

F.C.S.A College Scholarship 2002 Application:
What Youth Soccer Has Meant To Me

When I first started playing soccer in the fourth grade, it served only the purpose of providing something to do with my time and a way to remain strong physically. Since then, youth soccer has not only become a pastime, but a source for learning teamwork, time management, how to accept losses and wins in all aspects of my life, and how to deal with criticism. Soccer has become my own metaphor for the rest of my life.

What I've learned from playing soccer has helped me work better in groups to achieve a common goal. Soccer has also taught me to accept the strengths and weaknesses of others. Other than school, youth soccer is the activity that consumes most of my time. I have had to give up many things and let many activities pass me by because of my commitment to soccer. Through this I have learned how to prioritize and how to best manage my time. Though I have given many things up, I have always accepted it and have never felt like I'm missing out on things.

We all know that we win some, and we lose some. This is true in soccer and in life. I have lost some opportunities, but through soccer I have had unbelievable wins and opportunities for college and my future. Youth soccer, to me, has been the ultimate life lesson and learning experience.