



Akron Inner-City Soccer Club

NEWSLETTER

inner-citysoccer.org

2021

A RADIATION OF EXCELLENCE

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old,
he will not depart from it" *Proverb 22:6*



HIGHLIGHTS

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT



My sincere thanks to the players, parents, coaches, referees, and our sponsors for your support through a very different soccer season due to the pandemic. Since 1999 when the program was founded, we have never had any interruptions like last year. Three of our teams participated for the first time in the Cleveland Indoor Classic Tournament that was held January 11 & 12, 2020. Teams from as far as Indiana, Chicago, Michigan, and Canada participated. We tied our game against team Tigress from Chicago. With each team scoring three goals, that meant we had to go to a shootout. They won, and we ended up being the runners up. It was a great game and a good experience for our players.

We completed the annual winter training at the end of February of 2020 at The House of the Lord church. The program came to a halt in the second week of March of 2020 when COVID-19 put a stop to everything. Spring sports programs were cancelled. We were given the green light from the City of Akron officials to hold the annual free summer soccer camps in June. We followed the guidelines and the safety protocols for COVID-19 and were able to offer the summer soccer camps with limited participants. The children were extremely happy to be outside for a change. Thanks to our sponsors for providing the financial support for the purchase of the PPE used during camp and distributed to families. Please see our sponsors listed on page 10.

We participated in the tournaments listed below in 2020. The players were extremely happy for the opportunity to be outside with friends doing what they love to do. Congratulations to our teams for their spectacular outstanding tournament performances.

1. Cleveland Indoor Classic Tournament at Valley View, Ohio
2. Great Lakes Labor Day Tournament held at the Hall of Fame, Canton, Ohio
3. Ohio Extreme Classic Tournament held in Coshocton, Ohio.

Our program is getting recognition as I was interviewed by a podcast host from Washington DC; Golazo with Carloz and Paul. You can listen to the interview by Google: Golazo with Carlos and Paul. Episode # 5, taped December 9, 2020.

Akron Inner City Soccer Club offers a year-round youth development/after school soccer program to the inner-city children of Akron and it could not be possible without the generosity of our volunteer coaches and our sponsors.

Thank you for your investment in the future of our children.

Thank you.

Coach Dele

2020 SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM REPORT



2020 SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM REPORT

Our program has partnered with the Summit Education Initiative for over five years. One of the goals of the partnership is for them to help us collect the critical data that we need that will help us achieve the United Way of Summit and Medina Bold Goals Initiative 2018 – 2025. Our partnership with the Unity Way Bold Goals Initiative is to achieve the goal of 90% of Akron Public Schools high scholars graduating in 4 years with 60% college/career ready. Currently, at 80% and 19% respectively.

Here is part of the report of the 2020 Summer Camp from Summit Education Initiative. I thank you for the great work you the Out of School Time Partners (OSTP).

ABOUT SUMMIT EDUCATION INITIATIVE

Summit Education Initiative (SEI) is a research based nonprofit backbone organization working to support personal and regional prosperity through educational attainment in Summit County, Ohio. SEI does not directly operated programs. SEI has established research partnerships with schools to analyze and report trends in student's success across the region. SEI measures cradle to career educational outcomes across the region, identifying inequities and opportunities for improvement. SEI also works with Out of School Time Partners (OSTPs) that support students beyond the school day while OSTPs work directly with students, SEI coordinates and manages their program evaluations. Same philanthropic organizations in the region financially, SEI does not charge partners for small-scale program evaluations; Thus, costs would change the dispersion of grant funds from one nonprofit to another. Philanthropic organization in the community view their SEI investments and these OSTPs as mutually reinforcing the activity to drive system change.

CONCLUSION

SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS

IMPROVED ATTENDANCE

The average absences for your summer program (1-6) were lesser than the district absence (2-4) post summer. Students in your program has excellent attendance patterns in school after your summer program. A significant majority (87%) of your students with a history of perfect attendance maintained that level of excellent attendance during the first marking period of the 2020 school year. A third of your students (33%) who has high risk attendance before attending your program started the 2020 school year with excellent attendance. This sustenance and increase in excellent attendance among your perfect attendance and high risk students respectively can increase academic success throughout the year 2020 school year.

SCHOOL BASED ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Academically, your students spring to fall GPA patterns are better than all summer program or the district GPA patterns, as indicated on the previous section of this report. Students who had low achieving high-risk GPA before the program, a third (33%) made considerable gains and started the school year with low-risk high achieving GPA a after your program. Of your students who had high performing GPAs at the end of the 2019 school year, a significant majority (86%) retained their high achieving academic performance at the beginning of the 2020 school year as well. However, the GPAs of 14% of your achieving students declined from spring to fall.

2020 SUMMER CAMP PICTURES



SOCCER EQUIPMENT DONATIONS



Thank you to the individuals, organizations and foundations that continue to support Akron Inner City Soccer. Your donations put smiles on the faces of our participants. You absolutely make a difference.

MICHIGAN JAGUARS 2006-BOYS TEAM

Our U15-Boys Team played against Michigan Jaguars U15-Boys at the season finale tournament 2019 in Lodi, Ohio. After both teams won three games each, we then face off at the championship game. The game ended scoreless. We went for the shoot out to determine the champions. We were the runners up. However, that was the beginning of a great and beautiful friendship between a team from Novi, Michigan. The Michigan Jaguars players donated their Christmas gift money, plus raised additional funds online with the help of the parents. They raised over \$1,000. This money was used for the purchase of 16 soccer cleats, balls, and shin guards for our U15-Boys' team.

Although both teams played an intense game, it was about the beautiful sport and having fun, showing the true spirit of sportsmanship. Thanks to the players, coaches, and parents for your kindness. We will never forget you. Thanks Ms. Hallie Kraemer.

Hope to see you and some of your teams in our 10th Annual Akron Unity Soccer Tournament

LETTER FROM OWEN DURKEE (Hudson High School)

Hi Coach Dele,

My name is Owen Durkee and I am a sophomore at Hudson High School. I currently play soccer for the high school team, and I used to play for Hudson United. A couple of years ago, my Hudson United team was fortunate enough to play in a friendly against your AICSC team of the same age group. After the game, we ate pizza and chips together under the park pavilion. My teammates and I still talk about how much fun it was and how good your players were. The following year, some of us were even able to help build a soccer field in the North Hill neighborhood of Akron. It was awesome to see how excited the players were to have a more usable field and it was great to be able to play together.



I saw on your website that the Annual Unity Tournament was cancelled this year due to coronavirus, and I know that it probably helped fund many needs of your organization's teams. This virus has forced a lot of reflection, especially when we weren't sure if soccer was even going to be able to happen. It helped me realize just how important the sport of soccer has been in my life, and how hard it would be to not be able to play for any reason, including not having adequate shoes and equipment. So I've started to collect my old cleats that while used, have a lot of great life in them. Many of them are sized for middle through high school students. I am trying to find players who could use them, and I know that I'm not the only one with these extra items. Especially as the outdoor season is ending, my teammates also have plenty of soccer equipment to give and I want to help donate it to an organization that needs it. I would love to organize a drive within my team and get these things to AICSC if you think you could use them. We would only donate items that your players could/would want to use - cleats and soccer clothes in good, usable shape. I have attached a picture to give you an idea of where we could start.

Please let me know if you think these and other items would benefit your teams. I am looking forward to hearing back from you!

Sincerely,

Owen Durkee
216 - 571 - 5071

COACHES CORNER WITH COACH MINA SHAHATA



I started my journey with The Akron Inner City Soccer Club in 2013 wanting to bless the community and make an impact in the North Hill Akron area. Through that journey I turned out to be the one that was blessed. Blessed with a wonderful family which I cherish all of my days. The young men that became a part of that Inner City family were very passionate and hungry to learn and grow as soccer players and as young men, it was my joy walking through life with them and teaching them how to see the game of soccer and play it as one body. Their selfless passion and dedication truly challenged me to grow and learn as a coach, so much so that every season I found myself growing as a coach just as they were growing as players. Being around the Akron Inner City Soccer team was something truly heavenly, how the whole world came together as one body, all in one place with so much love, speaking with one tongue, the language of soccer. Today, many former Akron Inner City soccer players are soccer coaches, and are making that vision their own and impacting young lives. Teaching them the beautiful game of soccer with so much love and passion and walking through life with them as big brothers and mentors. And I couldn't be any more proud of them and their heart to serve and bless others.

Mina Shahata

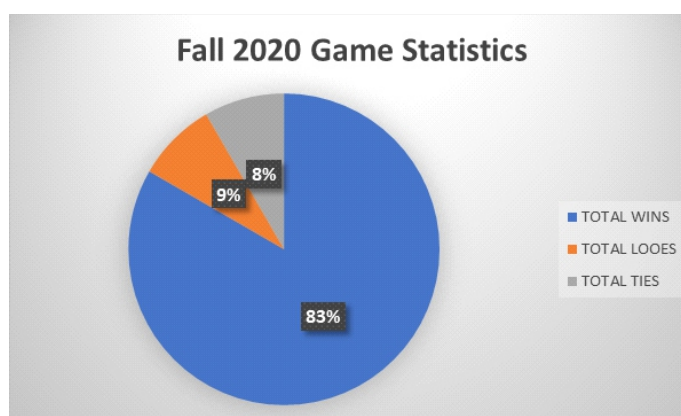
2020 FALL SEASON RECORDS



After we have given the permission to participate in the 2020 fall season league competitive games. We registered only three teams instead of seven or eight teams this was done to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 among our participants.

Here are our records:

	WIN	LOSS	TIE	RESULTS
U10-Boys Flames (Boys under the age of ten years old)	6	0	2	DIVISION CHAMPIONS
U11-Boys Tigers	6	2	0	DIVISION RUNNER UPS
U15-Boys Thunders	8	0	0	DIVISION CHAMPIONS



COACHES and SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Babatunde Olabisi
Takenya L. Murphy



Christopher Lewis



Wilmot Sowa



Andy Boateng



Rohan Burton



Mina Shahata



Paul Okonkwo
Amina Sese
Chris Okok
Ike Akpan

Emmanuel Sese
Baridor Bodom
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*Thank
you*

SPECIAL THANKS TO AICSC SUPPORTERS



Akron Community Foundation
Anonymous Donor
Charles E. & Mable M. Richie Memorial Fdn.
Glenn R. & Alice V. Boggess Memorial Fdn.
FirstEnergy Foundation
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Vernon Odom Fund of the Akron Community Fdn.

W. Paul & Thora J. Mills Fdn.
Mr. Martin P Houser Fund of the Akron
Community Foundation
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Akron Public Schools
CTI Web Services.
First Choice Bookkeeping Service
Graffiti Print Shop
N.E.O. Soccer Club Parma, Ohio
The City of Akron Parks & Recreation
The House of The Lord Church





Entry Fee Per Team \$300

Teams are guaranteed 3 games (45 minutes per game)

Entry Deadline Sunday, August 1, 2021

Location: Copley Road Soccer Complex

1806 Copley Road Akron, Ohio 44320