

AKRON INNER-CITY SOCCER CLUB

USSF DIVERSITY PARTNER

2017 NEWSLETTER



Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will never depart from it. Proverbs 22:6



This newsletter is another vehicle that is being used to communicate and inform the community, individuals, and our contributing foundations. All have made a tremendous investment in the lives of the children of Akron.

Once again, the AICSC 2016 Year Round Youth Development/After School Soccer Program for Akron's children was a great success!



IN THIS ISSUE

A Year In Review - 2

2016 Player Spotlight - 3

Coach Spotlight - 4

6th Annual Akron Unity Tournament
- 5 & 6

Spring & Fall Standings - 7 & 8

9th Annual FREE Summer Soccer
Camp - 9

2016 Highlights - 10 & 11

Thank You Notes - 12 & 13

Sponsors & Supporters - 14

Coaches Corner - 15

Special Recognition - 16



A Year in Review

Akron Inner City Soccer Club's 2016 Year Round Youth Development/After School Soccer Program for the Akron's children was another great success! Soccer has been recognized as a **powerful tool for social change**, and we are using our annual newsletter to communicate and inform the community, individuals, parents and our contributing foundations about the program. All have made a tremendous investment in the lives of the inner city children of



2016 Seasonal Highlights

Winter Footskills



Annual Akron Unity Tournament



“

Hello Coach Dele,

“I just wanted to take the time out of the day and say how much I appreciate you. I am so happy to have you as a coach/father figure. You’ve helped me throughout my life and I wouldn’t be the best in soccer if it wasn’t for you. I remember when I first started playing soccer for Inner City, you would always say “stop the ball then kick” and “make sure you look up while dribbling.” Though it took a while, for me to do those things, I practiced. I was so proud of myself once I learned how to do those things. I was proud because I knew it would lead to great opportunities

playing with the older girls. You always made sure I did my best despite winning or losing. You taught me teamwork, sportsmanship, and how to be a leader. I follow your teaching to this day. It is because of you, that I’ve earned Student Athlete of the Month for BNS Sports and First Team All-City award. During my senior year, I will be getting a scholarship to the University of Akron for soccer.”

— Thank you.

Cecelia Amina Sese

Player SPOTLIGHT



“

Greetings Akron Inner City Soccer Club Family:

I began coaching with the program several years ago, because I loved soccer and I enjoyed working with children. At that time, I didn't know that it would be the start of a personal transformation and a career transformation.



I can't stress enough the value of what our Akron Inner City Soccer Club teaches all of us. From Coach Dele, to all of our players, to the parents, families, friends and all of our coaches, we all support each other and learn from each other. The children in the program are succeeding in such a unique and diverse way. They are learning a sport which often goes ignored in the inner cities and they are in an environment where they are learning the game in a low pressure, fun and diverse environment leads to success on and off the soccer field.

This past spring, I was blessed with an opportunity to move out of state. Upon moving, when it came time to plan my next career move, I was blessed with the offer to work in a local school system in my new city. I help run and plan all of the youth athletic programs during the day and of course, coaching soccer in the evenings!

I can't even begin to explain the impact AICSC has had on me. I learned from the children of the program and their "never give up attitude" along with their willingness to learn the game and have fun. It is what I learned from everyone in the program: the coaches, the players and the parents, that I utilize every day in my new job and I am so thankful for everything AICSC has done for me.

I urge everyone involved in AICSC to keep up the hard work. If you have a child who is new to the sport of the soccer, he/she will do great! It's a process and this program will help your child develop the right way. If you have an experienced player in the program, keep them in the program, the diversity and challenges they will face as they grow are so valuable. Finally, if you're debating whether or not to coach or help out -- I say go for it. Every little bit of help is greatly appreciated and you will learn so much that you can apply to your daily life, as well as give back the Akron community. Keep supporting the youth of our city of Akron. They are our future!

I wish you all the best and I am sure we might run into each other at future AICSC events!

God bless,

Coach Dan



Annual Unity Tournament

2010 = 12 Teams

2011 = 27 Teams

2012 = 28 Teams

2013 = No Tourn

2014 = 30 Teams

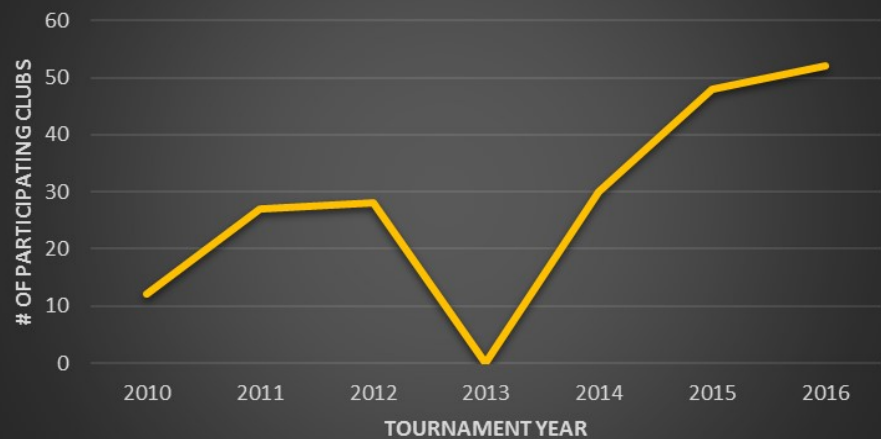
2015 = 48 Teams

2016 = 52 Teams



We're Growing!

TOURNAMENT STATISTIC



Our Annual Akron Unity Tournament continues to increase in club participation each year!



6th Annual Akron Unity Tournament

On August 13, 2016, we hosted 52 teams and played a total of 78 games (a total of over 2,000 players)! We are grateful for all of the players, parents, coaches and family members came out to enjoy the beautiful game of soccer. During the one-day tournament, each team had the opportunity to play against 3 other teams. The fast paced games offered fun and enjoyment for all.



This tournament has paved the way to realize the club's second year of corporate sponsorship; First Energy Foundation, PPG Industries of Cleveland, Ohio and SAF Inc. of Akron, Ohio. (thank you).

We attribute our tournaments success to the support of the many area clubs, volunteers, parents and sponsors. A special thank you to The City of Akron Parks and Recreation Department and the PPG Industries volunteers handed out water bottles to the players during the tournament. (See Image on back cover).



Tournament Participating Clubs

1. Akron Inner City Soccer Club
2. Canton Akron Soccer Club
3. Chippewa Soccer Club
4. Cuyahoga Falls Soccer Club
5. Eagle Select Canton, Ohio
6. Lightning Soccer Club Canton, Ohio
7. NEO Soccer Club Parma, Ohio
8. Ravenna Soccer Club Ravenna, Ohio
9. Ternopil Soccer Club Parma, OH



U-14 Boys, NEO Parma

6th Annual Akron Unity Tournament (continued)

Congratulations to each of the Division Champions:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. U9-Boys Ternopil | Parma, Ohio |
| 2. U10-Boys Akron Inner-City | Akron, Ohio |
| 3. U10-Girls Canton-Akron Soccer Club | Canton, Ohio |
| 4. U11-Boys Akron Inner-City | Akron, Ohio |
| 5. U12-Boys Ternopil | Parma, Ohio |
| 6. U12-Girls NEO Soccer Club | Parma Heights, Ohio |
| 7. U14-Boys NEO Soccer Club | Parma, Ohio |



U-12 Girls, NEO Parma

Congratulations!



Akron Inner City Soccer - Spring Practice

Spring 2016 Standings

During the Spring of 2016, four out of our six teams that participated in the Greater Akron Amateur Soccer Association (GAASA) competitive games had made the playoffs. The strength of our teams has been due to the fact that we have a diverse organization with players from different countries in which soccer is their main sport. Our program has been a blessing to many of Akron's children whom might not have been able to participate in an adult supervised sport like ours, because of the cost. We are grateful to the generosity of our sponsors, these children can participate and enjoy the fun of soccer year round. They also gain valuable life lessons in the process.



Team	W	L	T	Position	Playoffs
B9C2 Akron Inner City Tsunami	4	3	1	4th out of 8 teams	✓
B0C2 Akron Inner City Flames	5	2	1	3rd out of 9 teams	✓
G0C2 Akron Inner City Avalanche	2	3	3	9th out of 9 teams	NO
B1C1 Akron Inner City Tigers	3	4	1	6th out of 8 teams	NO
B3C3 Akron Inner City Lions	7	0	1	1st out of 9 teams 🏆	✓
B8C1 High School AIC Storm	7	0	1	1st out of 9 teams 🏆	✓

🏆 = Division Champs

🏆 = Playoff Champs



Akron Inner - City Soccer In House 5, 6, & 7

Fall 2016 Standings

During the fall of 2016 six out of eight of our teams participated in the Greater Akron Amateur Soccer Association (GAASA) competitive games made the playoffs. Good job teams, and keep up the great work!



Team	W	L	T	Position	Playoffs
B9C3 Akron Inner City Pythons	0	8	0	9 th out of 9 teams	NO
B9C1 Akron Inner City Cobras	4	3	1	3 rd out of 6 teams	✓
G9C2 Akron Inner City Eagles	2	5	1	6 th out of 8 teams	NO
B0C2 Akron Inner City Tsunami	2	4	1	6 th out of 6 teams	✓
B1C4 Akron Inner City Flames	5	1	2	2 out of 8 teams 🏆	✓
G2C4 Akron Inner City Avalanche	3	1	4	3 rd out of 8 teams	✓
B3C3 Akron Inner City Tigers	4	3	1	3 rd out of 5 teams 🏆	✓
B5C2 Akron Inner City Lions	6	0	2	1 st out of 6 teams 🏆🏆	✓

🏆🏆 = Division Champs

🏆 = Playoff Champs



9th Annual Free Summer Soccer Camp

...(continued)

The AICSC's 9th Annual four week FREE summer soccer camp program was, yet again, a great success for our club. This program provided the opportunity to participate in an adult supervised activity to over 500 youth from throughout the city of Akron at no cost to their families.

We attribute the continued growth of our summer camp program to the following:

Monday through Friday soccer activities & Convenient camp locations

Thanks to contributions from the United Way of Summit County, the Akron Community Foundation, V. E. Tom Atkins Funds and the Welty Family Foundation. Because of you we are proud to have had the opportunity to serve over 100 nutritious meals every evening following camp at no cost to the participants. We also thank Mrs. Alice Anderson the director of The Southside Dreams of Akron who, along with her volunteers, prepared and brought the food to each camp — this would have not been possible without our great supporters and volunteers. The meals were delicious and nutritious, and made possible through a collaborative effort between The Southside Dreams of Akron, and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).



Once again, our sincere thanks go out to Summit County Job and Family Services for sending young adults, through the Akron Urban League, for on-the-job-training during our summer soccer camp. Their participation in the summer camp program was a true blessing. They were very involved in all aspects of the camp, from assisting the coaches, to helping out during meal time. Thank you all. We hope you will join us again next year.

**A
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HIGHLIGHTS



**2
0
1
6**

THANK YOU



We thank Brain Kelly of **PPG Industries** in Cleveland, Ohio for the in-kind donation. Thank you!



We thank **United Baptist Church** families and to **Pastor Kevin G. Rushing** for making the trophies possible for our players. Your continued blessings to our program has been truly appreciated. We pray that, the Almighty God continues to bless you and the Church.

We would like to thank **The House of the Lord Church** (Akron, Ohio) for many years of faithfulness and with our Year Round Youth Development/After School Soccer Program. We will never forget your kindness.

Cecelia Amina Sese, We thank you for your beautiful letter and wish you great success at the University of Akron

Department of Job & Family Services, we thank you for recognizing us and presenting Akron Inner City Soccer Club with a Certificate of appreciation!



THANK YOU



Our end of year banquet, held on Saturday, November 6th at the **Akron Urban League President's Hall** was a huge success. Many thanks go to everyone that contributed to banquet. Special thanks to **Ms. Demetrius Falconer**, and **Ms. Awanda King** for many hours spent in planning, coordinating and for your financial support. The delicious catering was provided by **Dining with Distinction**, of Akron, Ohio. All of our guests raved about every detail from décor, to food, and presentation of the awards.



A special thank you goes to the Ronald McDonald House Charities for their contributions to making the children's trophies possible.

Many thanks go to our banquet guest speaker; **Ms. Pat Kennard**, who devotes much of her time mentoring young people throughout the greater Akron area, and in Akron Public Schools where she is now serving as a guest teacher. We thank you for your time, and for sharing the words of wisdom with the players and family members.

It was a great pleasure to partner with **Bright Star International Soccer Club** (Ejigbo, Lagos, Nigeria). This proved to be a great partnership for both clubs -- we could not be more happy! Good job teams. Keep up the great work!!



Special thanks to AICSC Supporters

Sponsors

Andi & Scott Young

First Energy Foundation

Glen L. Stephens

Musson, R.C. & Katharine M. Charitable Foundation

Vernon Odom Fund of the Akron Community Foundation

Henry V. & Frances W. Christenson Foundation

PPG Industries GIVE Foundation

PPG Industries Cleveland, Ohio

Ronald McDonald House Charities

SAF Inc.

The Sisler McFawn Foundation

United Baptist

United Way of Summit County

V.E. (Tom) Atkins Fund of Akron Community Foundation



In-Kind Supporters

Chris Muller of N.E.O. Soccer Club Parma, Ohio

CTI Web Services.

First Choice Bookkeeping Service

Graffiti Print Shop

Fairview Soccer Club Fairview, Ohio

Southside Dreams Association of Akron

Summit County Department of Job &

Family Services

City of Akron Parks & Recreation

Bill & Joan Moore



Coaches Corner



GAASA TEAMS

Candice Al-Amin	United States
Kafui (Quincy) Amisah	Ghana
Takenya Lindsey	United States
Edric Applewhite	Trinidad & Tobago
Stephen Walters	Jamaica
Wilmot Sowa	Cameroon
Daniel Owen	United States
Lawrence Turman	United States
Kim Haskins	United States
Andy Boateng	Ghana
Christian Okoh	Nigeria
Angelica Reeves	United States
Stephen Avent-Mins	United States
Mina Shahata	Egypt
Chidozie Martins	Nigeria
Ike Akpan	Nigeria
Dele Olabisi	Nigeria

IN-HOUSE TEAMS

David Hooks	United States
Chris Travers	United States
Kashmere Greer	United States
Naiya Jackson	United States
Stephanie White	United States
Emmanuel Sese	United States
Clara Blackwell	United States



Special Recognition

Board Members

Lawrence L. Williams
Joni Cooper
Tonya Okolo
Patricia A. Kennard
David Wallace

Webmaster

Olaronke Olabisi
Melissa Reahm

Newsletter Layout & Design

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Upcoming Events

**AKRON INNER CITY SOCCER CLUB
PRESENTS
7TH ANNUAL
AKRON UNITY TOURNAMENT
ONE DAY TOURNAMENT**

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 12, 2017**



**VOLUNTEER
&
SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE**

**USSF
DIVERSITY
PARTNER**

AKRON OHIO

**COPLEY ROAD SOCCER COMPLEX
1806 COPLEY RD AKRON OH 44320**

**AKRON INNER CITY SOCCER CLUB
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SOCCER
A RADIATION OF EXCELLENCE**

**COME EXPERIENCE A ONE
DAY TOURNAMENT THAT IS
FRIENDLY AND DIVERSE**



**EACH TEAM
GUARANTEED 3
GAMES**



**TROPHIES AWARDED
TO DIVISION
CHAMPIONS**



EXPANDING THE SPORT OF SOCCER TO INNER CITY CHILDREN



**U9 TO U15
BOYS &
GIRLS**

ENTRY FEE \$120 PER TEAM
Register At: www.inner-citysoccer.org
Entry Deadline **SUNDAY AUGUST 6, 2017**

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**REGISTER
TODAY**