

NJ Youth SoccerBoard of Directors – **Questions for the Candidate**
Annual General Meeting

Candidate: Christian Bastardi

Club: Howell United Soccer Club

A) Why do you wish to become a member of the NJYS Board of Directors?

I am excited at the prospect of NJYS allowing club members to sit as members at large on the NJYS Board of Directors. I wish to join so that you can hear directly from the clubs to get the perspective from what we deal with or see as challenging on a day to day basis. By both sharing our perspective and also getting a deeper understanding of why some decisions are made I think will be beneficial for NJYS and the clubs. Also with understanding some of the challenges that NJYS faces, we are hoping the clubs perspectives can maybe come up with new ways of facing those challenges.

B) What is your relevant experience (e.g. experience with youth soccer, non-profit, other Board positions held)?

3 seasons as rec coach of Howell Soccer Club
4 seasons as rec coach of Pinelanders Soccer Club
3.5 yrs as a head coach of Howell United Soccer Club
2 years as Travel Representative for Howell Soccer Club

Non-Soccer experience: Board member from 2011-2018 for Green Hill Nursing Home in West Orange, NJ

C) What is your vision for soccer in New Jersey during the next three years?

I am a big fan of play-practice-play and it is so easy to lose site of those principals when having to deal with parents and trying to have to win games at travel level. I would really like to push those principals as a core of training in New Jersey. I also think it would be great to offer something more than rec does and less pressure than travel that pushes the play-practice-play guidelines. With the help of Howell Soccer Club we were starting a program this spring to do just that but it got delayed with the state shutdown.

D) What is your perception of New Jersey Youth Soccer?

When I first started coaching NJYS seemed more like an unapproachable governing entity. However, in the last year there seems to be more transparency in decisions and request for input. I think the road shows have been great and I like the direction NJYS seems to be heading in which is why I am excited for the opportunity to join and help out.