



Assistant Technical Director Report TopSoccer Report Scott D J Craig

Year in Review

Growing the game of soccer and enriching the experience for players, coaches, parents and fans, remains the top priority for the NYSWYSA. The Recreational Mission is to provide support to the recreational players, coaches and parents with a goal to improve growth within the game to our NYSWYSA members.

Programming for clubs, coaches and players continues to be the primary target and focus for Scott and his staff. Due to continued growth and past successes, the need for grassroots / early stages of player and coach development increased this year, and therefore was offered to all clubs within the NYSWYSA footprint, and not just recreational programs. The biggest change came from customizing programs for every club, on a club to club bases. The travel clubs expressed a higher need and desire for us to evaluate coach's, through continued education, club programming and player development. A greater need for continued oversight, support and constant communication was required throughout the year. There has become a better communication and sharing of successes stories from club to club throughout this year.

We increased services to many clubs through player and coaching education programs. We continued with the free 101 series of education, the 102 series and free "custom club specific" youth development days. The Festivals that we host across our footprint continue to be of great value, and well supported by many member clubs.

TopSoccer programming continues to increase and expand across the six districts. Our goal is to have multiple programs in each district in the next few years, as need and demand increase.



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Coaching Education:

At the urging of US Soccer, the trend continues toward minimum coaching standards and mandatory licensing at national, regional and local levels. The push to have all coaches at least get their F license and have access to the digital coaching center and gain yearly access to many useful resource and tools is proving very useful to many coaches. There still however is a need and demand for personal contact and demonstration of how to effectively run coaching sessions and soccer activities. Our popular grass root coach development offerings (Coaching 100 Series) were initiated two years ago as part of our Recreation Initiative. In 2015/16, the free Coaching 101 Course continued to be the widest reaching course that we conduct. The informative icebreaker course, designed for coaches who are just starting out, gives candidates an improved sense of what a training session should look like (IE. structure) and sends them away with numerous samples of age appropriate training topics/exercises. This year we continued with the (Coaching 102 Series) and demand for these courses increased. The 102 courses are designed for coaches who are seeking specific topic outlines and concepts (IE Dribbling activities for multiple age groups) gives candidates an improved sense of how to adapt training session to cover a specific topic in many sessions for different age groups within the club.

We offered, through the direction of Chris Hershey, and staff:

- 3 D-License Courses (62 candidates)
- 9 E-License Courses (123 candidates)

F-License Courses (Increased due to mandated requirements and increased awareness of useful resource that the Digital Coaching Center offers)



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We offered, through the direction of Scott Craig and staff:

Coaching Events	Course/ Events	Clubs	Coaches	Teams	Players
101 Series	11	13	187	-	85
102 Series	6	6	65	-	115
Youth Development Day	9	39	1462	-	2154
Syracuse Silver Knights Festival	2	39	64	53	440
Rochester Rhinos Festival	1	28	60	35	525
New York Flash Pro Player Event	1	-	-	-	375

Recreation Soccer:

In 2015/16, the NYSWYSA’s Board of Directors named Tom Darpino the Director of Recreation Soccer. Tom is a welcome addition and steps into the shoes of former director Chris Pacilio.

The new mandates implemented by US Soccer had many clubs and coaches seeking reassurance and advice of how to best implement these changes that our going to be with us for the 2016/2017 season. This meant that I was beating a path to all comers of the NYSWYSA foot print throughout the year. Originally tasked nearly two years ago with making direct contact with our recreation community, I have become a popular resource for all our clubs, coaches, players and parents as I travels the state. NYSWYSA has roughly +/- 260 member clubs and I have been in contact via email or in person with all clubs throughout the state. The goal will continue to reach out to all our members and service them were and when needed.



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TopSoccer:

Once again NYSWYSA has some of the best TopSoccer programs in the county. Many concepts and ideas are being adapted by other programs across the country. The programs continue to grow and adapt according to the needs of the players in each area. The Syracuse program was started up this year with the help of Eric Bonier, and his staff have done a fantastic job. The staff in Olean continue to do a fantastic job and the success in the program is a direct reflection of their hard work and dedication. The program has been adopted by Olean Soccer Club and the demand and need for services continues to grow. This year we have started a second session, and a huge thank you to Good Times for all their support.

I am pleased to announce we have programs in:

Year Started	Location	Club / State	Region	# of Players	# of Volunteers
	Amherst (Club)	Amherst Soccer Club	Buffalo	75	85
	Lockport (State)	State Office	Buffalo	22	35
S 2015	Sahlens (Club)	New York Flash	Buffalo	115	125
S 2015	West Seneca (Club)	New York Flash	Buffalo	120	140
S 2015	Henrietta (State)	State Office	Rochester	16	20
New 2016	Canandaigua (State)	State Office	Rochester	15	25
New 2016	Syracuse (State)	State Office	Syracuse	18	45
S 2015	Binghamton (State)	State Office	Binghamton	16	25
S 2015	Olean (State)	State Office	Southern Tier	17	35
New	TBA	Twin Tiers	Twin Tiers	-	-
				414	535



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Reflection for the year:

The soccer climate continues to change, slowly with new and advanced technology, which is getting filtered down from US Soccer. We as a state continue to be ahead of the time with a lot of our programming that we offer and this is a direct reflection of the support that we get from the board, staff and member clubs. Looking forward to another great and exciting year ahead of us all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott D J Craig
NYSWYSA
Assistant Technical Director
TopSoccer Director