



THE SCORE

KEEP TRACK OF THE SCORE WITH ALL THAT IS GOING ON AT DAKOTA ALLIANCE SOCCER CLUB!

Volume 2, Issue 11

Dec/Jan 11-12

TEAM DYNAMICS—A psychological aspect of the game of soccer By Associate Coordinator Daniel Ohayon

What are Team Dynamics?

Team Dynamics are the obvious and unseen forces that operate in a team between different people or groups. Team Dynamics can strongly influence how a team reacts, behaves or performs, and the effects of team dynamics are often very complex. Coaches need to consider what team dynamics are and the impact they have on the team.

Suppose in a soccer team of eleven players on the field there are two or more people who have a particularly strong friendship. This friendship is a "natural force" that may have an influence on the rest of the team, and can be manifested in various ways, either positively or negatively.

Sometimes, an "absence" of a natural force can also be a team dynamic. For example, if the coach is permanently removed from the team, the group may be drawn into a change of behavior.

How can team dynamics be managed constructively?

Coach/Leader need to:

- Look for the team dynamics - the 'natural forces' at play
- Determine whether they are acting for good or ill,
- Initiate interventions that will make the effect of those dynamics more positive.

The impact of a friendship:

The positive effect of a strong friendship in a team might be:

- The friends communicate a lot together...
- ...which naturally results in other members being drawn into the discussion
- ...which results in a good 'social' feel to the group
- ...which makes people enjoy being in the group

- ...which improves motivation and commitment

The negative effect of a strong friendship might be:

- To cause the other four people to feel excluded...
- ...which means they are less likely to include the two friends in decision making
- ...which means that there are likely to be two sub-groups
- ...which means that information may not flow across the whole group, but only within the subgroups
- ...which means that miscommunication may lead to misunderstanding and poor collective performance

This friendship has an impact on the group's performance, and is therefore a team dynamic. Whether it is good or bad depends on other factors. In the first, positive, example, there is a natural force of "inclusion" which results in people being drawn into productive discussions. In the second, negative example, there is a natural force of "exclusion" which results in communication between groups being stifled.

7 Factors to improve team Dynamics:

- Team members will help each other when other team members are in difficulty.
- The team has long term vision
- The team is well organized
- The team is open to change
- The team is willing to try new things to see if there might be improvement
- Team members are expected to resolve their own problems themselves
- The team always try to find the right balance between short and long terms needs

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Special points of interest:

- Website of the Month
- Season Greetings from the DASC Staff
- Trivia Question of the Month
- DASC Recreational Coach Gets Honored
- Order Your Spirit Wear

Coach's Profile

Name: Mekonnen Afa

Team(s) Coaching: University of Sioux Falls Women's Soccer / DASC U17G

How Long Have You Been Coaching: 12 years

Hometown: Eritrea / Rapid City, SD

Favorite Athlete: Ruud Gullit/ Holland

Favorite Sports Team: Ajax, Holland

In Your Free Time You: Spend time with my family

Favorite Coaching Moment/Memory: USF Men's Soccer Team Playing in the Regional 2010 Final game. Lost to the eventual National Champs



Player's Profile

Name: Mineya and Syda Afa

Nickname: Min-Min; Sy-Sy

Team and Age Group: Toca; Joga

How Long Have You Been Playing Soccer: 4 years; 2 years

School: Tea Elementary

Favorite Athlete: Dad

Favorite Soccer Team: USF Soccer Teams

In Your Free Time You: Playing with Friends

Favorite Soccer Moment/Memory: Going on bus trips with the USF Soccer team.



Website of the Month

<http://www.concacafchampions.com/page/CL/Home>

Most soccer fans are familiar with the UEFA Champions League. Check out the CONCACAF Champions League at the above link in which several of our own MLS teams participate in.



Happy Holidays From the DASC Soccer Family to your Soccer Family!!!



The DASC Office will be closed from December 19th through January 1st. On January 2nd normal office hours will pick up at 11 am. Most staff will be available through email and cell phone over the break. Happy Holidays Everyone!!!

Trivia Question of the Month
 Expand Your Soccer Knowledge
Last Month's Q and A:
Who is on the list of the MSL's Best XI for the 2011 season? Find the answer at the following YouTube Clip: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FHhVgSj1m0w>
This Month's Question: **In what year was soccer made an Olympic event?**

South Dakota State Cup Participating Teams Announced!

U13 Girls:
 DASC U13G Black
 RC SWAT

U18 Girls:
 DASC U18G Black

U14 Girls:
 DASC U14G Black
 Rushmore SC -Tsunami

U19 Girls:
 DASC U19G Black

U15 Girls:
 DASC U15G Black
 Rushmore SC - 15
 SD United Legacy
 Yankton Rebels

U13 Boys:
 DASC U13B Black

U14 Boys:
 DASC U14B Black
 Rushmore SC - Havoc
 SD United Galaxy

U16 Girls:
 DASC U16G Black
 DASC Rhythm
 Rushmore SC - Rapids

U15 Boys:
 DASC U15B Black
 SD United Pachuca

U17 Girls:
 DASC U17G Black
 Rushmore SC - 17

U16 Boys:
 Rushmore SC U16
 SD United Barcelona

U17 Boys:
 DASC U17B Black
 SD United Arsenal

U18 Boys:
 DASC U18B Black
 SD United Juventus

U19 Boys:
 SD United Madrid



Congratulations to Jesse Nester who has received Boys Recreational Coach of the Year for US Youth Soccer's Region II. We are so excited that you were able to represent South Dakota Soccer as well as Dakota Alliance Soccer. The award is well deserved and we are happy that you are a member of the DASC recreational program. For more information about Jesse, see last month's issue of The SCORE where Jesse is featured as the coach of the month with one of his nominating players as player of the month!

Players, Parents, Siblings, Grandparents - Support your favorite DASC Team by purchasing and wearing Spirit Wear!

Click on this link to go to the DASC Online Store and purchase your favorite DASC items.



WINTER POLAR BEAR STREET SOCCER LEAGUE



What: Indoor soccer games consisting of two – 10 minute halves with a 15 minute skills clinic prior to each game.

Where: Empire Fitness Center -- Tennis Lane by Empire Mall

When: Games will be scheduled between 1pm and 5pm on the following Saturdays/Sundays

Session Dates: 1/21, 1/22, 1/28, 1/29, 2/4, 2/5, 2/11, 2/12, 2/18, 2/19

SNOW DATES: 2/25 and 2/26

Who: Boys and Girls (Ages 4 - 8) Current U5 – U8 Players

Cost: \$50 for free agent

OR \$200 per team – (Suggested roster size 5 for U5/U6 and 7 for U7/U8)

[CLICK HERE FOR APPLICATIONS AND ROSTER FORMS](#)

Free Agents (players w/o teams): Please Mail Payment with Free Agent Application by Jan 6th 2012 to:

WINTER STREET SOCCER LEAGUE

401 West 39th Street

Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Teams: Please Mail Payment with Team Application AND Roster

by Jan 6th 2012 to:

WINTER STREET SOCCER LEAGUE

401 West 39th Street

Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Questions: Call Frank at 605-521-8417 ext. 102

OR email at streetsoccer@dakotaalliancesoccerclub.com

Several DASC Players and Team Participate in Giving Back This Holiday Season!

During this time of year, it is always good to be thankful for the people and blessings we have in our own individual lives. It is nice to give to those who are not as fortunate as others. Some of our competitive teams took some time away from their training and games to give back to people who are less fortunate.



U14 Girls – Project Warm-Up

Both the U14 Girls Silver and the U14 Girls Black teams got together the weekend after Thanksgiving to put their crafting skills to use. The girls spent 2 hours making fleece blankets for families who are needing a little help staying warm this time of year in the Sioux Falls Empire. The girls worked in groups efficiently producing 25 blankets in a little less than 2 hours. It was neat seeing the girls come together, get down to business, and focus their efforts on a project that someone else was going to benefit from. For more information on Project Warm-Up you can visit

<http://www.projectwarmup.org/>

U17/U18 Girls – Toys for Tots

DASC has been a drop off location for Toys for Tots for the last few years. DASC staff has lent a helping hand to wrapping and organizing toys for Toys for Tots in the past. This year, the U17/U18 girls got into the holiday spirit by spending one Saturday evening wrapping and preparing toys for drop off and pick up this year. The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. The players and coaches were able to prepare over 20 family deliveries in the time they were at the facility. The girls definitely enjoyed picking out the toys for each child and wrapping each one, knowing they would have something to open on Christmas day. For more information about Toys for Tots you can visit <http://sioux-falls-sd.toysfortots.org/local-coordinator-sites/lco-sites/default.asp>



U11 Girls – Kids Against Hunger

Approximately 20 players got together during the busy holiday season to help feed families who are struggling to meet their nutritional needs. The young ladies prepared packages that make a rice and soy casserole fortified with 21 essential vitamins and minerals, 6 dehydrated vegetables, and a chicken flavoring. The nutrient-rich formula reverses the starvation process. These packages are distributed to the Sioux Empire, Minot, Haiti, Zambia, Somalia, Guatemala & Mexico. The young ladies first took the time to understand what the meal packs are composed of and how they are utilized. They then learned the process of how to put the packs together with the proper ingredients as well as the proper sealing and packaging techniques. The girls got right to work putting the packs together with little guidance from the adults present. Prior to packing night, the girls were able to collect over \$150 in change as well as donating \$5 each to pay for the meals. The girls had packed a total of 2808 meals which were to be shipped out. The young ladies left excited about what they had just accomplished – one wanting to take her hair net with her to show her school class what she had done the night before. For more information about Kids Against Hunger you can visit <http://www.kidsagainsthungersiouxfalls.org/>



DASC praises the groups who participated in the service projects. It is nice to see these players give back to their communities. It is very obvious that these young ladies are not just developing into standout soccer players, but are also working on developing into productive, caring people. Way to go ladies! You have made DASC proud!

CHARACTER / ENJOYMENT / ENGAGEMENT / STEWARDSHIP / PASSION

DAKOTA ALLIANCE SOCCER CLUB WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THE NEWSLETTER'S SPONSORS



NOW Taking Spring 2012 Recreational Registrations! Get Signed Up As Soon As Possible to Play This Spring!

Click [HERE](#) to Register Online
Click [HERE](#) for a Paper Application.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5th Annual Winter Indoor Small-Sided Tournament

ASI Dome
Boys: January 6th—8th
Questions? Contact Daniel at danielo@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

2nd Winter Session of Soccer-Nastics, Joga, and Toca

Several Locations
January 7th through February 13th
To Register Go To: <http://www.dascprograms.com/index.cfm>
Questions? Contact Leo at leog@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

Guaranteed Placement Registration Deadline for Spring Recreational Soccer League

February 1st, 2012
Questions? Contact Frank at frankq@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

Match Up League Request Due

February 1st, 2012
Questions? Contact Steve at steveb@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

Recreational Coaches Meetings

The Week of March 12th—15th
Questions? Contact Frank at frankq@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

Spring Recreational Season Starts

March 31st, 2012
Questions? Contact Frank at frankq@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

Match Up League Dates

April 21/22; April 28/29; and May 5/6
Questions? Contact Steve at steveb@dakotaalliancesoccer.com

Check us out on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/dakotaalliancesoccerclub>