

# UNITED TIMES



## The Month of May -- It's a Soccer Rollercoaster!

In the world of youth soccer the month of May can have as many ups and downs as a Carowinds rollercoaster. Championships are on the line in both club and in high school and tryouts and evaluations are around the corner. Inboxes are full of messages about club options and training programs, all with the promise of being different, better, cheaper, more friendly, etc., etc.

Player's emotions are frayed with either the elation of winning the cup or making the team he/she wanted, or filled with the despair from a last minute loss or seeing your name at the level that you had not hoped to be on.

Parents are tense, understandably, only wanting the best for their children and knowing that it is quite possible their son or daughter will be disappointed and that they must help them navigate those emotions as maybe a tear or two will be shed.

Coaches understand the magnitude of the role that they play in a young person's life, especially this month. Tough choices have to be made and they understand these decisions will never be unanimously agreed upon. Most are parents of their own and empathize with each perspective but they are the ones that ultimately must make the final decision. They spend hours and hours of pre-work evaluation of players based on previous season performance to prepare for evaluations and then field time deliberating and hoping to make sure that they get it right. Coaching staff members meet to discuss player placement after each evaluation session during this difficult process.

With our club's philosophy, player movement is encouraged even during the season so that players who improve will be given the opportunity to play with or move to a higher team. SCUFC's goal is for each player to have the opportunity to be successful.

Club officials work tirelessly to ensure a full slate of programs are available and facilities and staff are in place. They have to be prepared to field questions and provide clear communication about the process, all the while making sure that our club's mission will be met.

So now that everyone knows what's in store this month, why is it that South Carolina United FC is consistently the number one club in the Midlands? While there are many factors that contribute to our position we believe it can best be summarized by saying we are solely driven by our mission.

Our club was founded upon the mission of "All Levels, All Youth. All Soccer" and that is something we deliver on and continually expand upon. The chart below shows our club's offerings with a level for everyone, commensurate of skill but regardless of gender, socioeconomic background, race or religion. We are confident in saying that our club programming is matched by no one in the Midlands. That said, we are continually looking for ways to improve the experience for both the player and the parents, and as such, we encourage feedback from our membership and often act upon their recommendations.

Programs are the bedrock of all great clubs, but there are other things that make a true club great, as well. South Carolina United has, with the help of its members and sponsors, consciously made the decision to provide a true "home" for our members. We are proud of our 11 lighted soccer fields across our two home complexes (Southeastern Freight Lines Soccer Center and SCUFC West Complex), as well as our state-of-the-art Sorinex weight room, stadium bleachers, concession stands, full-service on-site Prisma Health athletic trainer services, locker rooms, and well-maintained playing surfaces. These are facilities that provide an environment for members to not only develop their skills but also to be proud of. We also, in turn, offer our facilities to the community for programs that support community youth development as a way to give back.

Did you know that in the spring of 2021, SCUFC hosted over 496 games at our complexes? To put that into perspective, the combined total of the other Midlands clubs was less than 225 games. The growth and success of South Carolina United FC equals the growth and success of youth soccer in our community.

So, we have unmatched programs and unmatched facilities and that's great, but how do we make a club inclusive and accessible to all of our community? Again, we must go back to our club's mission. Is that really possible given the cost associated with club sports? The quick and only answer our club has ever given to this question is a resounding "yes!" but it isn't easy!

We must charge fees for services to those who can afford it and also provide assistance to those who cannot. South Carolina United does this at a level that dwarfs any of the other clubs in the Midlands. In the 2020-21 season we provided over \$100,000 in financial aid. Every family that applies and qualifies for aid receives it at some level. We are able to do this in large part due to the fantastic sponsorship support we receive from local companies and organizations, such as Southeastern Freight Lines, Prisma Health, BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina, Resource Financial Mortgage and Insurance, Cooperative Health, Groucho's of Irmo and the Jeff Riley Real Estate team, as well as government grants that believe in our mission and the value we bring to the community.

So as May is in full swing, and all the noise starts about where to play in the fall, we want to end by telling you that we are committed to our mission of being the best club for our diverse membership and our community. The local club that has all levels of programming for all, outstanding facilities, staff, accessibility, financial aid, and community service.

Thank you for helping us achieve our vision: “For the love of the game. For the life of the player.”

Sent with appreciation to all our of members,

Rob Strickland  
 SCUFC Executive Director



### Summer 2021 Training Corps Programs



<b>Bantams Futures Academy</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>June 9 - July 22</b>	<b>Birth Years:</b>	<b>2010 - 2014 Boys &amp; Girls</b>
	<b>Fee:</b>	5 wks \$135/7 wks \$175	<b>Location:</b>	Southeastern Freight Lines Complex
	<b>Schedule:</b>	Tuesdays & Thursdays ♦ 6:15 - 7:45 pm		

<b>Bantams Challenge Camp</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>June 22 - July 15</b>	<b>Birth Years:</b>	<b>2003 - 2009 Boys &amp; Girls</b>
	<b>Fee:</b>	\$75 2 wks/4 wks \$125	<b>Location:</b>	Spring Valley Presbyterian Church
	<b>Schedule:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays ♦ 6:00 - 7:45 pm		

<b>Bantams 7v7 Camp</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>June 11 - July 25</b>	<b>Birth Years:</b>	<b>2003 - 2014 Boys &amp; Girls</b>
	<b>Fee:</b>	\$50 per player	<b>Location:</b>	SCUFC West Complex
	<b>Schedule:</b>	Games on Fridays and Sunday evenings		

#### SCUFC 2021-22 COMPETITIVE TEAM PLAYERS

<b>Team Camp Senior Girls</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>July 30 - August 1</b>	<b>Birth Years:</b>	<b>2003 - 2009 Girls</b>
	<b>Fee:</b>	\$125	<b>Location:</b>	Southeastern Freight Lines Complex
	<b>Schedule:</b>	Fri. 6:30-8:30 pm ♦ Sat. 9:00-11:00 am & 5:00-7:00 pm ♦ Sun. 9:00-11:00 am		

<b>Team Camp Senior Boys</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>July 30 - August 1</b>	<b>Birth Years:</b>	<b>2003 - 2009 Boys</b>
	<b>Fee:</b>	\$125	<b>Location:</b>	SCUFC West Complex
	<b>Schedule:</b>	Fri. 6:30-8:30 pm ♦ Sat. 9:00-11:00 am & 5:00-7:00 pm ♦ Sun. 9:00-11:00 am		

<b>Team Camp Junior Academy</b>	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>August 6 - August 8</b>	<b>Birth Years:</b>	<b>2010 - 2014 Boys &amp; Girls</b>
	<b>Fee:</b>	\$125	<b>Location:</b>	Southeastern Freight Lines Complex
	<b>Schedule:</b>	Fri. 6:30-8:30 pm ♦ Sat. 9:00-11:00 am & 5:00-7:00 pm ♦ Sun. 9:00-11:00 am		

TRAINING CORPS

Register for Camps or Performance Academy

## Ways to make your transition to a new doctor smoother



Click on the link below from our friends at PRISMA to see how to find a primary doctor

[Prisma Health Blog: How to Find a Primary Doctor](#)



Elizabeth LeBel, MD,  
Internal Medicine

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## MEET THE COACH: NOEL HAZZARD



Noel Hazzard has been coaching soccer for 28 years, with 7 of those years with SCUFC.

Coach Noel was a member of the Trinidad and Tobago national youth team for two years and came to America in 1992 on a college soccer scholarship.

He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from USC Upstate and then continued his education at Converse College, where he received a Masters in Education, along with an Administrative Specialist degree.

From 2004 to 2014 he was the Head Coach at Spartanburg High School and also taught history. And in 2005, he was awarded the Region Coach of the Year award and Herald Journal Coach of the Year award for his accomplishments on the field.

When we asked why he loves coaching soccer, Coach Noel said, "I enjoy coaching the game because it is a way of life. Soccer is a beautiful game and I am always thrilled when I see our young soccer players having fun with the game and in life."



## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: COOPERATIVE HEALTH



"Cooperative Health is committed to delivering 'accessible, high quality compassionate health care in the spirit of the Good Samaritan.'

For almost 40 years, we continue to provide a full-continuum of primary care to our patients from infancy into adulthood.

We promote optimal wellness with our community members by removing socioeconomic barriers to care; enabling individuals to make informed health decisions; and empowering individuals to be self-directed consumers of their health care services.

--Mr. Delgado Cantave, President & CEO  
Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center

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## UPCOMING DATES

- May 29 at 7:30 pm Bantams USL2 Home Game Opener
- June 1 at 7:30 pm Bantams USL2 Home Game
- June 2 at 7:30 pm WPSL Home Game Game Opener
- June 12 at 7:30 pm WPSL Home Game

# BANTAMS USL2

## USL LEAGUE TWO SCHEDULE



HOME | AWAY

\*\*All home matches begin at 7:30pm  
Southeastern Freightline Soccer Center

MAY 18		JUNE 8		JULY 1	
MAY 22		JUNE 15		JULY 6	
MAY 25		JUNE 18		JULY 10	
MAY 29		JUNE 22			
JUNE 1		JUNE 26			
JUNE 5					

#UPTHEBANTAMS



# WOMEN'S WPSL SCHEDULE

## WPSL SCHEDULE



HOME | AWAY

\*\*All home matches begin at 7:30pm  
Southeastern Freightline Soccer Center

JUNE 2		JUNE 16		JULY 1	
JUNE 6		JUNE 20		JULY 7	
JUNE 12		JUNE 26			



#UPTHEBANTAMS





# THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS



Irmo, SC

