

ADRIAN BATCHELOR



A.K.A.: Coach Adrian

Age: 48 (DOB: May 13, 1970)

Hometown: Southampton, England

Title(s): Recreation Program Director

Started at FFC: Started as a volunteer rec coach in 2009 and then became the Recreation Director in Fall 2017.

College: Attended college in Southampton, England (Computing Science)

Coaching credentials: U.S. Youth Soccer F license (Grassroots), United Soccer Coaches grassroots program.

Email: recreationdirector@fredericksburgfc.org

What is your coaching experience?

Soccer Association for Youth of San Antonio, Texas; FFC recreation coach in U8, U10, U12 and U14 age groups.

What is your playing experience?

I played a little locally as a young adult in the U.K. and currently play indoor adult coed soccer at Fredericksburg Field House.

How did you hear about the club?

When we first moved to Fredericksburg, we tried parks and rec soccer and were surprised that at nine years old they were playing on large fields with 11v11. We searched locally for other programs and found FFC and have been with them ever since.

What made you want to start coaching?

I love soccer from all different angles. As a fan, as a referee, as a player, as a coach. Coaching gives me a great opportunity to give back to the local community and to teach valuable life skills and soccer skills to local youth.

What made you first get involved in soccer?

Being born and raised in England, soccer is the number one sport.

What do you enjoy most about working for FFC?

FFC coaches and staff are always willing to share their knowledge and skills.



What would you say was/is the biggest thing that helps when you play?

Giving my best effort at all times to the best of my ability.

Who is your biggest influence when you play?

Your coach and other players on your team.

Who is the biggest influence in your coaching career?

The players that I coach. They make you strive to do your best to give your knowledge to them so that they can do their best.

What's your favorite drill and why?

With the younger kids come up competition is always on their minds. I have a simple gates drill where two players pass and move through a series of "cone" gates. I time the runs and encourage each pair of players to do it faster and more accurately the next time through.

What is your best memory from coaching?

There are many, but they are typically when you see a player use a skill during a game and be successful.

**Tell us a little about yourself and family.**

My wife of almost 19 years, Melanie, and our sons Scott, 17, and Jeremy, 14, live in Fredericksburg, just a few miles from FFC Park. [Pictures to the left in a family trip to the "Garden of the Gods" in Colorado Springs.]

Is there anything else about yourself you'd like to share?

I am an avid soccer fan supporting my home team Southampton FC who are in the English Premier League. I also referee youth and adult soccer locally in Virginia, along with playing some . . . Seeing the game from four perspectives—coaching, playing, officiating and as a fan/spectator—gives an all-round view of many situations.

Who's your favorite professional player (past and/or present) and why?

Matthew Le Tissier, a midfielder who played for his entire adult career at Southampton FC. He wasn't the quickest of players, but had some impressive skills and vision. He only ever had one of his penalty kicks saved. You should check out his goals reel on youtube! [[Click here to watch some highlights of Le Tissier's playing career](#)]

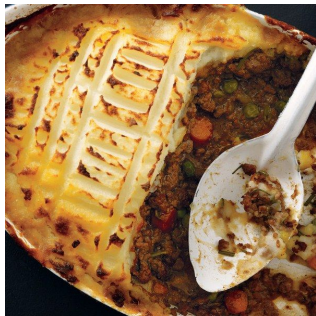
I also admired [English striker] Gary Lineker during his playing career. To my knowledge he never once received a yellow or red card, an unbelievable achievement!

Who's your favorite professional soccer team and why?

Southampton FC. I was born in Southampton and will always be a lifelong supporter of the club whose academy program has produced some amazing players, including Alan Shearer, Luke Shaw and Gareth Bale to name a few.

I also support local teams to where I live or have lived, which include San Antonio FC (USL) and D.C. United (MLS). I also keep an eye on other local teams back home - particularly Totton & Redbridge FC and Eastleigh FC, two non-league teams.

NOTE: Non-league teams are usually teams that don't play in a country's top league, usually not fully professional.



What's your favorite food?

A good, homemade Shepherd's Pie. I also like a good Indian curry. Chicken and Lamb are also favorites!

What's your favorite movie?

Leon: The Professional, a Luc Besson movie starring Jean Reno and a very young Natalie Portman.

What's your favorite kind of music?

80's all the way!

What do you like to do other than soccer?

Although I do very little, I enjoy hiking. . . . I really should clean up my bicycle and get cycling again too!

If you got shipwrecked on a deserted island, what 3 things would you want with you?

First, would be a hat for my bald head! Second, would be a hammock that I could use for shade and comfort. Third, would be all of my friends and family to keep me company! ;)

If they did a movie about your life, what actor would play you and why?

I doubt they would ever make such a movie, so this is a tough one. . . . Let's go with Rowan Atkinson [Mr Bean] . . . goofy and sometimes witty!

