



THE RED READER

THE NEXT GENERATIONS' NEWSLETTER



CHICAGO FIRE JUNIORS



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www.chicagofirejuniors.org

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News briefs...

Winter 2009 programming is posted on the Naperville and Wheaton Park District Websites.

Winter Micro League Soccer is now full.

CFJ Youth Development Program welcomes Colin Rook to the staff as a coaching assistant. Colin plays for our top U17 boys team

CFJ tryouts for club teams U8-U14 are in June. Check our website for more information.

Chicago Fire open the 2009 MLS season vs **FC Dallas** at Pizza Hut Park on March 21st at 7:30

Chicago Fire home opener will be against NY Red Bulls on April 5th at 2:30

CFJ happenings this month...

Lancaster, CA- The Chicago Fire Academy U15/16s and U17/18s competed at the Academy Winter Showcase with impressive results; winning four, drawing one, and losing once **Raleigh NC-** The U17 Boys Red went undefeated in the CASL Showcase presented by Chelsea FC and did so beating the #1 ranked team in the country and drew with the #2 and #4 teams in the country. The U15 Girls Red 11 went 2 wins and one loss. The U16 Girls Red 11 went 1 win, 1 draw, and 1 loss. Overall it was a very impressive showing in one of the nations top college showcases. **Orlando, FL-** The U14 Girls Red 11 traveled to the Disney Showcase presented by Chelsea FC winning twice and losing once. **Dallas, TX-** The U16 Boys Red 11 competed in another National League weekend winning one drawing two and losing one. This league is for the best eight teams in the country.

Thank you from Coach Ryan

Thank you to all of those that attended our youth clinics. As we move forward with our youth development programs we will continue these clinics to introduce players to our programming and enhance the community feeling of our large club. These will occur seasonally in conjunction with our "Bring a Friend Days" and I invite all those that want to show a friend what soccer is all about to bring that friend along to have fun. The idea of all our youth development programs is to prepare players for travel soccer and in doing so tool them with basic technical skills, playing techniques, and confidence to compete. Most importantly they should enjoy playing soccer as they progress.

Player Development in Focus



Former CFJ player Bryan Ciesiulka celebrates a goal with the Chicago Fire U17/18 Academy team at the Winter Academy Showcase in California.

Parents' Section

Thoughts on Youth Development

Take a look at the comic below. There are clubs that take the approach of the first child; "Win now or your a loser!" The issue CFJ takes with this approach is that winning and losing is relevant only at certain ages and once players have been tooled with the proper coaching. Is it that relevant at 4-9? Can we still breed winners without 6 year old championships? CFJ does not take necessarily agree with Bailey either, we're not here to babysit. The development picture is larger; play, learn, develop through training, and then measure through winning. If you rush development for results or play a style that suited to win rather than teach then corners are being cut. Eventually players have to be able to all the small things right to have success and do so on their own. If the habits are developed properly early then there will be a lot of undoing or frustration later when results matter.

