



President's Message

Today, I write a letter of thanks to our past president, Ricci DeRosa. For over a decade Ricci has parented, coached, been elected to the BYSA Board of Directors, and ultimately elected president in October of 2013 where he oversaw BYSA through the 2020 Fall season. During those years, BYSA grew in player participation, parent volunteerism, and the advancement of the program in Billerica and throughout the Middlesex League. We are thankful for his dedication to soccer and athletics within Billerica and for his immeasurable hours spent teaching our children the proper principles and morals of team soccer. Most importantly, we thank Ricci for instilling, in our children, a sense of pride in playing the game of soccer as a Billerica resident.

During a particularly challenging and trying year of 2019 and 2020, Ricci led and directed Billerica Soccer through the turmoil that the pandemic presented. Despite pandemic-forced closures and surrounding towns withdrawals, Ricci worked with and guided the BYSA Board tirelessly to ensure that we could provide a safe and competitive program for our children.

Like many of our volunteers and eventual board members, Ricci first began as a coach for his daughters Sherie, Hailey and Rylie to impart his past playing days and expertise on today's generation. From the early days of coaching, he rose to president of BYSA and help create one of the largest and most outstanding programs in the Middlesex League.

Ricci insisted on maximum effort from all those around him whether it be teammates, players, or board members because he himself insisted on providing nothing but the best effort from himself. His love and affection for the game of soccer and his desire to teach the game permeated throughout the system and was echoed repeatedly in his line of "nothing but the best for our kids". Ricci grew the BYSA program to great heights and record participation.

Now I have the honor but difficult job of following Ricci as president of BYSA. His leadership and dedication will be sorely missed but we thank him for all he has accomplished for Billerica's youth.

We now return to soccer in the "The New Normal". Change is what will drive this spring soccer season. We CHANGED back to normal soccer rules, but a change from the normal is that we all must wear a mask. We all adjusted to social distancing, and we all know how difficult that is with soccer, yet we adjusted to that change. We do this for the Kids and we as volunteers will do our part to make it a great experience. Please do your part to help keep these kids on the soccer field.

- Felix Trinidad, BYSA President

BYSA

sidelines

April 2021 Newsletter



Instructional

BYSA is pleased to announce the continuation of our training partnership with the New England Revs focused on the development of our youngest players to help foster and build strong skills in this earliest phase of development. This is a dream come true. I hope everyone enjoys this soccer season and I welcome all and any feedback.

- **Cathy Giordano, Instructional Director**

Intramural

We are excited to get our intramural teams back on the fields and are hopeful by next fall we will have the participation we need to offer more opportunities.

As of today we have:

- 120 U8 Boys and Girls are starting practice this week at Akesson
- 44 U11 players will be practicing and playing games at the Dutile, where we have new nets in all the goals
- Thank you to all of the new coaches for volunteering to lead a team!

- **Tristan Brawn, Intramural Director**

Board News

We are looking for a Referee Director, this is a Board Position. If you are interested please contact:

Cathy Giordano at t5255c@msn.com

COVID-19 Update

Billerica Youth Soccer will follow the COVID-19 guidelines set forth by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the town of Billerica, and our governing body Mass Youth Soccer to ensure that we are prioritizing the health of our community and above all else to ensure a successful spring season.

The State of Massachusetts is currently in Phase 4 Step 1 which allows us to kick off the season. We ask that parents and players review Mass Youth Soccer guidelines for Return to Play here - [Return to Soccer Activities Guidelines](#).

Key items include:

- Face masks must be worn by all players, coaches, and spectators at all times. If you cannot or do not want to wear a mask please stay home.
- Spectators must reside in the designated Spectator areas.
- Spectators must socially distance (6 feet) from other non-family members.
- Parents still need to follow the guidelines outlined by Mass Youth (see page 16 of the link above).
 - Take temperature - must be below 100.4
 - If your child has any symptoms (even mild) do not send them to practice/game, stay home, and isolate until:
 - Has had no fever for 72 hours (without medicine), and other symptoms (cough, shortness of breath) have improved and at least 7 days have passed from any symptoms
 - Notify BYSA immediately if your child has become sick at covid@billericasoccer.org
 - Notify BYSA immediate if your child has been identified as a close contact by school or public health authority
- Please log into TeamSnap the day of any soccer event your player is participating in (including practices or games) to confirm availability and fill out the Health Check.

Strict adherence to these guidelines are paramount to success in our quest to keep our kids on the field.

- BYSA Board



We need Referees!

We are looking for referees. If you are interested in being certified please read all about it at www.massref.net. If you have questions reach me at felixt@billericasoccer.org

We need in town referees for our U8-U11 games. If you are 13 or older and want to learn if you have what it takes to be a ref, this is your chance. Contact Felix at felixt@billericasoccer.org with any questions.

Player & Coaching Development

Travel

For the Spring 2021, BYSA has successfully implemented a more efficient and streamlined process on how to best evaluate players as well as player consideration for travel team placement. As mentioned back in February, BYSA is using several data-points collected throughout the season as well as tryouts to build rosters with validation from both the Tryout and Coaching Committees.

In the fall and winter tryouts BYSA also formed partnerships with NEFC as well as the town of Wilmington, and High School coaching staff to provide support and objective insight during the tryout process. We look forward to expand these relationships in the future.

Training Opportunities

BYSA has provided several training opportunities with great participation including Summer & Winter Clinics as well as Goalie and Speed & Agility training. Stay tuned for more of these throughout the year!

- **Bob Wamness, Player Development Director**

- **Bob Kinsella, Coaching Development Director**

Soccer Spotlight

Congrats to our Fall In Town Champions!



Girls U8

Coach Kelly Hobart
Alessia Catherwood
Audree Graham
Avery Egan
Brynn DeYoung
Elle Diggins
Hannah Hobart
Lyla Marino
Sofia Andenmatten

Boys U8

Coach Mike Mahoney
Coach Heather Mahoney
Benjamin Swieck
Jason Barrila
Justin Hernon
Kenny Umeibe
Liam Digiose
Riyan Naidu
Sean Mahoney

Girls U10

Coach Keith LeBlanc
Abigail Greene
Tabitha LeBlanc
Kinley Leonard
Eibhlin Mahoney
Ava Noyes
Eden Swint
Evelyn Wesling

Boys U10

Coach Bob Wamness
Coach Rob Catherwood
Richard Sederman
Carter Hall
Jaden Peters
James Bardsley
Joe Vaglica
Bobby Wamness
Chase Wamness
Lucas Catherwood
Sean O'Connor

Girls U12

Coach Nikki Fitzgerald
Coach Dwayne Eidsens
Coach Mark Nunan
Kiley Nunan
Isadora Dame
Chloe Eidsens
Bridget Finn
Madelynn LaRosa
Gianna McGowan
Isabella Silva

Girls U14

Coach Ron Diorio
Coach Mark Patti
Catherine Patti
Ana Torres-Martinez
Sofia Torres-Martinez
Olivia Coyne
Ally Spolidoro
Madison Bruno
Keelin Foye
Maria Cafaro
Minick Cooper

Boys U12

Coach Tim Quin
Coach Anthony Pastore
Christian Pastore
Andrew Quin
Ryan Quin
Jack Jones
Lucas Berube
Bobby Boudros
Ryan Legaski
Asher Swift
Nate Vidal

Boys U14

Coach Bob Kinsella
Coach David Palmerino
Nicolas Palmerino
Harry Kinsella
Riley Donovan
Connor Gale
Ethan McDermott
Leo Centinaro
Matt O'Brien
Owen Benson



Thank You to Our Sponsors!

BYSA would like to extend our sincere gratitude to key sponsors who have supported us over the last year. There are many expenses when running a league of this magnitude. We try our best to keep costs down and rely on donations from our Sponsors and fundraising activities. Stay tuned for more information on Sponsorships opportunities and Fundraising events! If interested please reach out Mike Kennedy, Fundraising Director at mikek@billericasoccer.org.



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Winter Indoor at Tyngsboro Sports Center
End of Season U14 Billerica Friendly Match

