

March 8, 2006

## IOWA SOCCER CLUB EXECUTIVE BOARD STATEMENT ON RECRUITING

The ISC Executive Board is proud of its player development-based program, as well as its players, families, and coaching staff. We believe the primary responsibility of our organization should be to teach sportsmanship, fitness, and the skills of the game of soccer. We believe player development is paramount. Although we are a competitive soccer club, we do not value winning above all else. As a result, ISC coaching staff and ISC officers object to the active recruiting of children from Iowa Soccer Association sanctioned competitive soccer clubs. Furthermore, the ISC Executive Board supports the Iowa Soccer Association's Code of Ethics and Conduct, specifically the policy concerning recruiting which will take effect in the fall of 2006.

We strive to be one of the admired soccer clubs in the state of Iowa. We want our players, families, and coaches to be proud of the organization. As such, if one of our players, parents, or coaches receives an inquiry about the ISC, we hope that ISC member will share his or her pride and enthusiasm for the organization. On occasion, this may lead to a player from outside the ISC wishing to become an active participant in the future. We believe this is acceptable, and furthermore believe that for a variety of reasons children and families may occasionally wish to change their club affiliation.

However, we condemn the practice of active recruitment of ISA-sanctioned competitive players to the ISC in the strongest terms. We believe active recruitment by a player, parent, or coach is detrimental in youth sports, including soccer. It is our view that active recruiting in youth sports is disrespectful to other coaches and organizations, and sends the wrong message to the players. Active recruitment involves identifying a player in another competitive soccer club, or at a camp such as ODP camp, who might be added to a specific roster to gain a competitive advantage for a single team. We think this demonstrates poor sportsmanship. We frown upon such activity by our own members and discourage it, and we lose respect for other organizations that condone such activity.

The ISC coaching staff and Executive Board members wish to take a leadership position in Iowa and in the ISA regarding this issue, and would be pleased to discuss this with current or prospective players, coaches, and family members. In addition, the ISC Board included an amendment to our by-laws, which prohibits recruiting by anyone involved with the ISC. Those in violation would be subject to sanctions.

ISC Executive Board Members -  
Joe Krob, President  
Cindy Brown, Past President  
Brenda Ulin, Secretary  
Katie Nicholson, Treasurer  
Dave Merrick, President-Elect