

The 2022-2023 Executive Director's Annual Report – Dave Guthrie

It is my pleasure to report on the condition and developments of Indiana Soccer for the fiscal year 2022-23. Dave Guthrie, Executive Director – the Indiana Soccer Association.



Purpose: Improve Lives Through Soccer

Vision: Where Soccer is Accessible to All

Mission: To remain a premier service organization by providing leadership, organizing play, educating community stakeholders and developing youth and adults through soccer.

Core Values:

- Diversity & Inclusion
- Integrity & Respect
- Fair & Safe Play
- Leadership & Service

This year's AGM:

This past year reflects the level of work each of the members has invested, as is reflected in the increase in registered players.

The in-school initiative: Last year I reported that Indiana Soccer's in-school initiative was back on track as schools became more receptive after Covid 19 subsided. As a reminder, the in-school initiative provides futsal education to any physical education teacher or other adult that supports school-age children providing alternative sports programming. The initiative has impacted nearly 200,000 children since its inception. The initiative's purpose is to introduce students to our game via futsal, who might otherwise not have access to our game. The small-sided game of futsal delivers many physical and cognitive benefits as well as the opportunity to fall in love with our game. Many of these new game lovers will seek more playing opportunities and will become players of a member club.

Member clubs are invited to communicate the opportunity to schools and other institutions within your footprint. When you secure training for the physical education teachers in your local schools, they can earn a US Futsal certificate while satisfying their teaching license requirement of obtaining continuing education in the form of "Professional Growth Points (PGPs)" This initiative is being offered at no charge to participating school corporations. Each member club is asked to help with this initiative by identifying the decision-maker(s) in your school corporation and then helping to introduce it to those decision-makers. Justin Becht stands ready and willing to bring this initiative to your community. Please contact Justin at Justin@soccerindiana.org to learn more about how you can involve your community.

Registration Platform Upgrade "GotSport"

GotSport continues to improve their platform. Their platform can assist member clubs to manage their club's registrations and operations. Members of the GotSport teams will be on sight during this year's annual meetings. If you have questions about GotSport and how it can assist you club, please allow me to invite you to visit with a member of the GotSport team during the annual meeting day or schedule time with either Amber Cremeens amber@soccerindiana.org or Angel Hall angel@soccerindiana.org.

Membership:

The total number of players registered for 2022/23 was **61,932**. That exceeds last year's registrations. The breakdown of the 61,932 is as follows:

Youth Recreational players	36,736
Youth Recreational plus players	4,910
Youth Travel players	18,304
Adult Full-sided players	1,024
Adult Small-sided players	958

New Members: This past year, the association extended membership to one club.

- FC Midwest Academy

Adult participation: Adult participation is modest in Indiana. Adult play can be any form of play i.e., walking soccer, small-sided soccer, co-ed soccer or full sided open play, under 30, under 40 under 50 etc. John Mitchell, johnmitchell@soccerindiana.org has over 50 years of experience in the adult soccer space and is anxious to assist any club or organization that wants to provide adult soccer play.

TOPSoccer: TopSoccer is an offering already provided by several member clubs. Those who provide this opportunity to children and adults with special needs report that it is their most rewarding effort. I want to thank Jasper Youth Soccer, Cutters Soccer Club, Indiana Fire Academy South, Vigo County Youth Soccer Association, Indy Premier, Dynamo F.C., Zionsville Youth Soccer Association, Columbus Express Soccer Club, Fort Wayne Sport Club, Michiana Echo Soccer Club, South Central Select Association, and Jr. Irish for their continued support of our special needs community. I also want to encourage all member clubs to initiate a TopSoccer program in your community. I realize that the fear of the unknown inhibits us at times. However, you can remove that fear by learning more about the TOPSoccer program and learning what participating clubs or doing by visiting [TOPSoccer Clubs | Indiana \(soccerindiana.org\)](https://www.soccerindiana.org/topsoccer-clubs).

Indiana is blessed to have Mary Schalliol from Michiana Echo serving as Indiana's TOPSoccer administrator. If you have an interest in learning more about TOPSoccer, please contact Mary at topsoccer@soccerindiana.org.

Referee Development:

The Indiana State Referee Committee is directly connected to the US Soccer Federation and is responsible for educating, managing, assigning, and serving all referees that acquire and possess a current US Soccer referee badge. US Soccer and the Indiana State Referee Committee have agreed to work with US Soccer to develop, implement, and pilot a digital education and licensing platform for referees. The pilot is currently being made available in Indiana to any aspiring referee. The Indiana State Referee Committee has also developed a complementary referee "on-field" component available to any new referee that wants to enhance their digital learning with a referee coach to assist with on-field training. These developments are new and subject to change as the State Referee Committee continues working through the details with US Soccer.

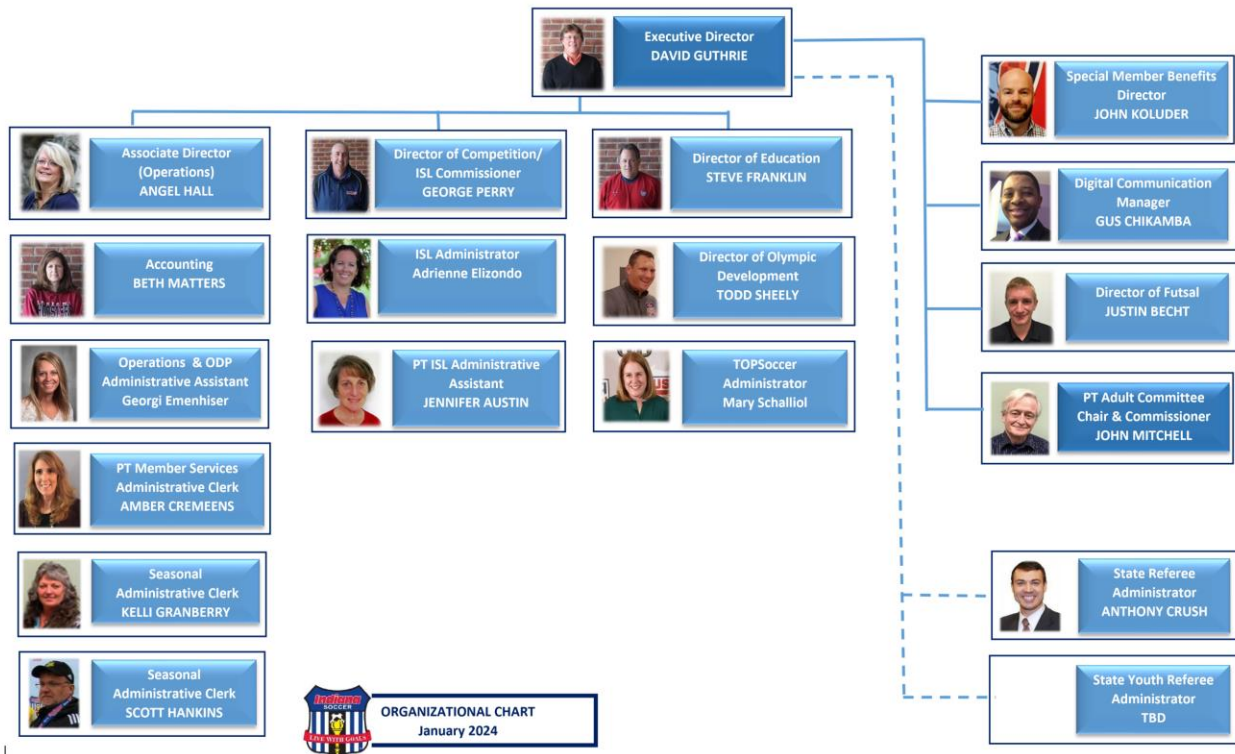
Indiana Soccer, to further support and supplement referee development, has developed a small-sided soccer course that licenses an individual to referee any small-sided, sanctioned game played in the state of Indiana. The Indiana Soccer's small-sided referee course teaches the laws of the game and additionally teaches the nuances of small-sided play. The course has a written/digital learning component and a valuable on-field portion. Indiana's small-sided license is an excellent segway into the US Soccer referee license. For those wanting to get their feet wet before jumping into the full US Soccer referee course, I invite you to reach out to George Perry george@soccerindiana.org or Steve Franklin steve@soccerindiana.org and sign up for one of their small-sided referee courses.

Indiana Soccer also offers a Guardian of the Game course. The Guardian of the Game course instructs adult club volunteers on how to assist the center referee when a licensed assistant referee is unavailable. Each travel team should have at least two adults that have become **Guardians of the Game**. The course is completely on-line, and you can access the course by clicking this link - [Club AR/Guardian Program - Indiana Soccer \(soccerindiana.org\)](https://www.soccerindiana.org/club-ar-guardian-program). You can

find additional information by contacting scott@soccerindiana.org or Steve Franklin at steve@soccerindiana.org

Indiana Soccer led the other 53 state associations in developing two animated videos to assist clubs in educating coaches and parents on proper side-line etiquette as it relates to referee, player, and spectator interaction. You are strongly urged to share these videos with all members of your clubs, especially your coaches, and spectators.

Your State Office Staff: I am proud of the team that is assembled and focused each day on serving the Indiana Soccer member clubs. Your staff invest countless hours and passion to ensure that each member receives the best service possible. Please know that they are ready and willing to serve your needs. Below is a current organization chart of your association:



Respectfully submitted by your Executive Director

Dave Guthrie