. Your support and performance on the touchline is a true reflection of our motto, a team, a family and a community. I say this as I was told of another club's parents who were very loud and unsporting.

The Wave travel and premier tryouts are fast approaching and I wanted to remind you to sign up before the actual event, it makes the experience go really smoothly.

We are also having three camps this summer, one in June, July and August; please look at the website for details. For all our goalies we will have one at the same time as the wave camp in mid July.

I know that many of our teams are playing this week in various tournaments, I wish you all the very best of luck. Well I will keep this short so I hope you all have a great summer.

Jim
DOC Mentor Soccer



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The Cleveland Gladiators are giving away mini soccer balls to the first 2,500 fans at their June 7th, Tribute to Futbol game.

2014/15 Registration Now Open

Registration for Fall 2014/Spring 2015 soccer is now open. Visit www.mentorsoccerclub.com to sign up. There is an early bird discount for those that register **before May 31st**. 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.

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 3.2 billion people worldwide watched the 2010 World Cup that was 46.4 percent of the world. Now a look at the teams in groups E and F.

GROUP E

SWITZERLAND

Style & formation: Switzerland's perfectly-timed rise to become one of the seeded nations for the World Cup is founded on a resilient defence, with two central midfielders shielding the back four.

Nonetheless, coach Ottmar Hitzfeld has responded to previous criticism of his defensive tactics and rigid 4-4-2 formation by integrating creative young players into a 4-2-3-1 line-up well suited to a counter-attacking approach.

"This is a team that doesn't hide," says Hitzfeld. "We are willing to take risks."

Strengths: A record of nine clean sheets in Switzerland's last 14 matches - including in a 1-0 win over Brazil - is testament to the strength of their aforementioned defence.

The Swiss also have several talented youngsters coming through from the sides that won the Under-17 World Cup in 2007 and reached the final at the 2011 European Under-21 Championship.

Weaknesses: Hitzfeld admits his side is profligate in front of goal. Retired all-time top scorer Alexander Frei has not been adequately replaced, with defender Fabian Schar scoring the most goals in qualifying (3).

Key player

Kosovo-born midfielders Granit Xhaka and Xherdan Shaqiri followed a similar path from Basel to the Bundesliga in 2012 but it is Xhaka, 21, who has made the breakthrough this season as a regular with Borussia Mönchengladbach. Formerly a winger, he now plays in central midfield and has been compared in style and talent to Germany's Bastian Schweinsteiger by Hitzfeld, who has coached them both.

One to watch

Striker Haris Seferovic, 21, scored the goal that won the Under-17 World Cup for Switzerland four years ago. He graduated to the senior national side in March this year, came off the bench to score a last-minute winner against Cyprus in June and started the last four World Cup qualifiers. He joined Real Sociedad in the summer, hoping to kickstart his club career after a largely lean time in Italy.

How they qualified

Switzerland qualified with a match to spare for the first time, finishing unbeaten in a relatively weak group and keeping clean sheets in seven of their 10 matches.

World Cup record

The Swiss have reached three quarter-finals, but none since hosting the tournament in 1954.

In 2010, they failed to get out of their group despite an opening 1-0 win over champions Spain.

Fifa ranking: 8

ECUADOR

Prospects

There's no doubting Ecuador have talented attacking players but there are a paucity of top-class defenders. Their results away from Quito, the altitude sickness-inducing capital, do not bode well either. They only dropped two points at home, against Argentina, but failed to win a single away qualifier, taking just three points from those eight games.

Key player

Mexico-based left winger Jefferson Montero can be unplayable. He scored three goals during the qualifying campaign and attracted interest over the summer from a host of Premier League clubs, with Cardiff making a failed bid.

How they qualified

Ecuador were second in the South American standings after 10 matches but only won one of their last six

matches. Crucially, that victory in the penultimate fixture was against nearest rivals Uruguay to all-but secure the last automatic qualifying spot. Coach Rueda dedicated the achievement to key forward Christian Benitez, who died suddenly in July from heart failure.

World Cup record

Ecuador's first World Cup was 2002, when they finished bottom of their group. Four years later, they won two group games but lost to England in the last 16.

Fifa ranking: 23

FRANCE

Prospects

At the last four World Cups they've either failed to win a game (2002, 2010) or reached the final (1998, 2006).

That Jekyll and Hyde streak remains. Daily sports newspaper L'Equipe asked, "Is this the worst French team in history?" after defeat in Ukraine. The headline which then followed a rousing second-leg comeback read simply: "Respect."

Key player

Paul Pogba, 20, has established himself as one of Europe's finest midfielders since joining Juventus, combining athleticism, skill and goal threat. Quite why former manager Sir Alex Ferguson gave him so few chances at Manchester United is increasingly a mystery.

How they qualified

They became the first European side to overturn a two-goal deficit in the play-offs, beating Ukraine with an impressive 3-0 home win - albeit benefiting from an offside goal from striker Karim Benzema. Prior to that second leg, 84% of French fans had predicted failure. France went into the play-offs after finishing three points behind Spain in their group.

World Cup record

Winners in 1998, runners-up in 2006 and semi-finalist in 1958, 1982 and 1986, their best performances have tended to come close to home. Only once have they reached the knock-out stage outside of Europe - that was at Mexico '86.

Fifa ranking: 19

HONDURAS

Prospects

The Hondurans have qualified for back-to-back World Cups for the first time in their history but it would be a major shock if they avoid an early exit. The squad lacks real pedigree, and they are one of the tournament's outsiders. Their lack of technical ability could be partly

compensated for by familiarity with the hot and humid conditions expected in parts of Brazil.

Key player

Strike duo Carlos Costly and Jerry Bengtson netted a combined total of 16 qualifying goals, but the former is the most likely starter if Honduras opts for a lone centre forward. The 31-year-old has had a nomadic career, and is currently playing for Guizhou Zicheng in the Chinese second division.

How they qualified

They finished third in the final round of qualifying despite keeping just two clean sheets in 10 games. Highlights included 2-1 wins at home to the USA and away to Mexico, before a 2-2 draw in Jamaica sealed qualification.

World Cup record

They failed to win a game (D3, L3) in their two previous campaigns (1982 and 2010). While they failed to score in South Africa they were not embarrassed in losses to Chile and Spain, and salvaged pride with a draw against Switzerland.

Fifa ranking: 41

GROUP F

ARGENTINA

Style & formation: Argentina often fielded a bold 4-3-3 formation in qualifying, although a more conservative 5-3-2 was deployed for tricky away fixtures.

The former system allows Lionel Messi to play as a classic number 10 behind two strikers - typically Manchester City's Sergio Aguero and Napoli's Gonzalo Higuain - who stretch play.

But with Angel Di Maria deployed as part of a midfield three, the formation offers little defensive protection.

Strengths: Los Cuatro Fantásticos - the Fantastic Four of Di Maria, Aguero, Higuain and Messi, who would walk into practically any team in the world.

Messi's improved international form suggests that, if fit, he is ready to make this tournament his own - and strengthen his credentials as the best player of all time.

Weaknesses: Critics feel the team is unbalanced and defensively vulnerable.

Goalkeeper Sergio Romero struggles to get a game for Monaco, while left-back Marcos Rojo, of Sporting, and Napoli centre-back Federico Fernandez are inexperienced at the top level.

Messi's recent injury problems are also a worry.

Key player

Often accused of failing to reproduce his Barcelona form at international level, Lionel Messi had gone 16 competitive matches without scoring prior to the appointment of Sabella in 2011. However, the coach's

decision to hand Messi, 26, the captaincy has proved inspired - he has 20 goals in his last 20 Argentina games.

One to watch

Angel Di Maria's work-rate and tactical discipline persuaded Real Madrid to sacrifice Mesut Ozil, rather than him, following Gareth Bale's acquisition this summer. The 25-year-old will need those same qualities to give balance to Argentina's left flank.

How they qualified

Easily. They were the only side to win in Colombia, beat Chile twice, and impressed in home victories against Uruguay (3-0) and Ecuador (4-0). A first ever defeat by Venezuela, home draw with Bolivia and meaningless final-game loss to Uruguay were rare blips.

World Cup record

They have twice won the tournament (1978 and 1986) and have finished runners-up on two other occasions.

Fifa ranking: 3

BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA

Prospects

Expect the adventurous Bosnians to attract plenty of support from neutrals. Their tally of 30 goals was the fourth highest in European qualifying, while no strike duo can match the total of 18 goals shared by Edin Dzeko and Vedad Ibisevic (albeit in a fairly weak group). However, defensive weaknesses ensure goalkeeper Asmir Begovic is kept busy. Reaching the last 16 would be a success.

Key player

Playmaker Miralem Pjanic, 23, has been in outstanding form for Roma this season. His family fled Bosnia's civil war when he was a baby, settling in Luxembourg, who he played for at youth level before switching allegiance. He burst into tears after World Cup qualification was achieved.

How they qualified

Beaten in the play-offs by Portugal in their previous two qualifying campaigns, the Bosnians were determined to top their group this time round. They edged out Greece on goal difference following a final-game win in Lithuania.

World Cup record

They will be the only debutants at the 2014 World Cup.

Fifa ranking: 21

IRAN

Prospects

A predominantly domestic-based squad will do well to improve on Iran's World Cup record of one win in nine attempts. They only conceded twice in eight matches

during the final qualifying phase but stronger opponents lie ahead.

Key player

Midfielder Javad Nekounam, 33, is captain and talisman, but the new golden boy is Reza Ghoochannejhad - an Iran-born, Dutch-raised and Belgium-based forward.

The 26-year-old Standard Liege player made his international debut last year and has scored six goals in as many games in 2013.

How they qualified

Having made serene progress in the early stages, Iran's qualifying hopes were in jeopardy after managing just two goals and two wins in their opening five matches of the final group stage. But they ended the campaign with three successive victories, latterly beating South Korea away to top the group.

World Cup record

Iran have failed to progress from the group stage in their three appearances (1978, 1998, 2006), with their only win coming against the USA in 1998.

Fifa ranking: 45

NIGERIA

Prospects

After failing to qualify for the 2012 Africa Cup of Nations, the Super Eagles have undergone a radical transformation under Steven Keshi, who has sought to lower the average age of the squad. His selection policy, at times controversial, has paid off - this year the Super Eagles won their first African title since 1994. They produced a competent showing at the Confederations Cup, but improvement is needed to reach the knock-out stages in 2014.

Key player

Victor Moses has quickly become an integral figure since making his debut in 2012. He provided real cutting edge at this year's Africa Cup of Nations and was sorely missed at the Confederations Cup, for which he was injured.

How they qualified

Easily. One of two unbeaten African sides (along with Ivory Coast), they ended five points clear in their group, then beat Ethiopia 4-1 in a play-off.

World Cup record

The Super Eagles reached the last 16 in 1994 and 1998 but fell at the first hurdle in their two subsequent tournament appearances (2002 and 2010).

Fifa ranking: 36

On the Sidelines – Parent Tips

A parental guide for nurturing a young athlete

Much has been written and said in the media recently concerning the role parent's play in their children's sporting life. Much of it has been negative, stories of fistfights between coaches and parents at Little League games, and overbearing parents so over-involved in their children's sports that they undermine growth and performance. In fact, approximately 73 percent of children who compete in organized sports quit by age 13. Many drop out because they say the pressure from coaches and parents simply takes all the fun out of playing and competing.

So how can we keep our kids motivated and help them achieve their sports goals without burning them out? We need to shift the emphasis from competition and winning to fun and play and we need to let our children take the lead in defining their sports commitments. The job of parents is to help set healthy limits and reasonable expectations. While there are no recipes for creating star athletes, we can nurture elite talent and promote healthy exercise habits in young people. Sheila King, an exercise physiologist at UCLA provides a set of guidelines that I have found useful as a coach, and feel can be a practical aid to parents as they share sporting experiences with their children

Lose the attitude of winning at all costs. Many children do not enjoy organized sports because coaches and parents put too much pressure on winning. Fewer than 1 percent of the children participating in organized sports today will qualify for any type of athletic scholarship in college and an even smaller number of those will go on to professional sports or the Olympics, according to the National Center for Educational Statistics. Coaches and parents who instill a life-long love of fitness and sports are the real winners

Providing good coaching can help children develop the skills and abilities they need to excel and succeed in sports. The best coaches are positive and offer lots of encouragement, emphasizing both skill development and good sportsmanship. They are organized and set limits for both players

and parents. They do not chastise or punish players for making mistakes. Instead, they praise the effort and emphasize fun, not winning at all costs. Most youth league coaches are volunteers and have not had professional training but that doesn't mean you have to put up with a verbally abusive coach or one who arrives late and doesn't organize practices. If you end up with one, try to move your child to another team as soon as possible. If you can't get a transfer, discuss your concerns with the coach in a private, non-threatening conversation

Be sure your children are playing at the appropriate level for age and skill development. Nothing can be more discouraging to children than playing over their heads. Confidence is key — especially for girls, who more often express lower perceptions of physical competence than boys. Emphasize effort over result. By the same token, nothing can be more frustrating than playing below your potential. If your children are highly skilled, make sure they're challenged on the field or on the court. If they're playing above their peer level, find groups that meet their needs because a child with the potential to be an elite athlete deserves special attention and consideration. There are plenty of resources out there; it's up to you to take full advantage of them.

Don't rehash every detail of the game with your child. Over-analyzing play can take the fun out of it. And focusing only on mistakes can backfire: Some kids will do anything to avoid making another mistake, including not doing anything at all. Children need to develop their instincts and learn to trust them. They don't need to dwell on every misstep. Let the coach provide feedback during practice when children can readily make change

Some children are ready for competition at an early age. But from a developmental standpoint, competition is best introduced in adolescence when children are more comfortable testing themselves against others. Most pre-adolescents do not enjoy the competitive nature of sports. The

emphasis in this age group should be on fun, movement variety, social and skill developments

Children have to have the desire within themselves to compete and excel at sports. Parents cannot force children to succeed as athletes. The best approach is to expose kids to a variety of sports.

Then let them choose the sport. Examine your personal motives for wanting your child to compete.

If you are trying to live vicariously through your child, reassess what your child wants and needs and put those desires ahead of your own

Never let your child hear you criticizing the coach or other players. Let your child know it's not the end of the world if they lose an important game. It could be their most important lesson.

Parents who shout obscenities and criticisms embarrass children and squelch their desires. Keep the sideline comments positive and encouraging. Refrain from blaming umpires and referees for "bad" calls. Teach your children that such judgments are part of the game and must be overcome. Realize that most of the referees and umpires are volunteers who provide a service for your children

Help children learn to balance sports in their lives. Keeping children well rounded will provide them with the confidence and skills to adapt to the challenges they will face in life, keep them fit and healthy, and provide memorable experiences for the entire family to share.



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.

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



Follow and Like Mentor Soccer Club online.



Club Calendar

May 23 rd	Rec All-Star Day - The World Comes to Krueger
May 31 – Jun 1	Rec Tournament
Jun 2-6	Wave Tryouts, players must be registered prior to trying out
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

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>



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

Northern Ohio Girls Soccer League: www.ohtsl.com

Ohio Travel Soccer League: www.ohtsl.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, contact admin@mentorsoccerclub.com for prices and details.

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

Andrews Osborne Academy
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Great Lakes Eyecare
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Levin Furniture
Longo's Pizza
Macy Family Dentistry
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