



TOPSoccer Scot C. Boniface

The following is a recap of the New York State West TOPSoccer programs for 2014:

Amherst Soccer Club -	14 week session	Rob Anderson	80 player's	150 volunteers
Buffalo / Lockport -	6 week session	Gina Terbott	15 player's	20 volunteers
Buffalo at Sahlen's -	8 week session	Scot Boniface	95 player's	80 volunteers
Watertown -	1 day jamboree	Chris Pacillio	12 player's	12 volunteers
Syracuse -	1 day jamboree	Jeff Dorfman	40 player's	25 volunteers
Syracuse -	6 week session	Jeff Dorfman	40 player's	18 volunteers
Buffalo at West Seneca -	7 week session	Scot Boniface	60 player's	40 volunteers
TOTALS			340 player's	345 volunteers

Amherst TOPSoccer – this program has very good and supportive leadership from Rob Anderson and the Amherst Soccer Club. Their success in running a 14 week program from late fall through early spring is great for the players with special needs as well as their volunteer buddies from the Amherst Soccer Club and the town of Amherst. I believe they have proven that this is the model we should follow for future long term programs by finding a club that is interested in running a TOPSoccer program with strong, dedicated leadership and a continuing volunteer pool. Their 2015 program starts November 8 at their training facility in the Village Glen Tennis Center.

TOPSoccer at Sahlen's – we have fantastic support from the Sahlen family and staff. Our spring session had the most number of players and buddies to date; probably due to the timing of the sessions and the awesome fields and practice times we were given. We are planning on running a spring session, as in years past, after Amherst soccer finishes their program.

Syracuse TOPSoccer – had a very successful inaugural jamboree in the spring followed by a full session in early summer. I will be talking with Jeff once his busy schedule and my work travels and college refereeing is finished for the fall season.

West Seneca TOPSoccer – we had a successful 7-week session thanks to West Seneca soccer club and the town of West Seneca recreation department. With this session being run in the middle of summer and families having many other activities to fill their schedules and the poor weather on Tuesday nights, I think we still had very solid numbers.



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For the Future – I have reconnected with a referee friend of mine from Livonia, south of Rochester that is interested in helping start a TOPSoccer program there.

I also will be contacting Steve Axtell, the men’s Cortland State soccer coach once the season is over so as not to have any appearance of conflict of interest if I were to be assigned any of their upcoming playoff games. After a few Cortland games the last 2 years, I feel we have mutual respect for each other and I think Cortland would be a great place to have a program given the colleges curriculums.

I believe that if New York State West is looking to increase the number of participants in TOPSoccer, each district commissioner will need to find/select a club to start a program in their district. They would need to find a club, such as Amherst Soccer Club, with strong dedicated leadership that is not concerned about starting slowly and making a few mistakes but looking to develop a solid program for children with special needs and a volunteer opportunity for the young adults in each program area to grow as leaders and good citizens. I will continue to help guide each district through the initial start-up and activities to help each create a successful TOPSoccer program.

New York State West has been very supportive in sponsoring TOPSoccer programs in any community that has shown an interest or need for this program. We look forward to continuing to expand the number of chapters throughout the region serviced by New York State West Youth Soccer Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Scot C. Boniface
NYSWest TOPSoccer Coordinator