

## What Youth Soccer Has Meant to Me

By Tim Ferguson

I used to wear a t-shirt that said “Soccer is life, the rest is just details,” and that has been my motto since I started playing soccer at eight years old. Soccer is everything to me, and the reason I am the person I am today.

I remember my first days at soccer practice. I was not very good. I was definitely not a natural player like many of the other kids on my team. Looking back, I am thankful that I was not a natural because it made me work harder to become as good or better than my teammates. This is where I developed my incredible work ethic. Through the years, I have played on many teams. On some, I was a top player. On others, I was just average, but I was always the hardest working player on the team. The work ethic I developed through soccer has taught me a lot about life. I realize that some things in life come easily but most do not and anything worth achieving is worth working for.

Without youth soccer, I could not possibly be the person I am today. Through the lessons that soccer has taught me, I have become a hard working individual in every aspect of my life. This in turn has made me successful in many areas. Although soccer may not always be life, it has made me a lot better at the details.