

“On Equal Footing” Soccer Scholarship Program

Central Marin Competitive Youth Soccer Club

Contact: **Gregg Clarke**
310-5157

Goal of Program

The goal of the On Equal Footing Program is to eliminate the financial barriers that keep talented kids from playing soccer at the Competitive/Select level. The Competitive program is a higher level program, which includes advanced training for the more athletic player and allows them to travel to play against a higher level of competition. Whereas players may play 12 games in a recreational soccer season, it is typical for Competitive teams to play 24-50 games. Due to additional costs incurred in travel, special training, tournament fees, uniforms and equipment, youths from lower income families have historically been unable to participate at this level. This program has attempted to eliminate that barrier for some players in hopes that the program can be expanded and others will follow the lead of the contributors to this program by supporting players in other ways.

Special focus is being given to kids from the Canal Area, many of who do not try out for the traveling Teams due to the higher costs. Even though we limit our fees to \$1,500 for the highest level and \$950 for the 2nd level, this makes the program inaccessible for many players in Central Marin. This focus is to help a known problem and in a small way attempt to bring our communities together with a common sport. The program not only facilitates these players to play at a higher level, but also helps integrate the communities and develops common bonds between families that would not normally interact. In addition, many teams do extensive traveling, some to other states and countries, which helps broaden their view of the world. The program is open to all kids aged 9-17 living in Central Marin. It is not focused on specific race or sex, but on helping kids progress in sports and in life.

Each team must provide a scholarship to one player on their team before they are eligible for the Club or the “On Equal Footing” scholarship.

Brief History

- Over \$127,000 has been raised and distributed
- More than 195 scholarships have been awarded
- In 2000, a team sponsored by On Equal Footing and Rotary Club of San Rafael and Luxembourg, primarily encompassing players who reside in the Canal, traveled to Luxembourg to play soccer.
- Summer 2002: the Luxembourg team returned, to play soccer with our local teams.

Scholarship Qualification

- Candidate must be age 9-17 on August 1, 2010
- Candidate is currently a resident within the geography covered by the Central Marin Competitive Youth Soccer Club. Designated scholarships have been set-up for youths from the Canal Area and Central Marin. For these scholarships, the candidate must be from the Canal Area or Central Marin.
- Coach or team parents will commit to provide transportation to and from practices, games and tournaments.
- Teams must provide a team scholarship before a player from that team is eligible for an “On Equal Footing Scholarship.
- Teams from outside CMCSA may not participate in this scholarship program.

Scholarship Award Process

STEP ONE:

- Coaches may nominate players for scholarships
- Coach or Team manager must submit application form to Gregg Clarke.
- Maximum Scholarship is \$500, but may be less.

STEP THREE:

- “On Equal Footing” Board will review all applications and determine proposed scholarship awards.
- All decisions of the OEF Board are final, there will be no appeal process.

STEP FOUR:

- Coaches will be notified of the acceptance or denial of their application.
- In the likely event of limited scholarships, a priority schedule has been established. Each team with qualified candidates will receive one scholarship before any team receives a second scholarship. Based on the amount of money available and number of applicants, partial scholarships may be awarded. Priority for scholarships will be as follows:
 - Returning Players who received the On Equal Footing Scholarship in the past
 - Younger Players (Age 9, 10, 11, 12, through 17)
 - Board Decision

SCHEDULE:

- Application Deadline: August 1st, 2010
- Notification of Award will be done September 1st, 2010
- Payment by September 15th, 2010.

For More Information, Contact Gregg Clarke at 310-5157 (mobile) or e-mail:
gregg@meritaswealth.com

On Equal Footing

San Rafael Youth Soccer Club
Scholarship Application

Submit this application to Gregg Clarke @ 218 Center Street, San Rafael, CA 94901
Or e-mail to gregg@meritaswealth.com

Date _____

Player Name _____ Phone _____

Player's Home Address _____

Why you think player deserves a scholarship: _____

Team Name _____ Age Group _____ Boys / Girls _____

Team Name _____

Coach or Team Manager Name _____ Phone _____

Coach or Team Manager Home Address _____

Total Team Fee \$ _____ Team Fundraising Plan _____

Was this player on a Competitive Team last year? (Yes/No) _____

Has this player participated in Spring 2010 "open" tryouts? (Yes/No) _____

How many Players is your team sponsoring for this season? _____

What are the names of the players being sponsored by your team? _____

Will you commit to providing transportation to and from practice, games, tournaments and other team functions for the candidate during the season? (Yes/No) _____

Who do you know who may be willing to fund a scholarship(s)? _____

Address & Phone _____

Would you be willing to make the introduction? _____