



the

BULLETIN

Volume 10, Issue 10

SUCCESS THROUGH EDUCATION

Nov 2007

Bulls Calendar

Mid Nov: Oahu League Fall season ends
11/21: Bulls Board of Directors' Meeting
11/23-25: Thanksgiving Tournament
11/24: Bulls 4v4 Street Tournament
11/30: Newsletter deadline for the Dec issue

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Recently, while setting up for this year's Youth Day Celebration near the Capitol, I was interviewed by reporters for 'Olelo television (I never saw the aired version, so I hope I did not disgrace myself or the Club). One of the questions asked of me was what made this Club special and different from any other club in Hawaii. I could have spent hours answering this one and extolling our virtues. We may fall short in some people's eyes based on one's expectations or occasionally a perceived lack of communication. Without being vain, though, it is good to reflect on this question. So, what does make us different?

Ten years ago, the decision was made to focus our efforts on providing the best licensed coaches in the state in an effort to create better youth soccer players. Without a doubt, we have the highest number of nationally licensed coaches in the state. In fact, the Club twice sponsored licensing clinics through the NSCAA, providing any coach in the state with an opportunity to stay home to get an advanced license. The Club also budgets each year for several coaches to achieve licensure; and these coaches are then expected to stay with the club and do what they do best.

Our teams do more than just play weekend soccer. Training is frequent and demanding, even at the men's and women's level. It needs to be if one is looking ahead to high school, college and professional participation. Teams that wear the red, white and black are the most traveled from Hawaii. And, they have the highest success rate in State Championships and Regional qualifying tournaments. Bulls teams don't do badly, either, in every other local tournament (HIC, AIC, Warrior's Cup, Thanksgiving 7-a-side, even indoor futsal). We also have two National Champions ('85 Boys and '88 Girls).

There is a strong work ethic and a tremendous spirit of benevolence at all levels of the organization. Players give of their time at camps, Keiki bulls, park restoration and cleanup and in team fundraising. Coaches and managers work tirelessly at these same events. The coaching staff also meets weekly to assess players development, develop rosters, learn curriculum, plan team travels and coordinate club events. *(cont. on page 2)*



MESSAGE (cont.)

The Club developed a strong mission statement years ago, which creates the driving force from the top down on a daily basis. Since the arrival of DOC Neddo, his drive and inspiration has led to great innovations in the soccer community both internally and externally, all of which have made soccer in Hawaii much improved. The list seems endless:

- Fast Footwork
- A unified look for all teams
- Keiki Bulls
- Founding membership in US Club Soccer, opening the door for Miso Junior League
- Camps (spring, summer, ProXtreme)
- Alumni involvement (Board member, ProXtreme staff, coaching)
- Financial Aid for the neediest
- Organizational Structure (Board, bylaws, mission statement, developmental curriculum)
- Tournaments (3v3, 5v5 futsal)
- Participation in Men's and Women's leagues
- Give Back Program
- NSCAA Coaching Clinics
- Traveling teams to find better competition
- Club sponsorship
- 2 National Championships
- Clinics with visiting Women's College teams in town to compete against the UH Wahine

As you can see, there is lots to celebrate, much to be proud of, as we reflect on what makes the Honolulu Bulls Soccer Club different and special.

FUNDRAISERS

Please help the following teams with their fundraisers...

Saturday, November 17th
'97 Boys (U11B) Rummage Sale
Aina Haina Cafeteria
8:00am - 2:30pm

Sunday, November 18th
'96 Boys (U12B)
Don Quixote (Daiei) Pearl City

Saturday, December 1st
'96 Boys (U12B)
Manoa Safeway and Longs

Sunday, December 2nd
'96 Boys (U12B)
Don Quixote (Daiei) Pearl City

Sunday, December 9th
'96 Boys (U12B)
Don Quixote (Daiei) Pearl City

Sunday, November 16th
'96 Boys (U12B)
Don Quixote (Daiei) Pearl City

Did You Know?

The original Bulls uniform colors were black and silver.

That the original soccer field used by Bulls predecessors was at the Kahala Recreation Center. Practices moved from there to Kahala Elementary School cafeteria and then to Kahala Beach Park. Some of the original members/players were Mark Atkinson, Edward Kersting, Bruce Ayau, Tom Damon, Peter Matisse, Derek Wood, Todd Dickey, David Ayau, Owen McKibbon, Billy Eggers and Scott Cheever.

These fun facts were provided by Scott Cheever. Thanks, Scott. It's always great to hear from alumni. The Club certainly has changed in the past 30 years. If there are more alums out there we would appreciate hearing your "war" stories.



Creating partnerships key to grassroots success

By Paul Caccamo

Back-to-school means millions of children playing soccer on shorter and chillier autumn afternoons. This is a particularly busy time for me, as I endeavor to be sure that our soccer programs reach children in some of the most disadvantaged communities in this country. But my success is probably not too different from many leagues whether they play on artificial turf or on a concrete inner-city lot. It depends on building partnerships throughout our communities that provide our young athletes everything from healthy snacks to transportation during game days.

Partnerships are crucial to making our sport accessible. America SCORES programs partner with public schools to recruit players as well as teachers who might be interested in coaching the game. Given the current awareness of childhood obesity as epidemic, schools welcome opportunities to make their youth more physically active. In addition, studies suggest that student athletes have better attendance and get along better with their peers. Giving teachers the opportunity to be coaches enables them to bond with students outside of the classroom. They also are important role models who can demonstrate the positive attributes of being athletes off the field. After the Columbine massacre in Colorado, a study found that students were more likely to turn to a coach than another member of their school faculty in times of crises. Partnering with schools helps to build this coaching staff, and partnering with organizations like the Positive Coaching Alliance and NSCAA ensures that our coaches have appropriate training and certifications to positively impact our youth on the field and off.

Local businesses are also significant allies in our promotion of the game. Employees welcome opportunities to volunteer in a young person's life, and soccer is an ideal icebreaker. Volunteers assist our kids in practices, drills and even as game-day referees. These interactions often result in employees becoming mentors in young players' lives. Businesses also look for ways to visibly improve the quality of life in their communities. Sponsoring local soccer teams is effective because soccer is an accessible sport that unites all ethnic backgrounds. Businesses also can contribute in-kind products, like snacks, equipment, and achievement awards. With the growth of the game in the United States, many employees have children who play soccer and may be inspired to organize gently-used uniform and equipment drives.

Parks departments are also crucial to our success. For many urban youth, soccer fields are often makeshift parking lots, streets, and even school hallways. By partnering with parks, we provide children access to real playing fields. More importantly, we provide parks departments the opportunity to fulfill their mission of making public land truly accessible. Nothing symbolizes community more strongly than seeing a community park filled with cheering soccer moms. Our leagues help parks departments achieve this goal.

We also partner with professional teams. Students need chances to meet professional players and be inspired by attending a game. At the same time, leagues such as MLS and USL need to build their fan base. Together we achieve both goals by organizing player appearances, game day ticket discounts, half-time activities, and welcome announcements. Local businesses may also sponsor our teams to attend a game and may even chaperone the youth, creating enriching volunteer experiences for their employees.

The first step to achieving any partnership is, of course, to ask. Call on the public school principal, local business leaders, the parks commissioner's office, or your professional team. Know that you have something very valuable to bring to the table in any potential partnership: children who are not just the future of the game, but also the future of the country. As soccer becomes more visible, the wider community will continue to support this sport as an effective way to contribute to positive youth development.

Paul Caccamo is president of [America SCORES](http://www.americascoves.org), an afterschool program that links literacy to soccer. Founded in 1994, America Scores is now the largest soccer program serving urban public schools and includes 14 city affiliate programs across the nation. Community, corporate, school and soccer partnerships have been a key component of America Scores' success. For more information, visit www.americascoves.org.



Trivia Contest

First correct responses by e-mail to kperske@hawaiiantel.net will win a prize.

One FIFA-recognized football club will be celebrating its 150th year in existence this year. Can you name that Club?

You often see an extra official at soccer matches standing in between the two teams. Is he/she there to prevent fights? Is he/she there just to hold up substitution numbers? What is the role of the 4th official?

Good Luck!

Give Aloha

Mahalo to all who participated in Foodland's GiveAloha Program in cooperation with Western Union. Thanks to those who donated, Foodland and Western Union presented the HSC Bulls with a check in the amount of \$1245.44.



Improving skills on your own

By Claudio Reyna

A player can always improve his fitness by working out hard. He can comprehend certain tactics by studying the game. But how far he goes will be determined mainly by how well he has mastered ball skills. Those are acquired by playing, day after day, year after year.

A player who really wants to excel will spend as much time as possible playing small-sided games when he has playmates, and juggling and kicking against the wall when he's on his own.

I spent a lot of time hitting the ball against the side of the house when I was a growing up . If my mother complained about the noise, I'd hop down the retaining wall at the end of our property to the office-building parking lot.

I'd use that wall -- hitting the ball with both feet, seeing how long I could return the wall's passes without losing control. I found out later that so many pros spent lots of their childhood doing that.

Dennis Bergkamp, the great Dutch striker who scored and set up hundreds of goals for Ajax Amsterdam, Arsenal, and the Dutch national team, said that when he was a youth player at Ajax, they had little three-foot-high walls. He would knock the ball against the walls for hours. Every time he hit the ball, he'd know whether it was a good touch or a bad touch. He'd do it over and over, trying to establish a rhythm.

Whenever I saw Bergkamp slotting a perfectly placed ball past a goalkeeper or making a precise pass, I thought of him practicing against the wall.

Kicking against the wall is an excellent way to work on improving your weaker foot. You can back up and practice shots on goal, or move close to the wall and work on passing, because where there's a wall, there's a teammate.

You can practice trapping and work on your first touch by controlling the ball before you kick it, or hit it back first time.

Passing the ball against a wall from close distance takes timing and coordination. Hit the ball faster, and you've got to react faster and get a rhythm going. It almost feels like you're dancing.

Practicing the correct striking of the ball over and over helps it become second nature. It has to be, because in a game a player doesn't have time to think about his form or approach. Under pressure, everything is more difficult. Mastering technique while playing on your own is the first step to being able to do it right in a game.

(Excerpted from ["More Than Goals: The Journey from Backyard Games to World Cup Competition"](#) by Claudio Reyna with Mike Woitalla courtesy of [Human Kinetics](#).)

New York Red Bulls captain **Claudio Reyna** played nearly 13 years in the top-tier leagues of Germany (Bayer Leverkusen, VfL Wolfsburg), Scotland (Glasgow Rangers) and England (Sunderland, Manchester City) before returning to his native New Jersey this year to play in Major League Soccer. He represented the USA in four World Cups, and captained the Americans to a quarterfinal run at the 2002 World Cup, where he became the first American selected to the FIFA World Cup all-star team.