



The Storm Watch

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Space Coast U17 Boys Make History

We are thrilled the U17 Boys Travel Squad won the Florida Youth Soccer Association State Championship on Sunday, May 18, 2014. Successfully progressing through three rounds of competition pitting them against the top teams in the state, they defeated IMG Academy by a score of 4-1 in the Final held in Auburndale. Goal scorers were Nick Spielman (1), John Schneider (1) and Dylan White (2).

This marks the first time a Space Coast United Boys' U17 squad has won the state championship and may also be the first boys' team from a Brevard County soccer club to win this prestigious state-wide tournament. The team now heads to the South East Regional Championships to be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana the week of June 19-26.

The team also competes in US Club Soccer's Florida Premier League (FPL) facing top teams across the state, ending the 2013/2014 season as the FPL League Champions. In addition to winning their league and the state championship, the team won the Hurricane Classic tournament, group play in the Disney Labor Day and Christmas Showcases, and were group champions in both the IMG Cup Boy's College Showcase and the Charlotte Area Soccer League.



Head coach, Scott Armstrong, and assistant coaches Bino Campanini and James Phillips are immensely proud of the hard work and dedication their players have put into this year to make the team so successful and to represent Brevard County youth sports in such a positive and exciting way.

Space Coast Alum, Kristin Grubka, Called for National Duty

On May 27, Steve Swanson, U.S. Under-23 Women's National Team head coach, named two former Space Coast United players to his roster for the second training camp of the year. Kristin Grubka joins fellow Space Coast United alum, Katie Stengel, and 24 other players at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, California, for a training camp June 7-14.

Kristin, a Brevard County native who played for Melbourne High School as well as Space Coast United, is a rising senior at Florida State University with an impressive collegiate record. Kristin's record at Melbourne High School was equally impressive, demonstrating her dedication to excellence as an athlete and a student. Space Coast United coach, Mike Lord, said, "Kristin is an incredible soccer player and even better person, she works hard both on the soccer field, in the gym, and with her studies. I believe she will have a great camp and look forward to one day watching her play for the stars and stripes." (cont. Page 4)



Kristin with her coach Rosanna Lord and Mel High Athletic Director, Fred Kenney.

U12 Rec Team Takes 2014 Phoenix Recreational Cup



Back Row (left to right): Jennifer Newman, Coach Atkins, Matthew Weaver, Corey Ramirez, Sean Atkins, Max Schieman, Tomy Dang, Riley Walters, Shane Moore, and Coach Honeycutt
Front Row (left to right): Sirish Ojha, Ryan Cornish, Joel Honeycutt, Braiden McNally, Tommy Foland, Jake Repperger, and Coach Foland

Space Coast United Soccer Club is proud to announce that one of our U12 Coed Recreational teams competed in the Phoenix Recreational Cup, hosted by South Brevard FC in Palm Bay, the weekend of May 17-18 and brought home the championship trophy for the second consecutive year. "We had seven members of last year's squad return this year," Coach Foland said, "and the experience really showed."

They won the "A" bracket by besting U12 Recreational teams from Rockledge, Malabar, and Titusville. Sunday afternoon they faced Central Brevard Soccer Club, the "B" bracket winners, for the championship. After going down by a goal early in the game, Space Coast United never looked back and stormed to an 8-2 victory to handily take the trophy.

The team is coached by Tim Foland, Tim Honeycutt, and Dennis Atkins. Congratulations to all the players in completing their undefeated Spring 2014 season with the Phoenix Cup championship!

U17 Select Girls Bring Home Champions Cup



Captains Ashley Chambers (left) and Breana Plattner (right) with Coaches Brett Restivo and Bill Richards

The U17 Girls Select squad competed in the Champions Cup tournament, hosted by Florida Rush, the weekend of May 17-18 and returned home champions. They won their first two games on Saturday by scores of 3-0 and 4-1. Tia Noble scored all seven Space Coast goals!

Two of the team's starting defenders were not available for all of Sunday's games, so the coaches switched to a 4-5-1 formation. In the Sunday final, the team was leading in the second half 1-0 on a goal by co-captain Ashley Chambers when their opponents from Oldsmar Soccer Club equalized. Overtime failed to give results, so the team headed in to Penalty Kicks to determine the winner.

Goalkeeper Alex Capalbo stopped the opponent's fourth shot, and then Oldsmar's fifth shooter hit the post. Space Coast United PK kickers Michele Ruberte, Tia Noble, Julie Brewster, and Laura Knott all found the back of the net so Ashley Chambers did not have to take her shot.

This was the final Space Coast match for co-captains Breana Plattner and Ashley Chambers. Ashley will be playing for Eastern Florida State College here in Melbourne, and Breana will be attending the University of Central Florida with plans to continue playing college club soccer. Under their leadership for the past two years, the team has won two 2013 Bazooka tournaments, were finalists in the 2013 GATOR classic and Tampa tournaments, won the 2013 BYSL championship, finished as finalists in the 2014 Region B Cup, and took third place in the 2014 Presidents Cup. The team was undefeated during the last three of four fall/spring GCF and BYSL seasons.

Head Coach: Brett Restivo

Asst. Coaches: Bill Richards and Rich Floto

Trainer: Allie Goff



Yes, You Too Would Make a Great Field Marshal!

The Field Marshal is an important role at Space Coast United. He or she is the “go-to” person on the field for information and timely communication at our tournaments. Fortunately, it is also a fun way to put in community service hours for the club. You get to enjoy beautiful weather (usually), watch great soccer (always), and meet new people...who have to listen to you. When you sign up to be a Field Marshal, we will give you an orientation so you don’t feel entirely clueless, but for being a critical responsibility it’s actually pretty easy.



1. Wear your Field Marshal vest as your visible presence on the field makes a big difference.
2. Walk your assigned the fields and check for debris.
3. Introduce yourself to the referees and coaches before the games so they know to contact you if there are any problems.
4. Keep parents a safe distance behind the touchlines.
5. Help keep unruly coaches, parents and spectators calm, often your visible presence is enough. If a problem persists, contact a board member or tournament official.
6. If you see unleashed dogs, kindly remind owners that this is strictly forbidden. The liability is too great if a child gets hurt.
7. Familiarize yourself with field numbers, the location of first aid supplies, medical personnel, and tournament staff.

Now don’t you think you would look fabulous in neon yellow too?

Meet the SCU Secretary: Kevin Murtha

“It makes me happy to see kids enjoy the game. I love teaching them the wonderful sport of soccer.”

Our club Secretary, Kevin Murtha, is no stranger to Space Coast United having coached his niece’s soccer team here fifteen years ago. Kevin, an attorney and CPA, is president and owner of The Murtha Law Group. He was a Division I tennis player at St. John’s University and an all-around athlete who has completed three Ironman Triathlons. No wonder we have to scramble to keep up with him mentally and physically.

Kevin has been married to his high school sweetheart, Jennifer, for twenty years. In an interesting bit of trivia, they not only share a wedding anniversary, but also a birthday. They have three sons playing with our club, Robbie (13), Patrick (12), and Matthew (7).

Kevin, who has a FYSA E-License, coached Patrick’s U12 team for the past two years and did not do too badly either. Just this previous year, the team progressed from semi-finalists in the 2013 Hurricane Classic and finalists in the 2013 Adidas Columbus Day Challenge and 2013 Phoenix Cup to winning the 2014 Space Coast Cup and 2014 Winter Classic in January. The team went to the Challenge Round of Region Cup and most recently won the BYSL U12 Championship on Sunday, May 18. Although the team experienced a great deal of success, Kevin says humbly, “It makes me happy to see kids enjoy the game. I love teaching them the wonderful sport of soccer.”



With our participation in the NPL and growing Academy program, Kevin feels this is an exciting time to be a part of Space Coast United. He is delighted to serve the Space Coast United community as its secretary because he wants to be part of elevating our club to one widely recognized for its elite programming.

Kristin Grubka Named to U23 National Team (cont.)

Kristin's achievements as a Florida State Seminole are many!

- * NSCAA Southeast All-Region First Team (2013)
- * NCAA All-Tournament Team (2013)
- * All-ACC Second Team (2013)
- * ACC All-Tournament Team (2013)
- * Weekly Honors:
 ACC Player of the Week (9/4/12)
 TopDrawerSoccer.com Player of the Week (9/3/12, 9/17/13)
 NSCAA Player of the Week (9/3/12)
 Soccer America Player and Team of the Week (9/3/12)
 TopDrawerSoccer Team of the Week (9/3/12, 9/17/13)
- * ACC Academic Honor Roll (2012-13)



Kristin played for Space Coast United Soccer Club from 2008-2010. While at Space Coast, her teams won the Disney Showcase in both 2008-9 and 2009-10. The 2008-9 team also made the FYSA State Cup finals. Kristin's U19 Girls team at Space Coast went on to win the State Cup Championship in 2010. That year Kristin moved from the front to the back, developing into a quality sweeper in a matter of mere weeks.

"Kristin is an incredible soccer player and even better person." - Coach Mike Lord

The club is thrilled to have Kristin and Katie, former Space Coast teammates, reunited on a U.S. National team.

Impressive Letters Coach! What Do They Mean?



Ever wonder what USSF National (fill in letter here) License means when someone tells you your child's coach has one?

The U.S. Soccer Federation is "committed to providing soccer coaches, from beginner to most advanced, with up-to-date theoretical and practical knowledge, so coaches across the U.S. can ensure that players develop to their full potential."

The most basic level, the National "E" license, is an 18-hour course, covering the elementary principles of coaching. This license is administered at the state level and prepares interested coaches for the "D" license course. To move on to the "D" license course, applicants must show they have been "actively coaching" for a minimum of six (6) months.

Candidates for the "E" license are required to complete pre-course assignments. They must complete two (2) Laws of the Game assignments and a Concussion Awareness course. In addition, candidates must choose to complete two team management assignments. Each assignment must be submitted during the opening lecture. That's a lot of work!

To learn more about coaching licenses and the requirements at each level, visit the [U.S. Soccer Website](http://www.usoccer.com).

4 v 4 Summer Street Soccer is Back!

Throughout the summer, we will still be hearing the sounds of soccer ringing through Viera Regional Park on Saturday mornings. Space Coast United continues our commitment to this style of play as 4v4 is the smallest manifestation of a real match. In it are all of the elements necessary for children to experience real soccer without any confusing duplication. This format allows for randomly changing teams directed by the players themselves.

According to Paul Cooper. “4v4 is not a new concept; the Dutch have been playing it since the mid 1980s. The godfather of football in Holland, the great, late Rinus Michels said: ‘Good coaches use the basic criteria of street football for their vision of grass roots development; they realise that these elements produce a natural process which gives the most efficient training for young kids’ And there we have it, logical thinking from a coach who understands that because of modern society, street football is no more and that ‘the children’s game’ must be continued in some form if we are really serious about development.”

The program is open to players age 4 and up. Sessions are from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Volunteers are also appreciated to help set up and take down fields as well as ensuring games start and finish without incident. Contact Rob Dinnie at rdp@spacecoastsoccer.org to volunteer or for more information.

Cost of the program is \$55 (or \$25 if also registered for a summer camp).

Saturdays

June 21	July 12
June 28	July 19
	July 26

No session on Saturday, July 5. Apparently even Scotsmen take time off for Independence Day celebrations!



Why We Compete in the NPL

Space Coast United Soccer’s participation in the NPL/Florida Premier League enables our players to compete with teams from clubs with similar long term player development philosophies. The league provides consistent high-level competition for U13-U18 boys and girls, making it the best available environment for promoting the most growth for dedicated players. Training and competing at this elite level allows our players to reach their maximum potential over the course of their youth soccer experience.

Our NPL and Select (State Cup/Region B Cup) teams are governed by two different organizations, both under the auspices of the U.S. Soccer Federation. Because NPL is under U.S. Club Soccer and Select teams are under U.S. Youth Soccer, they have separate tryouts and players are at liberty to represent Space Coast United on an NPL team and another club on a State Cup team.

For more information about the NPL and the distinction between our NPL and Select Competitive programs, click [here](#).





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Established in 1984, Space Coast United Soccer Club is a non-profit run by volunteers dedicated to families who wish to enjoy the sport of soccer and to provide opportunities to play at all levels from ages three to eighteen with the highest quality of programs available in the State of Florida. Our efforts and energies are directed to the following objectives:

- We strive to develop players at all levels of play – recreational and competitive – by building and improving their skills, confidence, fitness, initiative and a sense of teamwork.
- We are committed to developing coaches and referees to the highest level through a quality instructional, licensing and mentoring program.
- We aim to ensure all of our players' personal goals are met whether they be enjoying recreational soccer, playing on an elite or premier competitive team, playing on your high school team, playing in college, or on a U.S. National team someday.
- We promote and encourage high standards of sportsmanship and fair play and strive to ensure all players are doing it "For the love of the Game!"

SCUSC Around The World!

Send us a picture from your summer vacation holding up Flat Rob, a car magnet, wearing Space Coast gear, or just sporting our club colors and we'll share it on our Facebook page and possibly in an upcoming issue of *The Storm Watch*. Click on the image below for instructions on how to take Flat Rob with you.

Whether you're relaxing on a beach, hiking through the mountains, having a ball at camp, exploring a world capital, or just hanging out at home, we'd love to see what our members are up to this summer.



Our Programs

Micro/Mini-Kickers
Ages 3-5

Youth Development and Academy
Ages 4-11

Competitive: Select/NPL
Ages 9-19

Recreational
Ages 13-18

Goalkeeper Academy
Ages 9-19

TOPSoccer
Ages 4-19

Youth Soccer Websites

[Florida Youth Soccer Association](#)

[National Premier Leagues](#)

[US Youth Soccer](#)

[Brevard Youth Soccer League](#)

[Greater Central Florida Youth Soccer League](#)