

INSIDE IYSA

OCTOBER 2025

IYSA HIGHLIGHTS

This past spring season, multiple IYSA teams scored victories at soccer tournaments around the region.

- U15 Girls Select Team, winners of the Lakefront Tournament. Coached by DJ Roberts (head coach) and Ben and Jeff (volunteer assistant coaches).
- U12 Boys Select team, winners Afrim (MLK Tournament/Albany) Samir Naamane and Apia Awa.
- U13 Girls Select Team, winners at the I88 Tournament. Coached by Patrick Arancio (head coach), Andrew Quagliata and Sean O'Brien.
- U12 Boys Select team winners, at Lakefront. Coached by Samir Naamane and Ziggy Harris.
- U10 Girls Select Team, winners at Lakefront.

IMPORTANT DATES & REMINDERS

Winter 1 registration opened October 1st. Register before 10/29 as prices increase then.

- Coppa Classico select team tournament was held in Harrisburg, PA during Indigenous People's Weekend.
- Select team MLK Jr. Day Tournament will be hosted in Ithaca on Monday, January 19th.
- April 10th International Connection tournament hosted at home. See our feature on the second page for more information about this exciting event.



GOAL!



INSIDE IYSA

OCTOBER 2025

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING & SAYING THANK YOU TO JASON BENNETT!



Jason has been with IYSA since the academy's beginnings. He most recently served as the IYSA Board President and is stepping down from this role to pursue other life adventures. We want him to know how thankful we are for all of his hard work, dedication and the heart that has gone into forming IYSA, leading its direction and creating an atmosphere of learning and love of the game. Jason has used his 35+ years of experience in coaching and managing various sports teams to help grow IYSA from an idea to the academy it is today. We want to thank him for all that he has done and though we will be saying goodbye to him in this role, he will always remain in our IYSA hearts.



INTERNATIONAL CONNECTION TOURNAMENT

This past year, IYSA also hosted a team from Trinidad. They were able to come to Ithaca and participate in some IYSA events including the International Connection Tournament hosted at the Rink in Lansing. The next International Connection tournament will also feature another Trinidad team and will be held in April.

To donate to this amazing cause, please contact us at doc@ithacayouthsocceracademy.com.

STAFF HIGHLIGHT: NEW BOARD PRESIDENT: SEAN O'BRIEN



With over 40 years of experience in the game, Sean O'Brien brings a lifetime of passion and dedication to the sport of soccer. He began playing at the age of five and has since played in every position on the field, ultimately finding his home as a goalkeeper from U12 through high school. His journey continued through university club soccer and even extended overseas, where he played amateur club soccer in the Middle East while working abroad for four years. Today, he remains actively involved in the sport, playing in adult leagues and mentoring young athletes. His love for the game is matched only by his joy in watching his own children grow within the club and seeing all of the club players develop their skills and love of the game over time. As president of the academy, he is committed to fostering a positive, skill-focused environment where all players of all levels can thrive and have fun!

CALL FOR PHOTOS!

We are in search of some great action shots of your players! If you have pictures of your player participating in IYSA activities, please email them to secretary@ithacayouthsocceracademy.com and share your player's name, team name and coach's name. We hope to feature more team and player action photos on our website and in upcoming newsletters so please send those great moments our way.

ARE YOU A SOCCER EXPERT? TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

QUESTION 1: WHICH COUNTRY HAS WON THE MOST WORLD CUPS?

QUESTION 2: WHICH TEAM IS KNOWN AS "THE RED DEVILS"?

TRIVIA ANSWERS: #1: BRAZIL
#2: MANCHESTER UNITED