



Week of March 10, 2008

2008-2009 Open Enrollment and Tryout Dates Announced

CRSA is pleased to announce its registration and tryout dates for the 2008/2009 season. CRSA offers programs for players of all ages and skill levels.

Mudpuppies (Spring 2008) – REGISTER NOW!

- Boys and girls U4-U8
- Training: Friday evenings, April 18, 25 and May 2, 9, 16, 30
- Festivals: Sunday afternoons, April 27, May 11 and June 1
- Register online now at www.crsoccer.com

Developmental Teams – REGISTER SOON!

- Boys and girls U8-U10
- Register online between April 21 and June 20 at www.crsoccer.com
- Come play pick -up soccer at the CRSA fields to help us place you on a team on Thursday, June 5. Visit www.crsoccer.com for times and additional details.
- CRSA makes every attempt to form teams of equal skill and experience to maximize development and enjoyment

Competitive and Premier Teams – TRY OUT IN JUNE!

- Boys and girls U11-U16
- Tryouts for team placement: June 9-16
- Visit www.crsoccer.com soon for age-specific dates and times.

Eastern Iowa Elite – STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS!

- Boys and girls U17 and U18
- More information will be communicated soon.

Public Open House Input Sessions March 12 & 13

WHAT: PLAY in Linn County – the *Fifteen in 5* group charged with building a state-of-the-art, multi-component community center/recreation complex – will host three public open houses to gather community input.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 12, and Thursday, March 13

WHERE:

- **March 12, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**, Hawkeye Downs, 4400 6th St. SW
- **March 13, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**, Witwer Center, 305 Second Ave. SE
- **March 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m.**, Squaw Creek Park's Prairie Oak Lodge

WHY: The sessions will include a detailed introduction to the project and give the audience an opportunity to express thoughts and ideas. Information gathered at the sessions will be used to help form conceptual elements of the building or complex.

FACILITOR: Williams Architects, conductors of the feasibility study, will facilitate the sessions.

INFORMATION: For more information, contact PLAY in Linn County Co-Chair Tom Saxen at (319)-395-0268 or soaringeagle51@mchsi.com

Volunteers needed for Medical Tent at Chill Out

Plans are in action to staff the medical tent for the 2008 Chill Out Tournament, April 12-13. If you would like to volunteer for a three-hour shift during the tournament, please contact Cathy Bales at jbales22@aol.com.

- Must be 18 years old and have a valid driver's license to drive a golf cart.
- Medical/first aid training is helpful!

Reminder: No Gum Allowed in Kirkwood Gymnasium

The staff at Kirkwood Community College contacted CRSA expressing concern that they have been finding gum on the gym floor after evening activities. No one should be chewing gum inside the gym. Please remind your son/daughter to be courteous and follow this (and all) of the usage rules at Johnson Hall.

Choosing the Best Soccer Camp for You

By Joey Bilotta for American Chronicle

Winter's winding down, spring is almost here, and you know what that means. It's time to think about what soccer camp you'll attend this summer.

Will you just do a weeklong camp that's two hours away? Would you rather do a soccer camp at your local park? Or are you leaning toward the semester-long international soccer camp that will take you halfway around the world?

No matter what you choose, there are a number of factors you'll need to consider before making the decision on where to put your talent and your money. It's important that you find a soccer camp that meshes well with your personality and what you want to get out of your time there.

Visit <http://www.americanchronicle.com/articles/54115> for a list of questions to ask yourself when you're looking for the perfect soccer camp.

Remaining Make Up Dates for Semi-Private Training

- March 12 - Semi Private for field players – with Donovan and Alen
- March 13 - Keeper training with Kerry
- March 17 - Keeper training with Zach

Why Altidore won't struggle like Adu

by Ridge Mahoney

What gives latest American teen phenom **Jozy Altidore** an excellent chance to avoid the pitfalls that have befallen predecessors **Eddie Johnson** and **Freddy Adu**? Soccer America's **Ridge Mahoney** explains.

In the parlance of coaches, he "gets it." Some players learn much earlier than others of the commitment, the mentality, and the discipline needed to sharpen skills, talents, and tenacity at each ascending rung of competition. He may not, as did Adu and Johnson, land a rich MLS contract before heading overseas, but the big bucks and bright lights, whenever and however they come his way, aren't likely to knock him, and his career, off the rails.

"Jozy has very good experience at a youth level and he's still a very young man, but he recognizes both his ability to play at the highest level and also what is important in the life of a professional soccer player," says U.S. under-23 coach **Peter Nowak**, who named Altidore to the 20-man roster that opens CONCACAF Olympic qualifying play Tuesday against Cuba, and verbally sparred with Adu on a few occasions at D.C. United.

"Not only education, but a soccer education I would say. Not just scoring goals but understanding the whole game, watching games and educating yourself so that every day and every practice you can learn. He absorbs information very fast and has both feet on the ground too, which in a young age is an important quality to have."

Nothing could have prepared Adu for the attention and adulation that swept him away, as a 14-year-old pro, when he signed with MLS. Far too light and spindly to win duels against grown men, and fawned over by reporters and sponsors at every turn, and earning a million or so a year in salary and endorsements before he could legally drive, Adu endured a few rough seasons at D.C. and a trade to Real Salt Lake before a move to Benfica finally reminded him what it's all about.

"This has the same feel as when I first came into the league," he said of his first few weeks in Portugal. "I'm doing like, 25 interviews today, and I'm thinking, 'This is just crazy,' but at least now I know how to deal with it."

"Before I didn't, but now I've been through it before. I'm older, I'm more mature, and I know how to handle it. All I have to do is go there and prove to my coach and my teammates and everyone that I'm going to make a difference right away."

Johnson may yet make a difference at Fulham, but he, too needed some setbacks -- including injury-ravaged seasons in 2005 and 2006 -- and a trade from FC Dallas to Kansas City to prepare him for a move overseas.

"He's been plagued with injuries and has had distractions here and there," said Kansas City coach **Curt Onalfo** when Johnson signed with Fulham in January, after scoring 15 goals in his one season with the Wizards. "I don't think he was ready for the move overseas when he came to our team but I think he's ready now. He just needed to mature a little bit and focus on playing, and not all the other stuff."

Altidore credits his coaches and his parents for a remarkable poise and maturity that prompted MLS and the Red Bulls (formerly MetroStars) to sign him as a 16-year-old in 2006. Since then, all he's done is score a dozen professional goals, notch four goals at the FIFA U-20 World Cup last summer, and nail a spectacular header in his first national team start against Mexico last month. He doesn't turn 19 until November, by which time he could have a European address. That isn't likely to faze him, nor will the bright lights (Adu) and the bling (Johnson) that took a toll on two of his U.S. teammates.

"My parents kept everything balanced for me and they really stressed the fact that soccer is not always going to be there so always have something to fall back on because you never know what could happen," says Altidore as he prepares to wear his country's colors in yet another international competition.

"From a young age, they disciplined me in the right ways and showed me the right way to do things. They tried to put me in the right environments when I was young, whether it be soccer or school or anything like that. They made a lot of sacrifices for me so I definitely credit them for who I am right now."

Lost and Found

Found:

- Size medium red jersey #3 at the Fab 4's. If it belongs to you, please call 319-337-8473.
- Youth large Calcio Adidas warm-up pants at Kirkwood. If they belong to you, please call 319-360-8300.

Lost:

- Size youth medium Adidas black warm-up pants. "Bjornsen or jb" is written on inside tag if still visible. Pants were left behind after semi-private training at Kirkwood on Feb. 14. If found, please call 319-360-8300.

***To submit items for consideration for inclusion in the
CRSA e-Newsletter, send e-mail to
crsa9596boys@aol.com***