



SOCCER SHORTS • VOLUME 11 / ISSUE #1 • JANUARY / FEBRUARY, 2018

A bi-monthly publication of the Kamloops Youth Soccer Association

## First 'C Licence' Coaching Course to be held in Kamloops!



PHOTO: ANDREW SNUCINS PHOTOGRAPHY

The participants in a recent C License course were, back row (L to R): Kevin Phillips (Physio), Austin Pietramala, Ben Spendlove, Garret Whitworth, Jeff Ingwersen, Tristan Smith, Gondor Monn-Djasngar, Dante Zanatta (BC Soccer Facilitator). Middle Row (L to R): Rob Csabai (BC Soccer Facilitator), Monono Mo Monono, Maxwell Branyik, Nevada Woods, Taylor Shantz, Steven Gubbels, Ciaran McMahon (BC Soccer Facilitator). Front Row (L to R): Logan Ellis, Drew Dreger, Sarin Warman, Terri Hansen, Tristan Gough, Dave Ramunno, Anthony Cristante.

The KYSA and Kelowna United jointly staged a 'C License' Coaching Course over the weekends of January 21/22 and February 3/4. Eighteen coaches took the course (of which ten reside and coach in Kamloops).

KYSA Technical Director Ciaran McMahon, Kelowna United Technical Director Dante Zanatta and Rob Csabai, BC Soccer's Manager of Coaching Development, conducted the course.

The first half of the four-day course was held in Kamloops and the second half in Kelowna.

As has become the custom, the KYSA financially subsidized the registration fee for the currently active KYSA coaches who were on the course.

Please check the list of the remaining BC Soccer Coaching Courses planned for Kamloops in 2018 on Page 2!

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## From the desk of Technical Director, Ciaran McMahon...



Seven Keys To A Successful Soccer Season!

Over the past couple of weekends, I have been facilitating a CSA C-License course, a 40-hour pass / fail coach certification course that saw eight-

teen individuals from across the province (ten of them from Kamloops) take part. I took the C-License back in 1999 and can still remember how excited I was to absorb as much information as I could from the instructors and my fellow classmates. As a keen young coach, I was always reminded that the game is the teacher. Keep things simple and let the players enjoy the game. These were themes that were repeated to me at every higher level course I took all the way to my A license. Below are seven keys to a successful soccer season—an article I wrote a few years ago that provides a great checklist for coaches to follow for every session they run. Of the seven "keys" listed, how many do you check-off in every session?

**1. Be Prepared**  
Have a plan. What activities are you going to run? How will you move from one activity to the next? What if half the team doesn't show up? What if someone gets injured? If something catches you off guard, plan for it next time.

**2. Be Organized**  
You have your plan, how will you introduce and implement it? How will you transition from one activity to the next? Can the players make sense of all those cones on the ground? Do you have enough soccer balls or cones or pinnies? How will you change an activity if it is too hard/easy?

**3. Be Patient**  
Supportive parents/coaches understand that skill and athletic development takes time. Lots of time. Years of time. Decades of time. Some players catch on early, others later. Every player will improve, eventually. They will enjoy the experience more fully if they feel they achieved it under their own steam.

**4. Relax**  
Wins, losses and mistakes are not the end of the world... Relax. Mistakes will happen, this is good. Mistakes teach us to improve and gift us with the benefit of experience. They are made by everyone, all the time, at every level of the game. And those who made them already know they did it so relax.

**5. Respect**  
Everyone is here of their own free will to coach, play, officiate and support. We are all doing our best and everyone deserves your respect ALL-THE -TIME.

**6. Ask... don't tell**  
Far too often we tell the players what to do and how to do it. Engage your players in a deeper level of thought. Ask them how they might do something differently or how they might be able to hit the ball harder or higher or which pass would get them closer to the net. If you make decisions for them they will never be able to see the game for themselves.

**7. Less is More**  
A good coach (or parent) lets the players play. A positive coach gets out of the way and allows the players to experience the game through success and failure for themselves. A confident coach allows players the time to self correct so that they may achieve a positive outcome on their own. A knowledgeable coach knows that they only need to step in when this process gets stuck. A great coach then gives that player a gentle nudge to set them off in the right direction again.

The office and technical staff are looking forward to another great season of working with the dedicated coaches we have at the KYSA!





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**Office Hours**

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

KYSA is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to offering youth in Kamloops a positive, fun soccer environment at the recreational and competitive levels, with coaches who are dedicated to the players and their development, while at the same time promoting sportsmanship and fellowship amongst all its members.

# From the desk of Executive Director, Keith Liddiard...



Please note the following changes to the KYSA calendar in 2018: There will be an "Ice Breaker" Tournament for the U4 to U12 teams on the opening weekend of the 2018 season, April 21/22. The **Errol Wild** Active Start Mini-Soccer Festival (also for U4 to U12 teams) is being moved to, June 16/17. The **Mike Bartram** Youth Soccer Tournament (for U13 to U18 house teams) will be held on the usual weekend, May 5/6, while the House League Playoffs (also for U13 to U18 house teams) are scheduled for the June 23/24 weekend.

The 2018 Thompson-Okanagan Youth Soccer League Playoffs are scheduled for June 15-17 in Penticton. The league is for district select teams. The Provincial A Cup for boys and girls is set to take place in Richmond, the **Les Sinnott** Provincial B Cup for Boys is slated for Burnaby and the Provincial B Cup for Girls will be held in our own backyard at McArthur Island. Provincial Cup competitions are open to select teams in the U13 to U18 age groups and are being held July 5-8, 2018.

The Thompson Rivers University WolfPack have their new Athletics and Recreation Director. **Curtis Atkinson** has been chosen to fill the position vacated by **Ken Olynyk** when he retired in December. Atkinson becomes the second Athletics and Recreation Director since the program became the WolfPack in 2006. The 40 year-old



Curtis Atkinson

Atkinson was most recently the Associate Director of Sport for the Canada West Universities Athletic Association. He was one of over 25 applicants for the position when the search for a replacement for Olynyk began in late October. Educationally, Atkinson has a Bachelor of General Studies from Brandon University (2001), Bachelor of Human Kinetics from the University of British Columbia (2004) and a Master of Science in Kinesiology and Health Studies from the University of Regina (2015). He is a graduate of LV Rogers Secondary School in Nelson, BC—a place where Atkinson spent most of his formative years after being born in Kamloops. Atkinson has an extensive resume as a volunteer including being a coach in the Kamloops Minor Hockey Association. He started his new job January 15th!

Coaches who are planning on taking part in a coaching course this year, please note that registration for the following courses is now open:

- March 3/4 – Learning to Train
- March 10/11 – Soccer for Life
- April 18 – Active Start
- April 20/21 – FUNdamentals
- April 27 – Grassroots Goalkeeping

Please visit [coachcentre.ca](http://coachcentre.ca) to enroll in the course you are wishing to attend. There is no cost to any active KYSA coach to take any BC Soccer Coaching Course. Please keep in mind head coaches of all KYSA teams must have the appropriate level coaching certification in the 2018 season. Visit [www.kysa.net](http://www.kysa.net) for more details.

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