

Dear OSA Members,

I am excited to offer my candidacy for the position of District 2 representative to the OSA board of directors. I have been involved in soccer in Ohio for over 40 years as a player, coach, referee, administrator, educator, and employee. It has been my privilege to work for both Ohio North and Ohio Soccer and to have played a part in the creation of the Ohio Soccer Association in 2020.

Having recently retired, finding ways to give back is important to me. While I have enjoyed watching the growth of the game at the professional and competitive levels, for the average grassroots player, there is much to evolve in the structure and atmosphere of the environments young players still experience. Every future professional player starts out in “no-knees” soccer but, sadly, a large majority of our youth players decide they don’t like or enjoy the game long before they have had the opportunity to realize their passion and potential as a player, referee, administrator, coach, fan, investor, and mom and dad who will introduce the next generation of kids to the game.

U.S. Soccer has publicly stated the goal of growing soccer to become, “The preeminent sport in the United States.” For those of us working in grassroots soccer, that points directly to player retention and player development. The solutions to those opportunities are not complicated and convincing people that less-is-more continues to be my why.

OSA is an organization structured to offer professional support to clubs and leagues who ask for help. It is an organization striving to make playing soccer as simple as possible and as inexpensive as possible. It is an organization reflective of the evolution of the youth soccer landscape, with the club as the focal point of the youth soccer experience. It is an organization I believe in strongly and it would be my honor to serve as a member of the board.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Tom Turner

Thomas W. Turner
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Professional Education

- Ph.D. Curriculum and Instruction: Sport Pedagogy
Kent State University, Kent, Ohio (2001)
- M.Ed Curriculum and Instruction: Physical Education
Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio (1984)
- B.S.Ed Physical Education
Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio (1983)
- B.A. Psychology
Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio (1983)

Professional Teaching Experience

- Hawken Upper School: Health and Physical Education Department Chair; Teacher
- Cleveland State University, College of Education, Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Instructor
- North Olmsted Schools: Middle School Health and Physical Education Teacher

Professional Coaching Education

- U.S. Soccer A License
- U.S. Soccer National Youth License
- FIFA Futuro III License
- United Soccer Coaches Premier Diploma

Professional Coaching Experience

Ohio Soccer Association (OSA)

- Director of Membership Growth and Development; Coaching Education Consultant

Ohio Youth Soccer Association North (OYSAN)

- Director of Coaching and Player Development
- Olympic Development Program Head State Coach; Assistant State Coach; Staff Coach

United States Soccer Federation (U.S. Soccer)

- National Instructional Staff
- U-20 Women's National Team Assistant Coach, 1999 Pan American Games
- U-16 Women's National Team Assistant Coach, 1997 Sports Festival

US Youth Soccer (USYS)

- National Instructional Staff
- Region II Boy's Olympic Development Program Head Regional Coach; Staff Coach
- Region II Girl's Olympic Development Program Head Regional Coach

- Girl's Adidas All-America Team Head Coach

National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA)

- Regional Education Staff Coach

Cleveland State University

- Men's Head Varsity Coach

Hawken School

- Boy's Head Varsity Coach; Assistant Varsity Coach

Emerald Soccer Club

- Technical Director; Staff Coach

North Olmsted High School

- Boy's Assistant Varsity Coach; Boy's Junior Varsity Coach
- Girl's Assistant Varsity Coach

East-West Soccer Club

- Boy's Staff Coach

Euclid High School

- Boy's Assistant Varsity Coach; Boy's Junior Varsity Coach

Professional Soccer Committees

- U.S. Soccer Coaching Task Force
- U.S. Soccer Grassroots Coaching Committee
- U.S. Soccer 1994 World Cup Technical Committee
- USYS Grassroots Coaching Education Study Group
- USYS Committee of Operational Excellence
- USYS National Coaching Committee
- USYS National League Committee
- USYS Regional Coaching Committee
- USYS Midwest Regional League Committee
- USYS National League's Great Lakes Conference Committee
- Ohio Youth Soccer Association North State League Committee
- NCAA Tournament Selection Committee
- NCAA Great Lakes Selection Committee
- Ohio College Coaches Association Ranking Committee