



COACHES CORNER

March 2008

Welcome to the monthly newsletter from the desk of John Curtis, MYSA Director of Coaching.

MINNESOTA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION HOME PAGE

www.mnyouthsoccer.org

In this issue:

- Quote of the Month from Starbucks
- ODP Registration: '91, '92 and '93 birth years only
- Minnesota Goalkeeping Challenge
- Grants and Scholarship Information
- Coaching Education: Coaching Schools
- Coaching Article: What is Best for Kids
- Coaching Education: Making a Lesson Plan
- Coaching Session: Teaching Games that Focus on Dribbling Technique
- Coaching Session: Making a Lesson Plan
- Coaching Session: Receiving and Turning

Quote of the Month

As seen on the side of a Starbucks cup:

Give me gender politics, party politics, small town politics... I'll take them all over the politics of youth sport.

State Select Minnesota US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program Registration

For boys & girls born in 1991, 1992 or 1993 ONLY: The 2008 State Select Minnesota US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program is open to all players; however, competition for selection is very tough. There will be two (2) identification sessions. Players are encouraged to attend both sessions if at all possible. At the conclusion of the process, approximately 24–30 players will be selected for each (birth year and gender) state pool for further training. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information about the program.

- www.mnyouthsoccer.org/preregistrationodp.cfm

Minnesota Goalkeeping Challenge: June 14-17, 2008

Who should attend? Goalkeepers who are....

- 14 years old and older including current college goalkeepers
- Highly committed and highly self-motivated to train as a goalkeeper and looking for a highly demanding training environment
- Preparing for US Youth Soccer Region II Championships, ODP Region Camp, Premier league play, college pre-season, and similar levels of play

For more information regarding the program and to register, please visit

www.mnyouthsoccer.org/whatsnew/gk_challenge.cfm

Grants and Scholarship Information

Soccer Equipment/Field Grants: The MYSA has designated funds for the purpose of assisting member clubs in purchasing appropriate sized goals for their U9–U19 teams. The program has been expanded to include funding for additional field development. These funds are made available to Affiliated Members in good standing through a grant application process. Items that will be considered for funding include goals of any size, nets, kickboards, field lining equipment, back netting for goals, field upgrading and fencing. Deadline to submit the application is March 7, 2008.

Mike Warter College Scholarship: This Scholarship is a lasting tribute to Mike Warter, a true pioneer for women's soccer in Minnesota. This fund will be a reminder to all, of Mike's commitment to the development of players by nurturing good play, good friendships, better facilities, proficient coaching and the happiest of times for all participants. Deadline to submit application is April 25, 2008.

- www.mnyouthsoccer.org/programs/grants_scholar.cfm

Coaching Education: MYSA State Coaching Schools

Click on the link below for an updated list of courses being offered in advance of the summer league season.

- <http://www.mnyouthsoccer.org/coaches/clinics.cfm>

Coaching Article: What is Best for Kids—Pelé, panel criticize select teams

A panel of coaches and former players, including soccer legend Pelé, delivered a stinging indictment of soccer programs that make extensive use of “select” soccer teams for kids under the age of 14.

- www.mnyouthsoccer.org/coaches/articles/select.pdf

Coaching Session: Teaching Games That Focus on Dribbling Technique

by Manny Sanchez, Wings Soccer Club, Director of Coaching

Click on the link below for a new addition to the coaching articles page on the MYSA website. This session will be centered on small-sided teaching games that will put the young players in an environment conducive to learning and at the same time having FUN playing the world’s greatest game. The presentation will focus on the proper technique required for dribbling using all the surfaces of the feet. This will be geared towards U8 and U9 players.

- www.mnyouthsoccer.org/coaches/articles/dribblinggames.pdf

Coaching Education: Making a Lesson Plan

Below are a couple of pages from the “D” license course about putting together a lesson plan. It is important to have a plan for your session in order to make the best use of the time you have with your players. There is also a sample lesson plan included.

- www.mnyouthsoccer.org/coaches/articles/lessonplan.pdf

Coaching Session: Receiving and Turning *by Carl Craig, Shattuck St. Mary’s*

The session below reinforces correct technique of receiving and turning through repetitive activities that progress in a 75-90 minute session. This would be appropriate for players U13 and older.

- www.mnyouthsoccer.org/coaches/articles/rx_turn2.pdf