

What Youth Soccer Has Meant to Me

Youth soccer has greatly influenced my life. These influences have helped me make my childhood and teenage years something I will always remember. As far back as I can remember soccer has always been a part of my life. I started soccer in elementary school in first grade. At the early age of six the experiences that took place at practices and at games began to shape me into who I am today.

Through the years I have learned many life long character traits such as leadership skills, communication skills and sportsmanship. During my years playing youth soccer on my elementary school team most of the life lessons dealt with sportsmanship. These lessons were not just our coaches and parents telling us what to do, but also by the examples that they set with their actions. Learning these lessons has helped me in several situations in life other than soccer. In group projects at school we have to be able to communicate with each other and when things are not getting done a leader has to step up and make sure things are taken care of. There are many situations similar to this that I have been able to deal with successfully due to my past experiences.

Youth soccer has also given me the opportunity to travel around the country. My club team, Celtic 86' Green, has traveled to many tournaments around the country. These include: San Diego Surf Cup, Raleigh Shootout, Tampa Bay Sun Bowl, and The Presidents Cup in Phoenix, Arizona. These opportunities have allowed me to be culturally diverse and knowledgeable. Those trips have also provided me with fun and excitement that I will always remember. Over all youth soccer has benefited my character, taught me to enjoy life to the fullest, and allowed me to just have fun.