

The 2011-2012 Executive Director's Report – Dave Guthrie

It is my pleasure to report on a very productive and exciting year for Indiana Soccer.

TOPSoccer continues to thrive and grow. Indiana is able to report a higher number of TOPSoccer participants than most of the other 55 state associations. I want to thank Jason Brown, who chairs this committee and Joy Carter, his staff liaison, for expressing their passion by supporting the many member clubs that incorporate TOPSoccer as part of their club deliverables. I would also encourage member clubs that have not yet incorporated a TOPSoccer program as part of their offering, to contact Joy at joy@soccerindiana.org or Jason at jason@soccerindiana.org to discuss how they can help you develop a TOPSoccer offering.

SCORE is a new outreach program that operates under the umbrella of US Youth Soccer's Soccer Across America initiative. This program partners Indiana Soccer with participating Purdue land grant offices. Purdue has a land grant office in each of Indiana Soccer's 92 counties. The purpose of SCORE is to identify children that are not playing any type of organized soccer and to work with the local community, with the support of the Purdue extension office and their partners, to develop a soccer offering that "fits" the un-served or under-served community. This past year, over 100 children are being provided the opportunity to play a form of organized soccer as a result of this outreach program. Indiana Soccer hopes to partner with member clubs interested in this initiative in 2013 and beyond. If you have an interest, please contact Paco Espinosa at paco@soccerindiana.org .

ADULT SOCCER membership continues to grow. Much of the growth is from adults playing 11 v 11. However, a growing number of clubs are adding small sided adult play to their club's offering and are finding substantial value in this initiative. The state office staff is always available to discuss options that you can add to expand your membership through adult, small-sided play.

Olympic Development Program continues to thrive under the leadership of John Carter and the administrative support provided by Joy Carter. John continues to introduce innovative ways to better serve the needs of the Olympic Development participants. John and his staff have begun to implement functional training along with the many other components of the Olympic Development experience. He continues to place the players in appropriate, competitive environments that stretch the players. He also provides international playing opportunities, as well as opportunities to play against some of the best players in the country while making sure that the players are maturing in all aspects i.e. how to confront adversity, how to communicate maturely and effectively with peers, coaches and others. If you have questions or would like to know more about this fantastic program, I urge you to contact Joy Carter at joy@soccerindiana.org .

Membership: Indiana Soccer added member clubs this past year. They are as follows:

- Baptist Soccer Club of Ft. Wayne District 20
- Tri State Futbol Club District 18
- Evansville Youth Soccer Club District 19
- Revolution FC District 1
- Southern Alliance of Indiana District 19
- Schererville Soccer Club District 1
- Score, Inc District 9
- Power Soccer, Inc District 11

Coaching Education, under the leadership of Steve Franklin continues to expand services and offerings. Recently, Steve introduced RMA, which I believe will be a “game changer” for all who embrace this coaching methodology and in particular, for those players who are trained under the methodology. Rene’ Muelensteen, first team coach of Manchester United met with Indiana Soccer and agreed to work with Indiana Soccer through Erwin Van Elst and Sports Partners USA, to develop a unique coaching offering that fully incorporates his knowledge and methodology. Please allow me to introduce you to Rene’ and Erwin and what I believe is the most needed and effective coaching course you will take by visiting

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NZDFH_2nk9w&feature=plcp .

The Indiana Soccer League [ISL] has a new commissioner in George Perry. George, who returns to Indiana Soccer after being away from Indiana for more than a decade, visited many playing sites around Indiana since his return. George is committed to working with Indiana Soccer’s members clubs to develop the best, most rewarding playing environment for all players. George’s commitment to provide the most appropriate playing experience possible is as applicable to the most proficient players who aspire to play at the highest level as it is to the players who just want to play. His efforts are supported by Angel Hall, and her team of administrators. George has had a remarkable impact since his arrival in the latter half of 2012. The ISL will serve nearly 1,000 teams over the next year that varies from rec plus to 5th division travel to ISL Premier. ISL results will be used to promote teams to MRL as well as help populate state cup and challenge cup. If you have not met George, or have thoughts that you would like to share with him, I urge you to contact George at george@soccerindiana.org .

The Tournament and Cup Committee under the leadership of Angel Hall, and with the help of a number of hosting clubs, continues to expand, streamline and improved Indiana Soccer’s year-end tournaments. More teams participate last year than in previous years and there are plans to more closely integrate ISL activity/results to provide for more parity in State and Presidents Cup play.

Indiana’s participation in Adult cup play continues to grow. Indiana Soccer, along with Fort Wayne Sport Club in Fort Wane, hosted Region II’s Adult level Tournament of Champions, as well as USASA’s National Cub Regionals this past year. Both of these events are well attended and participants openly applaud the way Fort Wayne Sports Club and Indiana Soccer rolls out the red carpet for the participants at both of these events.

Referees

The State Referee Administrator [Samir Yasa] and the State Referee Committee recently located their office in Indiana Soccer's state office building. It is extremely beneficial for all aspects of the the soccer family to work together more closely. Having the State Referee Committee located in the state office will facilitate a more cohesive soccer family.

Your Association President Murray Clark, with the help of Samir Yasa, Indiana's State Referee Administrator, is working with Indiana's Department of Labor and the Indiana State legislature to allow 12 and 13 year old boys and girls to referee. The current child labor law allows 12 and 13 year olds to caddie and to work on the family farm but prohibits these youth from refereeing.

Grand Park – the scheduled new home of your state association

Indiana Soccer is excited about the opportunity to partner with the city of Westfield on Grand Park. This facility will provide the Indiana Soccer family a "world class" venue and playing experience without being required to leave the state of Indiana. The project broke ground in late 2011 and is currently scheduled to host a measure of soccer activity in late 2013. You can see the most recent progress of this state-of-the-art facility by visiting:

<http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=27aaa7e7ce0ce7318a276b63a&id=c90701e592>

Communication tools are constantly changing and Indiana Soccer's Paco Espinosa is expanding the use of these rapidly changing e-communication tools, i.e. Face Book, Twitter, Indiana Soccer's Website, You Tube, etc. There is more that can be done and Paco, along with the balance of the Indiana Soccer staff, are making an effort to make relevant information more easily accessible. You can expect to see more tailored use of all communication tools to enable you to timely access information that is relevant to you.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Guthrie, Executive Director, Indiana Soccer Association