

New York State West Youth Soccer Association  
AGM TOPSoccer Report for 2006-2007  
Submitted by: Teresa Doermer

There have been a lot of new developments for TOPSoccer in NYSWest. Our existing programs are still going strong, new programs are starting and many Jamborees took place. Thank you to the many dedicated volunteers that continue to make this program grow. We are still looking for TOPSoccer programs to start up in Syracuse, Southern-Tier and Twin-Tier.

**TOPSoccer Happenings!**

The Binghamton TOPSoccer program, under the direction of Dennis Chavez, received a great response from the community. The Binghamton University women's team, local area youth players and one of BU's fraternity's provided many of the volunteers that continue to make Binghamton TOPSoccer a success. This year they received a monetary contribution from BAE Systems for the 2007 program. As the Binghamton TOPSoccer program finishes its 9<sup>th</sup> year; they are making special plans in 2008 to celebrate 10 years of TOPSoccer in the Binghamton area.

The Oswego TOPSoccer program, under the direction of John Kane, continues to host their program at the Richard J. Benjamin soccer complex in Oswego. There were many returning players that participated last year as well as many dedicated volunteers.

The Buffalo TOPSoccer program, under the direction of Teresa Doermer, finished their indoor session with 65 players and 45 volunteers. The indoor session was split into two groups so the more experienced players had the opportunity to get more touches on the ball and play more games. The beginner group enjoyed fun games and activities that coach, Scot Boniface, provided each week! The Buffalo TOPSoccer outdoor program ran for 6 weeks in the summer and there were 50 players and 40 volunteers. Both sessions ended with a game and each player receiving a trophy.



**Rochester TOPSoccer District**, Coordinated by Rob Dicenzo and Jim Legrett, held a TOPSoccer Jamboree in February at the ALL-STAR Sports Arena in Irondequiot. This event prompted an interest for an outdoor summer league which began at the Total Sports Experience (TSE) on Monday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. The Rochester TOPSoccer program, run by Rob and Linda DiCenzo, was very well received. Seventeen players registered from age 5 to 23. According to the parents, they really enjoyed the program and are looking forward to the winter program. The volunteers were very dedicated and the program wouldn't have been a success without them. Volunteers included players and coaches from many of the local clubs and current and past players on the Rhinos men's and women's teams. The Rochester TOPSoccer Program also received a \$5,000 donation from the Kids Annual Charity Fund Raiser for the Penfield Rangers Soccer Club in Rochester.



The players were very excited to be part of such a fun team and really started to get to know each other. Of course, the most excitement was on the last session when all players received a medal for participating.. Contact Rob DiCenzo for more information at

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**Niagara TOPSoccer District**, Coordinated by Erin Minderler, held a TOPSoccer Jamboree held on Saturday, April 28, 2007. The Kenan Center generously donated the facility for the event to take place and it was a great success. The players and volunteers were given special Jamboree T-shirts donated by SCORE and New York State West. This event was a preview to the upcoming Niagara TOPSoccer League took place on Thursday evenings starting June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Kenan Center. A successful turnout of 27 players and several volunteers enjoyed the six week session ending with an award ceremony and pizza party. Players and their families are looking forward to the indoor fall session at the Kenan Arena beginning Thursday September 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:30- 7:30. For more information email [eminderler@yahoo.com](mailto:eminderler@yahoo.com).



**Additional Jamboree's throughout NYWest:**

- The Amherst Soccer Club along with NYWest is hosted its first TOPSoccer Tournament Jamboree on Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 12:00 pm-1:30 pm during the AIM TOURNAMENT. This event was FREE and every player received Jamboree T-Shirt. Two local TV stations covered the TOPSoccer event.

- The Ithaca Jamboree ,under the direction of Maureen Dracup and Jill Cowan in partnership with the Franziska Racker Center will take place at The Field in Lansing on September 15, 2007.

### **TOPSoccer Grants and Donations**

New York State West would like to thank Bob Palmeiro, President of Region 1, for his generous donation of \$500 for the TOPSoccer Volunteer gifts/shirts. NYSWest feels very strongly that our volunteers need to be appreciated, as they are the backbone of our program. Without them, we could not continue to grow. New York West TOPSoccer has also been selected as one of the 2007 US Youth Soccer Grant recipients! New York West TOPSoccer has been awarded an Adidas equipment grant of \$1480.00. This equipment has been dedicated to the Niagara TOPSoccer District for the start up of their new program. Currently, grant applications have been submitted to the Ronald McDonald House Charities in Rochester and in Buffalo.

### **New TOPSoccer Coaching Education**

One thing that NYSWest feels very strongly about is the ability to educate and support the coaches and volunteers that participate in TOPSoccer. NYSWest has decided to develop a TOPSoccer coaching course, under the direction of Scot Boniface, that would be available to districts and clubs that would like to start a TOPSoccer program. Our Director of Coaching, Glen Buckley supports our efforts to provide coaching education to our TOPSoccer coaches and volunteers.

For more information regarding the NYSWYSA TOPSoccer programs, contact information, district happenings, pictures and a great video, please visit the website at [www.nyswysa.org](http://www.nyswysa.org), click on TOPSOCCER or contact Teresa Doermer at [TOPSoccer@nyswysa.org](mailto:TOPSoccer@nyswysa.org).