

2014-15 Presidents Report – Murray Clark, President

It is my pleasure once again to provide a report on some of the highlights of Indiana Soccer in 2015. Your state association continues to expand services and offer solid programming while remaining fiscally responsible.

Many of you are aware of a number of highlights that occurred on the Indiana soccer landscape this past year. Here are a few of them:

Indiana Futsal: In August of 2015, the Indiana Soccer Association became one of the first state associations to enter into a formal agreement with U.S. Futsal, www.futsal.com, a US Soccer affiliated organization that has been governing the sport of Futsal since 1981. Indiana Futsal, www.indianafutsal.org is the result of this agreement. This agreement brings the full support of US Futsal to Indiana.

You may have recently read where professional futsal is coming to the US. Recent articles reveal that Mark Cuban, the owner of the Mavericks, along with several other NBA owners such as Mikhail Prokhorov who owns the Brooklyn Nets and the Buss Family who owns the LA Lakers are committed to franchise ownerships. Several world-power soccer clubs i.e. FC Barcelona, Atletico Madrid, Boca Juniors of Argentina and Corinthians of Brazil are also committed to full or partial franchise ownership. The Professional Futsal League (PFL) is scheduled to begin play in 2017 and the aforementioned owners are planning for the PFL to host the world's preeminent futsal players where they will receive the sport's highest salaries. The PFL season will consist of approximately 50 games. The season and schedule are being crafted in concert with TV networks.

Justin Becht, was hired as Indiana Futsal's first Futsal Director and has already, in collaboration with Indy Eleven, Downtown Indy, the Mayor of Indianapolis, along with US Futsal, successfully hosted the inaugural Mayor's International Cup. The Mayor's Cup is an event that Indiana Futsal hopes to expand to additional participating cities.

Should you have an interest in hosting this event, please contact Justin Becht as justin@indianafutsal.org. Indiana Futsal hosted US Futsal's Midwest Regional event and is scheduled to host this event over the next 4 years. Justin is anxious to explain how you can become a part of this attractive, fast growing game.

US Youth Soccer's 2016 regional event: Indiana Soccer will host, The Region II Championships of US Youth Soccer's National Championship Series. The Regional Championship Tournament is one of four regional tournaments comprising the next-to-highest level of a nationwide tournament whose objective is to determine regional

champions and national champions in the following age groups (both genders): U-13, U-14, U-15, U-16, U-17, U18, and U-19. The states that constitute Region II are: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio North, Ohio South, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. These 14 states will populate 14 of the 16 slots in their respective bracket. The final 2 slots will be filled by Mid West Regional League teams.

Indiana is fond of hosting this event for a number of reasons; one of which is to mitigate the financial and wear-and-tear associated with Indiana team-travel to states such as South Dakota.

Membership: The number of registered players continues to increase as you can see by the information listed below:

	TVL	REC+	REC	Total	% Increase/decrease
2014-15	17,820	6,345	36,948	61,113	6.226%
2013-14	16,292	5,045	35,971	57,308	1.272%
2012-13	15,568	5,094	35,917	56,579	-1.746%
2011-12	16,793	5,104	35,670	57,567	4.034%
2010-11	16,767	4,477	34,001	55,245	-0.125%
2009-10	17,081	3,690	34,543	55,314	-1%
2008-09	16,565	3,573	35,872	56,010	

The fall 2015-16 season registration numbers are as follows which reflects an increase over the fall of 2015-15

Tvl	rec+	rec	total
12,862	3,940	23,086	39,888

Your association also added two new clubs to the membership this past year. Please join me in welcoming;

- Valpo Soccer Club re-activated
- St. Philip Neri – in district 9 Indianapolis.

Your board and staff appreciate the opportunity serve the new member clubs, as well as the long-time member clubs of Indiana Soccer.

Indiana Soccer’s 2014 Cups: For the first time in 8 years, all preliminary games will be played at a single site thanks to our partners at Grand Park. Cup participation is robust as can be seen by the data listed below.

	2015	2016
State Cup	159 teams	153 to date;U-19s not yet counted
Pres Cup	206 teams	199 teams
Challenge Cup	249 teams	270 teams
Memorial Cup	131 teams	101 teams to date – deadline not until April 15
	754 teams total	723 teams to date – expected to exceed 2015

Indiana Soccer League [ISL]

The ISL continued to expand and improve its service delivery in 2014/2015. Below is an overview of ISL team participation: Note that in 2015, premier, and 1st were identified separately from 2013 2014 when Premier- 1st through 4th for records sake were grouped together.

	Fall '13	Fall '14	Fall '15	Spring '13	Spring '14	Spring '15	Spring '16
MRL	12	24	25	69	70	91	93
Prem & 1st	439	506	69	920	778	833	198
2nd, 3rd, 4th	w/Prem & 1 st	w/Prem & 1 st	465	w/Prem & 1 st	w/Prem & 1 st	w/Prem & 1 st	667
U10-ISL	208	296	146	w/Prem & 1 st	242	160	166
U10-ISA	NA	NA	139	NA	NA	149	140
ECIYSL	NA	22	25	NA	32	23	TBD*
Total	659	848	849	989	1122	1256	1264**

Overall participation increase by year

2014 recorded a 20% participation increase over 2013 participation

2015 recorded a 7% participation increase over 2014 participation

It is anticipated that 2016 spring will show a 2% increase over spring 2015

ISL is currently scheduled to implement the small-sided and calendar year mandates received from US Soccer beginning the fall of 2016. This decision was made after

consulting with all neighboring state associations in order to accomplish a coordinated transition.

*ECIYSL has not begun registering 25 (seeing a slight decline in ECIYSL as some of their teams are moving to ISL.

**Total numbers for Spring '16 should be approximately 1285

TOPSoccer received financial support again this year from Meijer/Mondelez. This TOPSoccer program benefits children with special needs but also benefits their “buddies” who receive the benefit of working with these exceptional athletes. This program continues to grow in participation, not only in players but also buddies and volunteers. Each child in Indiana with special needs should have a TOPSoccer opportunity and with your help, this statement can come to fruition. If your club does not offer a TOPSoccer program, please contact Joy Carter joy@soccerindiana.org. Joy would love to help you start a viable, sustainable TOPSoccer program.

Coaching Education: Steve Franklin is your state director of education. Steve is busy teaching future coaches but would like to be busier yet. Last year 307 candidates attended an E license course a 41% increase over the previous year. 67 candidates attended a D license course a 24% increase over the previous year. Please allow me to remind you that Indiana is the only state in the country that provides E and State D courses at no cost to coaches that serve a member club. Indiana was host to a sold out National C license course where 40 candidates attended. Indiana also hosted the NSCAA's National and Advanced National diploma courses, both of which sold out. Also, 30 coaches attended a USYSSA National Youth Coaching Course hosted in conjunction with Indy Premier SC [Fishers] with Sam Snow, USYSA's coaching director serving as the lead instructor.

Indiana hosted the United States Technical Championships at Carroll Stadium on the IUPUI Campus where nearly 200 players participated. Former Manchester United First Team Coach Rene Meulensteen traveled from England to oversee the event.

Steve Franklin and Indiana Soccer hosted 12 coaches from Tajikistan and then traveled with a team of 6 for a ten day exchange to educate coaches, parents and youth players.

Steve completed an overhaul of the coaching education webpages this past year.

Steve also served as the tournament director for the inaugural Mayor's International Futsal Cup that was hosted at Pan Am Plaza this past September. The event was a huge success in which 32 teams, representing 32 different countries, entered. Honduras prevailed in the final game against Peru, 4-3.

US Soccer Federation recently published a number of mandates. One of the mandates is a change from seasonal year registration to calendar year registration. This mandate creates a number of challenges that the state association, in conjunction with US Youth Soccer, and US Soccer is sorting through. This mandate will be a major topic of discussion during this year's Annual General Meeting. We strongly encourage you to attend one of the discussions in which this topic will be evaluated.

Indy Eleven continues to contribute positively to the Indiana Soccer family in a number of ways. The team continues to pursue a soccer specific stadium in Indiana that will serve the soccer family for decades. Indy Eleven continues to explore ways to support all Indiana Soccer member clubs, teams and players. Recently, Peter Wilt, the President and general manager of Indy Eleven, whom many of you have met, announced his departure from Indy Eleven. Peter has been named the new president and general manager of the new, NASL- Chicago Sting. We certainly wish Peter success and look forward to a future Indy Eleven/Chicago Sting rivalry!

Jeff Belskus, who served from 2011 until recently as the President and CEO of Hulman and Company, the owner of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, was tapped as Indy Eleven's new President. Jeff is a skilled leader and is a welcomed member of the Indiana Soccer family.

Respectfully submitted,

Murray Clark,

President , Indiana Soccer Association