

Recreation All Star Games

U23 Women's Team Returns

College Scholarship Program

Open Tryout Registration



Ela Soccer Club Quarterly Newsletter



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Art Gora, Vice President Competitive Program

Roadmap to finding the right program

It's a beautiful Saturday afternoon after your child just finished their recreational soccer game, you get in the car and hear "We keep playing the same teams but my friend gets to play against other soccer clubs, can I do that?" Your child is seeking a new challenge! You as a parent have just entered the world of Competitive Travel Soccer, and believe me, finding the right program makes all the difference as to what experience your child will walk away with. The search for the right program must encompass the proper components that will deliver the age appropriate curriculum to enhance your child's soccer development. More importantly this curriculum needs to be administered by the best available professionally licensed and experienced trainers with a proven track record. The proper combination of technical, tactical, physical and psychosocial training is essential to properly develop that beloved athlete, your son or daughter. This is a mouthful; however where does that leave one who may not have a soccer playing or educational experience? What measuring criteria should you take into consideration when deciding on that next step for your son or daughter in their soccer developmental journey?

Here are some key components to consider in your search:

Program Philosophy Information is readily available however what one will easily find is statistics, such as team rankings based on league and tournament play. What is lacking is the analytical overview of what is behind the program. There are two very distinct approaches to what a Club stands for, and though the ultimate goal may be the same, the very process of how the club, team, and player get there are very different. Understanding the Clubs philosophy is a key component and on this topic U.S. Soccer Technical Director Claudio Reyna shared his view "Winning is important, you play to win, but the most important part in youth sport especially at the younger ages is to have coaches understand and focus on development and on teaching, and not the result of the weekend game. We love winning but development over winning is a very important message".

Gin Sharma, Ela Soccer Clubs DOC, really drove it home for me "A desire to win is good, but learning to win the right way is divine. The Club MUST keep the focus on the PROCESS and not just the end result. The ultimate goal is to reach a point where

each player is compelled to put out their best effort to reach the individual and team goals knowing that it is their teammates they answer to, and not the trainer. I want to help players to grow physically, technically and intellectually and learn to enjoy the wonderful game of soccer, sharing the Passion that I have for the game with all".



Program Curriculum Ask the program director to provide the clubs curriculum for the age group your child is in, and also look at least three age groups ahead to see how this curriculum changes year to year. Compare this to other programs, and you will see clear differences in approach. Pick the one that complements your child's ambitions best. Brian McBride the U.S. National Team Forward puts it best when discussing the key idea behind a sound curriculum "The whole idea is to get everyone on the same page and try to achieve the same goals rather than some groups trying to develop players this way, some trying to develop players that way or some groups trying to just win games".

"A desire to win is good, but learning to win the right way is divine"

Coaching Staff The next step would be to learn about the coaching staff that will work directly with your children. Coaches carry a certain level of license, however this is not the only measure to consider when looking at the coaches. It is necessary to understand the level of their experience with the game both as a player and as a coach. It is important to understand that the key quality of an effective coach lays in their ability to identify the specific areas of a player's game that need improvement, and then to have the necessary experience to teach the player how to improve those weaknesses. As a parent the relevant question here is to understand the coaching philosophy. Being a parent of two athletes I can attest that there is a significant difference between a coach who is truly able to identify a technical weakness and introduce a corrective series of drills to correct that weakness, than to just take the player through the motions. From the outside both seem to address the issue but the effect on your child's development is significantly different.

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upcoming >>>

Competitive Tryouts

Ela Soccer Club is looking for **players from all communities who are committed to train and compete** to the best of their ability. ESC Programs are designed to expose players of all ages to the right level of competition and training to meet their goals, and fulfill their athletic aspiration. Our coaches are established Professional trainers with many years experience.



Age Group	1 st Tryout	2 nd Tryout	Time	Location
U7/ U8 Academy Boys & Girls	Wed May 16	Thurs May 17	4:30-5:30pm	Knigge
U8 Boys & Girls	Mon June 4	Tue June 5	4:30-5:30pm	Knigge
U9 Boys & Girls	Mon June 4	Tue June 5	5:30-6:45pm	Knigge
U10 Boys & Girls	Mon June 4	Tue June 5	7:00-8:15pm	Knigge
U11 Boys	Thur May 31	Fri June 1	4:30-6:00pm	Knigge
U11 Girls	Thur May 31	Fri June 1	6:00-7:30pm	Knigge
U12 Boys	Thur May 31	Fri June 1	7:30-9:00pm	LZHS
U12 Girls	Thur May 31	Fri June 1	6:00-7:30pm	LZHS
U13 Boys	Tue May 29	Wed May 30	7:30-9:00pm	Knigge
U13 Girls	Tue May 29	Wed May 30	4:30-6:00pm	Knigge
U14 Boys	Tue May 29	Wed May 30	6:00-7:30pm	Knigge
U14 Girls	Tue May 29	Wed May 30	6:00-7:30pm	LZHS
U15/U16 Boys	Sun Jun 3	Mon Jun 4	7:00-8:30pm	LZHS
U15/U16 Girls	Thurs May 17	Sun May 20	7:00-8:30pm	LZHS
U17/U18 Boys	Tue May 29	Wed May 30	7:30-9:00pm	LZHS
U17/U18 Girls	Thurs May 17	Sun May 20	8:30-10:00pm	LZHS

All players must register for tryouts at www.elasoccer.com For tryout or program related questions contact *Gin Sharma, Director of Coaching.* gin.sharma@elasoccer.com

programs >>>

Recreational Soccer

Registration for the fall recreational league will open on June 1st. The fall season will start September 8th. More information will be posted on the recreation page of the website.

Summer Camps

Summer camp registration is now open! Summer camps are available during July and August. See the camps website page for the schedules for each of the following camps:

- Advanced Camp
- General Skills Camp
- Recreational Camp
- Finishing and GK Camp
- High School GK Camp

Junior Soccer Academy

Summer sessions will run Monday-Friday for children ages 3-6.

See the Junior Soccer Academy page for more information. Login to your family account to register. Classes will fill quickly!



FALL

Fall Recreational Soccer
Registration Opens
June 1st!

ela soccer gives back >>>



College Scholarship Program

Ela Soccer Club is now proud to introduce an annual scholarship to support our senior athletes. A \$1,000 College Scholarship will be awarded to one senior female and one senior male player. These seniors must currently be Ela Soccer players and plan on attending college in the fall.

The recipients will be selected based on demonstrated character, Ela Soccer Club involvement and a written essay. Applications are due June 3rd and recipients will be notified between June 15th and June 30th. Seniors wishing to apply can contact Jackie Marais for an application.



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Accomplishments

We are proud to announce our players currently committed to play in college this fall. We wish all of our seniors good luck.

Andrea Lamb—Trinity

Lauren MacNab—University of Indianapolis

Amanda Macuiba—Illinois Wesleyan

Alex Wilson—Concordia.

Maisie Cox—Illinois Wesleyan

Congratulations the following teams for their performance in recent tournaments.

Rockford Puma Cup

U15 Boys Elite—Champions

U12 Girls Red—Champions

U17 Boys Elite—Runners Up

U12 Boys Red—Runners Up

U10 Boys Red—Runners Up

U10 Boys Blue—Semi-Finalist

U10 Girls Red—Semi-Finalist

Schaumburg Nike Classic Cup

U14 Girls Elite—Champions

U15 Boys Elite—Champions

U17 Boys Blue—Champions

Congratulations to the following players who are participating in the Illinois Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program.

Riley Riggs, U13 Girls Elite

Angie Salvi, U13 Girls Elite

Mackenzie Connington, U14 Girls Elite

Lisa Harwardt, U14 Girls Elite

Casey Kirby, U14 Girls Elite

Rachel Kuehr, U14 Girls Elite

Shawn Chervets, U14 Boys Elite

Dylan Ruzbasan, U13 Boys Elite

Game update! Angela Salvi and Riley Riggs were selected to play for the Illinois ODP 1998 team against the 1998 Wisconsin ODP team at the University of Wisconsin Madison in Febru-

Puma Cup
Feet of Championship U12 Girl Red



ary. Illinois won 5-2. Riley Riggs had an assist and Angie Salvi scored two goals. Well played girls!

Visit our Accomplishments page for more team and player news. If you know of an achievement that we have not included, please e-mail esc@elasoccer.com

U23 Women's Team Returns



The summer of 2012 brings another 8 week season for Ela Soccer Club's U23 women's team. The defending Illinois U23 State Cup Champions will once again compete in the Illinois State Soccer Association's U23 League, as well as State Cup and the Regional Tournament of Champions. For the second year, Assistant Director of Coaching, Richard Drake will run the program. "Last year we put together a quality roster in a short amount of time," said Drake, "this year we look to get as many players to return as possible, as well as add some new players."

The Ela women's U23 program is designed to give current collegiate players, and players entering college in the fall to play soccer, a high level training environment throughout the summer. Drake, who is a former college coach himself says, "Often times collegiate players don't have a quali-

ty summer training program when they go back home. Since the college season is in the fall, it's important for those players to return for pre-season at a good fitness level, and in soccer-playing form as well."

The 2012 squad features Ela youth soccer alumni, as well as players new to the club who sought out the top quality training program for the summer. Returners for 2012 include Ela youth alum, Alex Nasca (Illinois Wesleyan) as well as Kate Arends (Indiana), Lizzie Sanscrainte (Illinois), Emily Shaw (Rhodes), Brooke Sill (Eastern Illinois), Alex Partipilo (Illinois Wesleyan) and Kelsey Armour (UW-Parkside). The team will begin training on June 10 and go through the end of July. The training and game schedule will be posted online sometime in early June. Come out to a home game and support the Ela u23 women!

Roadmap to finding the right program

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Level of Competition As a parent you simply want to make sure that the Club has the appropriate level that best compliments your child's level of commitment and what they want from the soccer experience. All competitive programs have open tryouts which will place the player in an appropriate level based on their skill.

Ela Soccer Club has teams that will meet their level of commitment and satisfy their soccer ambition. Beside the league play the club also partakes in appropriate tournaments and depending on the program they can be local tournaments or higher level out of state college showcase tournaments. Ela Soccer Club and its DOC along with the coaching staff constantly analyze the tournaments to find those that best describe and fit the qualifying criteria for the developmental stage of each team. The club also competes in the Midwest Regional League (MRL), and the State Cup Playoffs.

In closing, there are many books, courses, and articles written on the topic. It is important to do your research. There is no easy simple answer because your own set of priorities and qualifying criteria, as well as expectations of a competitive program are by nature unique. However after reading, speaking, and by having a child who went through a club experience I can conclude that there are very important criteria and a distinction between clubs approach to a player and again I refer to the key point Claudio Reyna makes "*We love winning but development over winning is a very important message*". I would like to add that when considering a program please make sure that the Club puts the athlete and their complete development as a player first. This will ultimately result in Winning, but not Winning at all cost, but rather Winning with the right objective "*the complete development of the athlete, your son or daughter*".

Art Gora, Vice President Competitive Program

All Star Games



New this season players in the recreation U7 to U11 age groups will be selected to participate in an All Star game on June 3rd. Coaches from each team in the participating age groups will select players to represent them in the All Star game. The

purpose of adding this to our recreation program is to provide our recreational players an opportunity to compete against players of equal ability in a competitive yet fun environment. Come out and support our Recreational All Star Players on June 3rd!

U7 Boys	9 am	Braemar
U7 Girls	9 am	Braemar
U8/9 Boys	10:45 am	Orchards
U8/9 Girls	12 pm	Orchards
U10/11 Boys	2 pm	A. Stefaniak
U10/11 Girls	3:30 pm	A. Stefaniak

thank you >>>

Rec Sponsors

Thank you to the following companies who generously sponsored our recreation teams this spring. Please show them your support!

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trainer spotlight >>>

Get to know your trainer...

Jose Fleita joined Ela Soccer back in 1998!

Here's what his players wanted to know:

Where are you from?

I'm from Saladas Corrientes Argentina.

How long have you lived in the USA ?

15 years.

What's your favorite restaurant?

Wildfire



Do you have any hobbies?

I play soccer and watch soccer on tv!

What's your favorite movie?

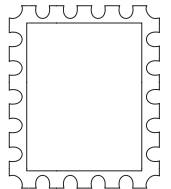
The Pursuit of Happyness

Do you have children/family?

Yes I do, I have a Wife Sharleen & 2 kids - Jordan who is 13 and Jenna who is 8.



325 Surryse Road
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New Look!

Ela Soccer Club is proud to unveil its new logo. "As Ela Soccer continues to expand and develop into one of the most dynamic full service soccer organizations in Illinois and the Midwest, this was the right time to change to one new, bold, unified, more recognizable logo," Doug Anderson, President