

WHAT YOUTH SOCCER HAS MEANT TO ME

The first thing that soccer has meant to me is teaching me discipline and total commitment. My coaches always stressed to me to learn the game and practice. I didn't always want to practice so much when I was younger. I just wanted to play but I practiced my kicking, running and shooting like my coaches said. I knew that if I wanted to do well I had to practice hard and give it all I had. I can remember playing in such hot weather and thinking I was doing to die but I kept on running. Soccer goals are not scored unless someone runs with the ball.

The second thing that soccer has meant to me is the memories that I have from spending time with my parents and teammates on soccer trips. What fun we had going out of town to the many different cities for tournaments. We did not always win the tournament but I always came away with such a good feeling. My parents were always there to cheer me on and my teammates were always there to share the experience with. I will always cherish the time I spent with them.

My life has been so enriched from the sport of soccer. It has helped me to appreciate what hard work and sacrifice can bring. And it has helped me realize that real friends and family are always going to cheer for me even if I don't win.