

Welcome to the inaugural posting on Coach's Corner. I am looking forward to sharing and interacting with parents, coaches and players every 3-4 weeks on something that relates to the world of youth soccer. This could be ideas for coaches or players related to the game of soccer itself or it could be a note to parents trying to navigate this often-crazy world of youth sports.

One of my desires for this "Corner", besides being an information resource, is for it to be a place you can ask your questions as well. What are some things you would like to see addressed as it relates to the game of soccer or youth soccer in particular? It is not a place that I will entertain "gripes" you might have about the club or your child's coach.

What I hope to do is impart some of the things I have learned along the way in over 30 years of coaching soccer at various levels from U8 to the collegiate ranks. Things I have experienced in my journey of being a parent of three children who have been involved in not only soccer but other youth sports as well. Trust me when I say I don't have all the answers but I do have experiences and a little knowledge of this wonderful game and I look forward to sharing them with you.

I thought the best place to begin would be to share some pieces of my journey as a player/coach and parent that got me to where I am now in this game and this community. Some of you may know me as the Women's Soccer Coach at Messiah College but I am not sure many of you know I started my coaching career with DASC.

I grew up about 4 miles south of Franklinton and attended Kralltown Elementary in the Dover school district. Back in the late 1970's Dover was one of the few schools in York County that had high school soccer. My connection with Dillsburg began with my involvement in Dillsburg Little League program at the age of 9. My father, Warren Frey, who taught at Wellsville Elementary and Northern Middle School for many years was my coach and gave me the desire I had to become a coach. I then attended Messiah College and studied to be a Physical Education teacher with the single purpose to be a high school coach.

I began my coaching career as a part of DASC. I was an assistant coach to the U14 team in the first year of the program over 30 years ago. A few years later I coached DASC's first U18 boys team while at the same time becoming the head coach at Spring Grove high school. In 1987 I took the opportunity to come back to Messiah as the junior varsity coach for the men's program. Five years later I headed to Alma College in Michigan as the head men's soccer coach and stayed there until 1999. In 2000 I returned to Messiah with the opportunity to now coach on the women's side and have been in this role ever since.

I am excited to be a part of the vision and direction the current DASC board is moving. We share a common desire to provide each child who wants to play the game of soccer a positive and rewarding experience. To realize the most important individuals in the program are the players and their families. The purpose of the club is not to win league championships, though we always strive to be the best we can be. The purpose of the club is to make sure each child has a knowledgeable and capable coach. The club's commission is to provide the best possible trainers/coaches it can for their players and to support their coaches with training and learning opportunities as well. A club is only as strong as it's coaching staff. When I talk with parents about what they should do for their child in their development as a soccer player I always give them the same response...Go with the best coach and don't worry about what division they are playing or the name of the club...get the best coach.

Providing the best coach possible to each team is one of the highest priorities now for the DASC

leadership. I am looking forward to working with them and each of you to make DASC a unique and special club. To be a club that truly cares about the development of their players and places the right perspective on winning and losing. To be a club that desires that their players develop a life long love for "Beautiful Game."