

May 2023



OFF THE PITCH

Chatham United Soccer Newsletter

Chatham, NJ

Inside the Issue



A WORD FROM THE PREZ

ICYMI, Jon Yee has taken the reigns as the new Chatham United President and is already making his mark. p.03

WHO'S ON BOARD?

Newly elected Board will help refresh Chatham United's strategic direction, with a focus on player development, improved fields, and community connection. p.04

NEW HIRE: THE DOC IS IN

Tom Worthington, Chatham United's first ever Director of Coaching (DOC) is just what the DOCTOR ordered. p. 05

GOT NEWS?

We're excited to launch the first edition of the "Off the Pitch" newsletter! Our goal is to keep the Chatham United community informed so we can support our players, coaches, and alumni and celebrate the game we love.

We'll cover a variety of topics related to the club to keep everyone in-the-know. If you ever have news that you'd like to share, please contact CUScomms@gmail.com.



BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

things you need to know



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Registration for Chatham United Soccer's Recreation, 8U Pre-Travel Program & TOPSoccer is now OPEN!

chathamunitedsoccer.org/registration/

- **Fall 2023 Recreation:** All players in grades K-8 as of Fall 2023.
- **2023/2024 8U TDP:** Pre-travel Technical Development Program (TDP) for 2016 birth year.
- **Fall 2023 TOPSoccer:** For Chatham players with disabilities aged 5-18 years with a birth date falling between October 1, 2005 and September 30, 2018

Deadline: July 31, 2023

SCAN ME



COME SEE US @ FISHAWACK

Tom (DOC) , Jon (Prez) and other Boad & Committee members look forward to meeting and speaking with you at Fishawack!

- **Bring your questions!** Whether you'd like to learn more about the new CUS vision, ask questions or just get to know us more, this will be a fun forum in which to meet.
- **Bring your kicks!** Come try your best kicks at our soccer darts inflatable game!

Date: Saturday, June 10th

Time: 10am-4pm

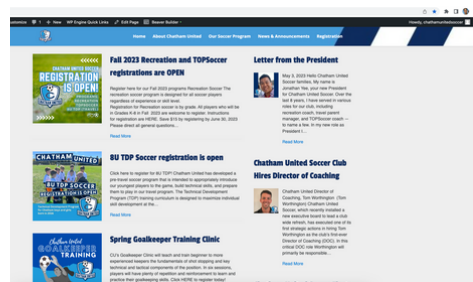
Location: Train Station Parking Lot near the grassy knoll



NEW LEWK, SAME LINK

Thanks to Karen Bruzzo, our website has a whole new look! Make this your go-to for Club info, news & more!

www.chathamunitedsoccer.org



A WORD FROM THE PREZ

Continued from page 1



In case you missed Jon Yee's first letter to Club families a few weeks ago, we wanted to publish it again in the Newsletter.



Hello Chatham United Soccer families,

My name is Jonathan Yee, your new President for Chatham United Soccer. Over the last 8 years, I have served in various roles for our club, including recreation coach, travel parent manager, and TOPSoccer coach -- to name a few. In my new role as President I aim to **revitalize our club strategy with added emphasis on player development, improved access to higher quality fields, increased opportunities for social and community connection, enhanced club operations, and further engagement with the Chatham High School soccer program.**

We have recently installed a new Board of Trustees and enlisted an amazingly energetic team of volunteers to execute on our new strategic direction. With their collective experiences as soccer players and coaches at all levels of the game, in addition to their passion, leadership qualities, and individual skill sets, I am confident that our team is in a great position to forge a new path forward for Chatham United.

As one of our first strategic actions in service of improving player development, we have hired Coach Tom Worthington as the club's first-ever Director of Coaching (DOC). Tom has been coaching since 2003 and is currently the Varsity Head Coach at Oak Knoll and an ECNL Staff Coach at PDA, as well as owner of T.WO Touch Soccer. With his soccer experience, knowledge, and training, he offers tremendous value and strengthens our ability to develop high quality, technically confident, soccer players. The

youth sports landscape continues to evolve around us and we are extremely fortunate to have Coach Worthington onboard as we work together to elevate Chatham United to the next level. In this critical DOC role he will primarily be responsible for player development, technical training curriculum and clinics, input to team formation and trainer quality management.

Since taking over leadership in March, the CUS Board has already accomplished or begun to tackle the following initiatives:

1. **Player development:**
 - a. Hired first-ever Director of Coaching, Tom Worthington
 - b. Launched a new series of technical soccer clinics – the first being a supplemental goalkeeper training
2. **Increased opportunities for social & community connection:**
 - a. Launch "Off the Pitch" Newsletter as a forum to share Club news
3. **Higher quality fields:**
 - a. Field improvements, including replacement of old nets and sandbags, and grass seeding
 - b. Exploration of additional turf field options
4. **Club operations:**
 - a. Migrated all teams to the TeamSnap mobile app (SI Play discontinued)
 - b. Established and approved new club bylaws
 - c. Defined club committee structure and confirmed volunteers
 - d. Redesignated Chatham United website (www.chathamunitedsoccer.org)
 - e. Recreation Soccer and TOPSoccer registration launch

Building upon the club's current momentum, our next action steps are as follows:

- **Player development:**
 - Announcement of additional soccer training clinics
 - Strategic planning for improvements to the Recreation Soccer program
 - Exploration of a 7U TDP program
- **Increased opportunities for social & community connection:**
 - "Meet the Chatham United Board & DOC" opportunities in the form of practice/game visits, social events, and focus groups
 - Plan for presence in July 4th parade, along with exploration of other club & community events
 - Launch Chatham United spirit wear shop
- **Higher quality fields:**
 - Securing of additional turf and grass field options
- **Club operations:**
 - Parent Manager meeting to drive further engagement between the club and team levels

This is an exciting time for Chatham United and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve the local soccer community as we reshape our club. I hope that you will join us on our fun and engaging Chatham United Soccer journey.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Yee
President
Chatham United Soccer

WHO'S ON BOARD?

Continued from page 1

Newly elected Board will help refresh Chatham United's strategic direction, with a focus on player development, improved fields, and community connection.



BIG NEWS! The club has recently elected new CUS leadership to refresh its strategic direction. Newly elected board positions are as follows:

- President - Jonathan Yee
- Vice President - Jennifer Dunn
- Treasurers - Nora Fedyna and Elizabeth Curtis
- Legal/Secretary - Jim DiGiulio
- Board Advisors - Jesse Tracey and Bob Palazzi

With much appreciation, the club thanks Jesse Tracey and Bob Palazzi, not only for their tireless contributions and leadership through the years, but also for agreeing to stay engaged and advise the new board.

Jon Yee has been elected as Chatham United's new President. Residing in Chatham for the last 17 years, Jon is a father of three youth soccer players and has been coaching soccer at various ages and levels since 2014. He also volunteers his time with Chatham TOPSoccer, a program designed for soccer players with disabilities, and contributes on executive boards for NJ Youth Soccer and Delbarton PCDI. As CUS' new president, he envisions a revitalized strategy with added

emphasis on player development, improved fields, more social and community connection, enhanced club operations, and engagement with the CHS soccer program.

Elected as the club's Vice President is Jen (Redmond) Dunn, a native NJ resident who played soccer alongside Meghan Rapinoe and Becky Sauerbrunn on the U-19 World Championship team in 2004. She was the 2003 NJ High School State Player of the Year,

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We had a ball at our feet at all times, playing pick-up games with whoever was around. We couldn't get enough because it was fun - pure and simple.

Parade National Midfielder of the Year, and starting midfielder at the University of Virginia. Currently, Jen is a mother of four children and an assistant coach of the varsity soccer team at her alma mater, Oak Knoll School.

Even with all of Jen's achievements and success with the sport, her fondest soccer memories are from her own town

travel soccer team in Millburn, NJ. “All of my siblings and friends played soccer, so our Sundays in the fall were spent running around the Millburn Highschool fields,” Jen says. “After my game, I'd grab sandwiches and chips at Millburn deli with my teammates and hang out all day watching our other friends and siblings play. We had a ball at our feet at all times, playing pick-up games with whoever was around. We couldn't get enough because it was fun - pure and simple.”

Overall, the new CUS board is extremely encouraged by the energy and engagement of the organization's expanded team of volunteers and looking forward to working together with the Chatham community to embrace our love for the beautiful game of soccer.



NEW HIRE: THE DOC IS IN

Continued from page 1



Tom Worthington, Chatham United's first ever Director of Coaching (DOC) is just what the DOCTOR ordered.



One of the new CUS Board's first strategic actions in service of improved player development was hiring Tom Worthington as the club's first-ever Director of Coaching (DOC). In this critical DOC role Worthington will primarily be responsible for player development, technical training curriculum and clinics, input to team formation and trainer quality management.

Worthington comes to CUS with a wealth of experience, ranging from youth, senior to amateur league coaching roles. He started coaching in 2003 and is currently the Varsity Head Coach at Oak Knoll as well as a ECNL Staff Coach at PDA and owner of T.WO Touch Soccer. His prior coaching roles include STA Girls Academy where he was the College Coordinator, Head Coach of both Women's and Men's Jersey Blues (National Premier Soccer League),

Assistant Coach of FDU Men's, DOC at Macarthur Rams in Sydney, Australia, Academy coach at Chicago Fire MLS, Youth Academy Coach at Arsenal in London, and Youth Academy Coach at Maidstone United in Southeast England. Tom's teams have won various NJ State Cup Titles, Regional Championships and attended National Championships across the country. Worthington holds a BA Honours Degree in Sports & Fitness as well as USSF B, UEFA B, and NCSCAA Premier coaching licenses. Tom grew up in England with a love of soccer. He currently lives with his wife Samantha and 2 daughters, Abigail and Madeleine, in Somerville, NJ.

Worthington told us, "I am extremely excited to begin the role as Director of Coaching at Chatham United. After I spoke with the Board I knew that this would be a tremendous opportunity to be a part of the

Chatham community and help continue to build the program with player development and enjoyment being at the heart of everything. I am looking forward to meeting the parents, coaches and volunteers who put in countless hours for the most important aspect of all, the players."

Recently elected CUS President Jon Yee has commented, "I am very happy to welcome Tom Worthington to our Chatham United family. With Tom's soccer experience, knowledge, and training, he offers tremendous value and strengthens our ability to develop high quality, technically confident, soccer players. The youth sports landscape continues to evolve around us and we are extremely fortunate to have Tom onboard as we work together to adapt our club and elevate Chatham United to the next level."

SUMMER CAMPS TO CONSIDER



Chatham Sports Camps:

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/ChathamSportsCamps>

Chatham Girls Soccer Camp (run by current CHS Coach Correale):

4/19/23, 6:00 PM

hatham.png

Chatham Girls Soccer Camp

JULY 17TH - 20TH
(RAIN DATE: JULY 21ST)

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

COUGAR FIELD
312 SHUNPIKE ROAD
CHATHAM TOWNSHIP, NJ 07928

FOR GRADES 2 - 9
(AS OF SEPTEMBER 2023)

\$250 PER CAMPER

CAMP DIRECTOR: ANTHONY CORREALE

★ CHATHAM GIRLS VARSITY HEAD COACH

★ U.S.A D LICENSE COACH



FOR MORE INFO:

@acsoccertraining2016@gmail.com

