

APRIL 8, 2009

COBBER SOCCER CAMP NEWSLETTER

WWW.COBBERSOCCERCAMP.COM
701-361-8625



CAMP DATES JUNE 21-24

DAY CAMP (ages 6-12)

Ages 6-8 – 12:30-
2:30 pm

Ages 9-12 - 12:30-
3:00 pm

FULL CAMP (ages 13-19)

Ages 13-19 -- All Day

WE PROVIDE
DISCOUNT
FOR TEAMS
THAT SIGN-UP
TOGETHER

COME JOIN
US FOR AN
AMAZING
WEEK OF
SOCCER.

TECHNIQUE COMES FIRST

What will the fastest player on your team do when everyone else catches up his or her athleticism? This may happen in junior high, high school or even as late as college. If this player hasn't worked on their technical skill, they will be passed by.

The ages of 5-13 are critical years to develop technical skill. These are key years to develop muscle memory, coordination, and ball mastery. It becomes increasingly difficult for players after this time period.

When coaching these age groups, skill development should be emphasized – winning should be de-emphasized. It is all too common for coaches and parents to emphasize winning games and ignore the players' skill development. This focus will only hurt these players in the future.

When coaches, players and parents understand and support this approach, the kids win. They will become stronger, more skilled players while still competing and having fun.

GETTING RECRUITED – WHERE DO YOU START?

I have good news for those of you looking to play in college. There IS a program out there for you. You just have to find which one best fits you.

You should start researching colleges by your sophomore year of high school. Here are some questions to start asking yourself:

1. What major(s) am I interested in studying?
2. What size of a school do I want?
3. What part of the country would I prefer?
4. What is my goal with college soccer?

Your emphasis should be to locate schools that fit you as a student first. It is crucial that you focus your attention in this area. I have seen too many players attend schools due to the allure of an athletic scholarship only to transfer later.

While the soccer program will

influence your decision, make sure that it is secondary to academics and environment. Most college athletes don't become professional athletes so it's important that your chosen school prepare you for the professional world.

There are many different levels of college soccer programs. This is where your goal comes into play. Do you want to play as a freshman? Would you prefer a very competitive program that you may need to wait 2 years to play? During your search, you will learn where you will fit into each college soccer program.

During soccer camp, we designate one night to talking about college recruiting. We will discuss ways to get recruited, differences between NCAA divisions, advice from our current college players, and much more.

-Dan Weiler

Cobber Camp Director