



Anthony Wayne United Soccer Club

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August 2009 Newsletter

Parents,

I hope all has gone well for your family this summer. The time has certainly flown by for me. We just finished our summer camp in cooperation with Major League Soccer to high praise. I thought the camp went well and the players seemed to have a blast. I would be interested in any feedback from those who attended.

The fall season will now begin in full swing. We have had a few changes taking place this summer. We hired Esther Robbins to oversee our U8 Academy and Adult League programs. She has done excellent work so far and is a welcome addition. We also had hired Candice Fabry to be our Director of Coaching, but she ultimately had to resign as she moved to Iowa with her husband. We are currently exploring the options to see what is in the best interest of the club. Regardless of the outcome, we are committed to doing a better job of monitoring and providing support/feedback to all our coaches, paid and volunteer. To this end, we have created a coaching manual that all our coaches now have. It outlines what is expected of them and how our players should be developing accordingly. As always keep the lines of communication open and let us know of any concerns you may have directly.

For the second year in a row, I have created a fantasy soccer league through ESPN. It is a great chance for players to learn more about the game and culture just by selecting players and watching the beautiful game. All you have to do is go to the following website: <http://premierfantasy.soccernet.espn.go.com/app/start.jsp>. You can then select players to fit your budget, choose formations, etc. The season begins on August 15 so get your team together now! Once you have created one, join the mini-league: AW United, password: soccer. I am amazed by how many players do not follow professional soccer as it gives you another chance to learn about the game.

Along with the fantasy soccer, I would highly encourage our players to be watching as much soccer as possible. My two essential channels are ESPN and Fox Soccer Channel. ESPN has bought the rights to show Saturday morning and Monday afternoon British Premier League games (Arsenal, Manchester United, Liverpool, Chelsea, etc.) and is planning to air them on ESPN 2. Fox Soccer has rights to BPL games, along with Serie A (Italian League) and the Champions League. The Champions League is the tournament involving the best club teams in Europe and has multiple stages. It was shown on ESPN in the past but will now be shown on FSC and regional Fox stations like FSN.

Thanks for the start of another great season,

Brian Billings

AW United: Director of Player Development

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