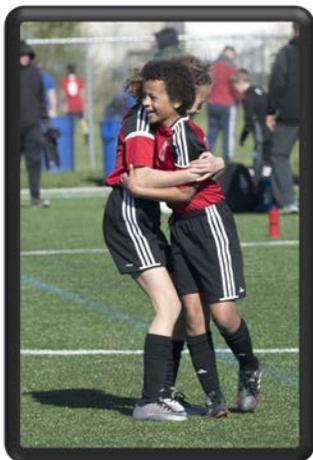




U11 Development Program

In the fall of 2017, the Madison 56ers will enter their **fourth year** of providing Development Teams. U11 Boys and Girls Development Teams consist of 8, 9 & 10 year olds playing at the U11 age grouping in the Classic Division of Madison Area Youth Soccer Association (MAYSA). The club currently houses three teams for the boys and one for the girls. All of the teams participate in two training sessions per week throughout the fall and spring seasons. Out of season consists of two trainings a week in the 56er Indoor Training Facility with designated scheduled breaks. For those players looking for even more touches outside their team trainings, extra opportunities are scheduled for Field Players as well as Goalkeepers.

“Our U11 Development players have exceeded expectations again this year. Coaches Mark, Ryan and Kelly have worked extremely hard this year to continue to offer a structured program for our youngest 56er teams. The players continue to push themselves in every practice, working on the fundamentals of the game in a fast paced, competitive setting.” Commented **Director of Coaching Tony Wright**. “Technically our development show tremendous growth playing at a faster pace against bigger and stronger players throughout the season. The result of this program has seen our U11 and up program thrive in State and Midwest leagues and tournaments. By providing a consistent curriculum, coaching support and a constant presence our staff have maintained a fun environment for these players to grow and succeed as soccer players and people.” Added Wright.



U11 Girls Development Program

This year the U11 Girls Gold team participated in the MAYSA U11 Girls Tier 1 League where they found competitive games earning 2 wins, 2 ties and 4 losses in the fall. This spring the Gold girls are off to a strong start with 2 wins, 1 tie and 1 loss in the same top U11 Tier. The team also participated in three fall tournaments: Madison 56ers, North Shore Fall Classic and Milwaukee Bavarian Tournament. The team traveled to Milwaukee for spring pre-season friendlies against Milwaukee Kickers and Brookfield teams in their age group. They play 3 Spring Tournaments including Milwaukee Kickers Froedtert Invitational, LUFCS Kickin' it Lakeside and the Reddan Thunder Tournament. They competed in the Milwaukee Kickers Invitational Tournament where they were Champions, outscoring opponents 20 to 6 with four consecutive wins over U11s Bavarians Blue, North Shore White, Brookfield White and Brookfield's Academy (Development) team. Highlights included a 4-0 win over fellow WDA Brookfield's U11 Academy team, whom had earlier beaten the 56er Golds 7-2 in the fall, and a 3-1 win over North Shores U11s whom they had tied in the fall. The girls train 2-3 times a week fall and spring helping to prepare them to compete at a higher level.



Over the winter months, the girls trained twice a week at the 56er Indoor Training Facility, allowing them to continue to develop in the off-season. In training, they focus on their technical (skills) and tactical (decision making) abilities. The players arrive knowing there is an expectation to work hard and compete every day. They are surrounded by like-minded competitive girls, which is an important environment for the driven player. The team was also able to train in with the older 56er teams providing them the challenge of competing against bigger, faster, stronger and more experienced players.



The winter was also time for the Madison Futsal League (MFL) where they had continued success against older girls' teams. They also played indoor soccer at Breakaway where they played in the u11 Co-ed division. They worked hard in this league to compete. They traveled to the Milwaukee Kickers indoor tournament where the girls were prepared for speed of play and physicality as they

battled top teams from Illinois and Milwaukee.

The girls also find time for fun off the field with team events that allow friendships and team bonding to develop. They participated in Wisconsin Women's Soccer Stars of Tomorrow program, team dinners, and high school ball girls among other events.

-Coach Kelly Severson

U11 Boys Development Program

The U11 Boys Development Program consisted of three teams this year U11 Gold, Black and Bronze, consisting of players from the 2007, 2008 and 2009 birth years, playing up in the U11 brackets.



All three teams did a tremendous job with their overall development. Each team saw promotion from fall to spring seasons while posting overall winning records. In addition to their scheduled twice a week training sessions, many of the players also participated in Goalkeeper training along with Advanced Training on Friday evenings. Both teams participated in Sessions I, II & III of Futsal and Session III of Indoor Soccer. Players did a great

job balancing their personal schedules with the soccer schedule as many also participate in other sports and activities throughout the year.

We have made it a priority to create an environment that has an intense focus on individual skill as well as decision making with and without the ball in addition to athletic development. There has been introduction to systems of play, attacking principles as well as defensive positioning. The coaches have worked to facilitate a love for creative attacking soccer through competitive game play. This competitive training and game environment has allowed players to understand how to handle pressure and more importantly how to react positively when faced with adversity. Promoting a professional training mindset at a young age has helped the players collaborate, encourage and learn from one another.



All three teams participated in several tournaments in Illinois and throughout Wisconsin, along with their MAYSA season schedules.



As we have stated time and again to players over the years, it is the players that make the program and the club successful. We are extremely excited to welcome the next group of players into the Development Program to help lay the foundation for another successful group of players to make their way into the Madison 56ers family.

-Coaches Mark Diercks & Ryan Mooney