

# Kenmore Soccer News

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## Kenmore Soccer Plans Virtual Meat Raffle Fundraiser



Kenmore Soccer is planning to hold a virtual Meat Raffle in early March as a fundraiser to help offset the added costs we have incurred this season due to the impact of COVID-19.

While we assume many of you have attended a Meat Raffle in the past, COVID-19 will preclude the customary in-person event. Several other organizations have successfully transitioned to a virtual event, and while it may lack the socialization (what doesn't right now), it can still be fun.

Stay tuned for more information in the next few weeks. We currently expect the event to be held via Facebook Live on March 6th.

## Kenmore Spartans Double-Up on WNY Flash Teams



The 15 and Under Kenmore Spartans got off to a fast start for 2021 in the Super Series event at Sahlen's Sports Park. Facing two teams from the WNY Flash, the Spartans prevailed by scores of 2-1 and 2-0. Congratulations boys!

# Free Futsal underway on Saturdays

(see related article on page 4-5)



- Thanks to a grant from ESPN through the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, Kenmore Soccer was able to offer a free 12-week Futsal program on Saturday mornings during January-March.
- Based on COVID-19 concerns, our original hope of holding it in a school gymnasium could not be realized, but we were able to make arrangements to rent additional space at the Epic Center starting January 9th and ending on March 27th.
- We had 75 players ages 8-12 sign up to participate. Three "fields" were set up, so we could maximize the number of children playing and keep them engaged during two 75 minute sessions. One of the small-sided groups is pictured above.
- Our thanks to ESPN, the Ralph C. Wilson Foundation, and the Epic Center for making this possible. The grant's objective is to keep children engaged and active during the pandemic, with activities that are fun.

## Contacting Us

Web Site — [www.kenmoresoccer.com](http://www.kenmoresoccer.com)

E-Mail — [voght@msn.com](mailto:voght@msn.com)

Telephone — 716-837-1627

Mail — 57 Greenleaf Avenue, Tonawanda, New York 14150

Kenmore Soccer Celtic FC Camp Scheduled  
for July 19th-23rd

**On-Line Registration Opens February 1st**



With the anticipation that “normalcy” will return by this summer, Kenmore Soccer is planning once again to welcome the staff of the Celtic FC Academy in Glasgow, Scotland to serve as instructors for our Summer Camp. The high level and professionalism they bring is unsurpassed in our area.

Camp will operate during the week of July 19th-23rd. We will have a half-day camp from 9:00-Noon each day, and a full-day camp from 9:00am-3:30pm each day. Both will be held at Kenney Field. Players born from 2004-2013 are eligible to participate.

Registration will open on February 1st on-line through [www.kenmoresoccer.com](http://www.kenmoresoccer.com). When you log into your account you will click on the “new program available” icon, and then select the Celtic FC camp. Fully paid registrations submitted by April 1st will receive a discounted rate of \$170/camper for the full day camp and \$90 for the half-day session. Registrations after April 1st will be at \$185/camper for the full-day session and \$100 for the half-day camp. In the event that the Celtic FC staff is unable to travel here, our camp will still operate, using local staff at a reduced cost, and registrants will receive refunds of the difference as we did in 2020.

The Celtic FC camp is just one of the many benefits that Kenmore Soccer receives through our partnership with Celtic FC, the fourth largest soccer club in the world. Other benefits are team trips to their Academy in Scotland, their annual Elite Camp in Albany for higher-level players, access to their extensive coaching curriculum, and monthly Internet coaching sessions with their staff.

Sign up for the most outstanding soccer experience offered in this area. We look forward to another exciting summer camp.

## One of America's Leading Coaches Endorses Futsal as a Learning Tool

from soccertoday.com

Anson Dorrance may be an unfamiliar name for futsal, and for football fans outside of the U.S; however, he is one of America's most successful soccer coaches, and has one of the most successful coaching records in the history of athletics.

Under Dorrance's leadership, the University of North Carolina (UNC- The Tar Heels) have won 22 of the 39 National Women's Soccer Championships. The Tar Heels' record under Dorrance stood at 882-77-41 (.882 winning percentage) over 42 seasons at the end of the 2020 season. He has led his team to a 101-game unbeaten streak and coached 19 different women to a total of 26 National Player of the Year awards. The NCAA has recognized Dorrance as the Women's Soccer Coach of the Year six times (1982, 1986, 1997, 2000, 2003 and 2006) and as the Men's Soccer Coach of the Year in 1987. On March 10, 2008 Dorrance was elected to the National Soccer Hall of Fame.

At 69, Dorrance is still going, 44 years after he took charge of the UNC men's team and 42 after he helped to launch the women's. He coached the men alone for 3 years before switching to coaching both, which he did for 10 years. Since 1989 until the present, he has coached only the women. For context, the nearest to that record are Notre Dame and Stanford universities with three National Championships apiece. From 1986, he managed the US women's national team for eight years, including to their first World Cup win in 1991.

Dorrance is the brainchild of the winning mentality that sets apart the US women's national soccer team. He has fed players through his UNC program into every US world-beating side since. April Heinrichs, Shannon Higgins, Kristine Lilly and Mia Hamm, each national college player of the year twice during their time at UNC, are four of 19 UNC players to have been given that honor. The former Arsenal midfielder Heather O'Reilly, an assistant coach to Dorrance, and the former Chelsea full-back Crystal Dunn are two more recently similarly recognized while at UNC.

Staggeringly, one-third of the players who have won the World Cup with the US have been coached by Dorrance. Five of the 2019 squad were in that category (among them were Tobin Heath and Crystal Dunn). Lucy Bronze attended Dorrance's summer camps in her early teens, prompting the coach to encourage England scouts to watch her, and she also spent a semester at Chapel Hill, winning a National Championship. The Netherlands' World Cup final manager Sarina Weigman, another alumna of UNC, who back in the day, won a National Championship with Mia Hamm.

Finding a way to coach the competitiveness that drove him has been the key to his success. Talking with Futsal Focus, Anson said: "That, in my opinion, is the key platform in the success of the US women's national soccer team. If you're the Japanese you're better than we are technically, if you are the Germans you're better than we are tactically, if you are the French you have just as many athletes as we have, so what is it in the American nature that still permits us to be dynastic in a sport that is not even 'our' sport? Well, we're dynastic because of our mentality. Can you train mentality? "Absolutely. I've been training it every day of my coaching life and it's been an incredible weapon."

An example of Anson's winning mentality from 2018:

"If we go back to the mid 80's, early 90's, for something like 603 games in a row, we have either won, tied or lost by one goal". Dorrance says: "Even in years when our teams aren't very good, we have an extraordinary capacity to compete."

How? Because he builds his team to press and fight. "I wanted to design a system that I personally would hate to play against. And the kind of players I hate to play against are the ones that are in my face, challenging me on every 50-50 ball. And, Futsal has been a big part of this as well. For years, I have been using futsal to develop my players. We started playing it because it was fun; but then I realized how great a tool it is for developing players, and now, I cannot advocate enough for the sport. Players get more touches on the ball, they have to get used to being put under pressure and what to do under that pressure, it forces players to think quicker, to find space, to be confident on the ball and puts them in more one on one situations. It improves their technical skills, and tactical skills because soccer is starting to use a lot of futsal type systems to try and

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find ways through packed defenses and to navigate through defensive teams when put under pressure. Keeping the ball on the ground, finding space and players, passing the ball out of danger and not just kicking it up the pitch or out of play.”

“I could go on and on about how much I love this sport. However, futsal isn’t just a development tool for football, I know it is a sport in its own right and a sport that is growing in popularity around the world. For me, the opportunity in the States can start with the women’s game because since the rest of the world is working to catch up, this can be another weapon for our enormous population. Right now I am starting at a grass roots level, and my dream is to have futsal in every elementary, middle, high school, and YMCA in the country. I think we should eventually have a women’s professional futsal league during the off season of the current women’s pro league. The NWSL season runs from March to October, and during that off season, many players will go to other countries to play but many don’t. When they stay here, lets organize them into professional or semi-professional futsal leagues. It is a great opportunity for the clubs and the league to have another revenue stream plus it gives us the opportunity to gauge the American public’s interest in the sport because they will be watching talented young women, they are aware of already. This will also help to increase awareness of the game exponentially. During this period, we could also bring players from abroad who play futsal to be included in the league, so the other players get a balance of what it takes to play futsal against seasoned players. What you might find is that futsal becomes so popular that we find pools of players who just want to play futsal and therefore, we expand the league from the off season eventually to its own season. Futsal is professional in many countries around the world and I think America should be embracing this game, we are suited to it due to our indoor culture, and the abundance of suitable indoor and outdoor courts that we have. It makes absolute sense to me that we would adapt to the sport.”

“At the youth level, futsal being a part of the Youth Olympics now is also another fantastic opportunity and one that should not be missed by our Olympic Committee. I have certainly watched highlights of the last Youth Olympics futsal tournament in Argentina and it was incredible. I look forward to the next Youth Olympics to watch more, and I especially look forward to seeing futsal at the senior Olympics when it is introduced, and who knows maybe America will be a part of both. I was certainly disappointed to see that we were not a part of the last Youth Olympics.”

“Eventually, I hope to see futsal played at every University, College, High School and Junior High School across the country, and it is a development I will work hard to assist in the United States. We have the infrastructure for the sport already, this is something that Keith Tozer (the former U.S National futsal team head coach, technical director at US Youth Futsal, and commissioner of the Professional Futsal League), and I were discussing at the last U.S Soccer Coaches Convention. Right now, my priority is to do what I can in my home state of North Carolina and that promotion has already started. But, I also plan to approach both the women’s league and the US Olympic Committee about the sport, and let’s see what happens.”

### *Trivia Question*

(answer on page 9)

What year was the United States Women’s National Team established?

# How to Deal with Difficult Soccer Coaches

by Anisa Guajardo

If you were to talk to any professional soccer player, I'm sure they would have a story of at least one unfavorable soccer coach they've had in their career. Dig deeper into the story, and you'll likely learn how the player responded in that moment. Some accounts would be positive responses to a difficult situation, while others might be hard-learned, not-so-positive responses. The fact is, we will all encounter difficult coaches in our careers and there is simply no way to avoid it. Despite the unpleasantness, learning to respond favorably to difficult people and situations will help make the season bearable, all the while ensuring maximum personal growth and happiness.

## **When You're the Only One Who Dislikes Your Coach**

Ever ask yourself why it is you have a severe distaste for your soccer coach, but your teammates seem indifferent to them? Perhaps it's because this particular coach is here to challenge YOU. Perhaps they're here to teach YOU something that needs addressing within yourself.

The bossy coach. The loud coach. The over-critical coach. The close-minded coach. What does your attitude towards this particular coach say about you? If you're like me, you don't like to be bossed around by the boss because you prefer to be in control. You better believe MY unpleasant coach experience taught me to check my ego and loosen my grip on my need for control. And thank goodness for that, because I'm way better off now that I'm not wasting so much energy trying to control everything around me. My advice is to do some self-reflection. What can your situation teach you? And how can you apply that to your life today in order to make your team experience more enjoyable?

## **When Your Whole Team Dislikes Your Coach**

Sometimes, there are soccer coaches who are unanimously disliked by the whole squad. What do you do then? First, you have to remember that THEY are the coach; THEY are the ones in charge. If you choose to act like a professional, you will treat their position with respect, even though you might not respect the person in that position. Dealing with this type of coach taught me one of life's most important lessons: how to get along with people you just don't like. Once I started using these experiences in soccer as practice for real life, I began feeling grateful for difficult coaches instead of feeling anger and frustration towards them.

## **When Your Coach Doesn't Like You**

Sadly, there will also be coaches that simply do not like you. They may not play you because they get irritated when you pull your long sleeves over your hands (true story) or because you "run like a girl" (another true story). If you feel this is happening to you, remember, this says more about them than it does about you. Put in your best effort and do what is asked of you so you have nothing to regret. Coaches don't have to have a reason to dislike you or not play you, and it's not your job to figure out what's going on in your coach's head. Your job is to do your best, learn as much as you can, and improve as much as you can so when the time comes to find another team, you can leave feeling guilt-free.

A lot of times, and without knowing it, coaches teach us more about life than about soccer. They teach us how to handle complicated people and how to show respect even when we believe it isn't deserved. The longer you stay in the game, the more likely you are to come across a coach you just don't click with. But before you frustratedly throw in the towel, remember, these coaches are here to show you how you can grow as a person. It may take you a few disagreeable coaches to figure it out, but the most important thing you can do is stay alert to what feelings arise within you when dealing with a difficult coach, and use that self-awareness to grow as a person. I can assure you, the soccer part gets a whole lot easier afterwards.

## Reminders

- ⇒ If you need to be fitted for a Macron uniform kit, please e-mail Ken Voght at [voght@msn.com](mailto:voght@msn.com). If you have been fitted, but have not placed your order as of yet, use the e-mail link that was issued following player fittings. Everything is done on-line, and shipping is direct to you.
- ⇒ Follow the on-line team schedules for training, but remember that your coach may make late changes that may not be reflected in the on-line schedule.
- ⇒ If the weather causes the Epic Center to close, we will issue an e-mail alert. However, history tells us that they rarely close.
- ⇒ Although we pay significant rent for use of the Epic Center, we are still guests and must follow all of their current COVID-19 protocols. We appreciate the cooperation of all of our players and parents to date.
- ⇒ We offer Open Futsal, Academy, and Advanced Academy programs, which are at no additional cost to our travel players. We encourage you to take advantage of these added opportunities. Schedules are linked through the Teams and Schedules page of the club web site.

## Goalkeepers Wanted.....Specialized Training Continues

Kenmore Soccer is looking for individuals who are current goalkeepers looking for a change, or for players interested in becoming a goalkeeper. We offer specialized training and playing opportunities, and all you need is a desire to play the position and a willingness to work hard (and a set of gloves!).

Our Goalkeeping Academy is held every Saturday from 7:00-8:00pm on Field 2 at the Epic Center, with our Goalkeeping Coach Giovanni Cambareri. There is no added cost for these sessions, or for any of our Academy sessions for players.

We have spots in many age groups, so if you are interested, or know someone who may be interested, please let us know - e-mail at [voght@msn.com](mailto:voght@msn.com), or telephone Operations Manager Ken Voght at 837-1627.

## Kenmore Soccer is in the Social Media World

Kenmore Soccer has joined the social media experience by creating sites within Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Links to the all of the platforms are on the left hand side of our web site landing page.

Teams (or parents for that matter), can post information on these sites by following these instructions:

### Instagram:

If someone posts a picture to their account and wants to tag Kenmore Soccer or include us in a comment, tag our account by using @kenmoresoccerclub

### Twitter:

Anyone can tweet to the Kenmore Soccer page or include us in a post by tagging us using @KenmoreSoccer

### Facebook:

Anyone can post to the wall on the Kenmore page, write a comment on posts, or post a picture/video to the page.

If someone wants to tag Kenmore Soccer Club in a post or picture, they need to type @kenmoresoccerclub

All other photos/videos can be sent to [kenmoresoccerclub@gmail.com](mailto:kenmoresoccerclub@gmail.com).

We have a number of followers on these sites, and you might notice that it includes Celtic FC who has posted information. There are also photos from the Buffalo State Futsal Tournaments, featuring a number of our Kenmore Soccer teams. Most importantly, we have uploaded video of several individual training sessions.

Join in by following Kenmore Soccer, and by submitting information to post and share with the world!

## Submissions Anyone ??????????????

We want this to be your newsletter. We also want you to be a part of the Club web site. So, we are looking for your ongoing input—articles, pictures, match highlights, team and player recognition, etc. Each team should consider having a designee that can channel information to the Club for inclusion in the newsletter or web site.

Send your submissions to us at [doc@kenmoresoccer.com](mailto:doc@kenmoresoccer.com). Pictures are welcome, but should be in a jpg or gif format.

## Answer to Trivia Question

(from page 5)

The USWNT was established in 1985, and the team played its first match at the Mundialito tournament on August 18, 1985, in which they lost 1–0 to Italy.



2375 Elmwood Avenue  
in Kenmore

## Fund Raising

The Kenmore Soccer Club is registered to conduct fund-raising, as is required by law, but each activity needs to be approved by our Board of Directors.

If your team wants to conduct any fund-raising, just e-mail us at [doc@kenmoresoccer.com](mailto:doc@kenmoresoccer.com) with the details of what you propose, and the eventual use of the funds raised. We will get back to you promptly.