

Although the SDHSAA has sanctioned soccer, the actual transition has not begun and the current structure will continue for a couple of years. That means, if you want to coach high school soccer, submit a resume to Rushmore Soccer Club before Saturday night, December 15. Tell them which team you want to coach, what your experience is, who would be your staff, and that you can commit to two years. Send it to Rushmore Soccer Club, PO Box 34, Rapid City, SD 57709. Even returning coaches must re-apply.

Rushmore Soccer Club is offering a terrific opportunity for all Under 10 players. This is open to kids with birthdates in the range between August 1, 1997 through July 31, 1999. You do not have to be a Rushmore Club player to be part of these 8 Saturday mornings (and 2 indoor tournaments). The sessions begin in January. The program will focus on dribbling, receiving and trapping, some technical training in offense and defense, and lots of games and exercises that will zero in on fun as well as skills.

The program will be taught by Luis Usera who holds an “A” license and assisted by other Rushmore coaches. The cost is \$50 and the Rushmore Soccer Club wants all coaches who want to get some ideas or practice tips to participate. The registration forms should come home from school (check those Tuesday folders) or you can download one at [www.rushmoresoccerclub.com](http://www.rushmoresoccerclub.com) . This has proven to be a fun, low stress activity for kids.

Rushmore Soccer Club is offering 2 tournament opportunities with this program. However, if a player is already part of an RCYSL indoor tournament team, the player may designate which team roster he or she will be on for these tournaments. The focus of the U10 Winter Development Program is to help kids learn correct skills and to have fun.

Over the past two weekends, several soccer coaches have been learning at the feet of masters. Mike Dickey from the US Women’s National Team coaching staff was here last weekend conducting the “D” license class and many local soccer players have been able to be the “teachers’ aids” as these high powered coaches teach our local coaches. This is like having the Yankees batting coach show up to spend

a couple weekends with Post 22 and 320. Does that happen? It has been an incredible experience for many Rapid City players and coaches. Thanks to Brian Pitts, South Dakota Director of Coaching.

If you have soccer players or coaches on your gift list, here are some suggestions. There are some fun movies; “She’s the Man”, “Dare to Dream”, “Kicking and Screaming”, “Gracie”, “Her Best Move” “Renaldo”, and “Offside” are a few. There is a DVD and a book about an incredible night in 1914 during WWI that was a spontaneous truce with a soccer game in no-mans-land. The DVD is “Joyeux Noel” and the book is “Silent Night” by Stanley Weintraub.

If you want to do something great for your coach, order the “Best Practices fore Coaching Soccer in the United States” from [www.ussoccer.com](http://www.ussoccer.com) or pick up a copy of Tony DiCicco’s book, “Catch Them Being Good”. DiCicco is best known for his success with the incredible US Women’s National Team, however he is also a parent/coach who knows what a dilemma it is to coach your own child. All are good sources of entertainment and education and available through many sources.