

Otto Orf **Founder, Hands On Sports Foundation**

Otto Orf, is a native of Buffalo, NY and a former twenty-one year professional indoor and outdoor soccer veteran who resides in Kent, Ohio since he came to NE Ohio to play for the Cleveland crunch in 1989. Otto established himself as one of the most recognizable goalkeepers in the history of pro indoor soccer as an integral part of the Cleveland franchise winning three NPSL championships during his career. Otto's professional teams include Buffalo Storm, (1984 USL), Fall River Sporting (1985-87 LASA), Columbus Capitols, (1985 AISA), Fort Wayne Flames, (1986-89 AISA), Toronto Italia, (1987-8 NSL), Toronto Croatia, (1988-9 NSL), San Diego Sockers, (1988-9 MISL), San Diego Nomads (1989 WSL), Cleveland Crunch, (1989-1992 MISL), Orlando Lions (1990 ASL), Cleveland Crunch, (1993-2000 NPSL), Cleveland Force, (2000-2004 MISL*).



In addition to individual and group instruction Otto directed and coached youth teams at the German Family Society Premier Soccer Club and served as the assistant coach for the Cleveland Force and Hiram College men's soccer. In 2013 Otto started the Heart and Sole Futsal Academy to serve high level futsal players in addition to anyone who wants to learn the skills and tactics specific to the game.

Futsal & Project Retread

Otto was a member of the US National Futsal Team in CONCACAF Championship competitions in Guatemala, 1996, Costa Rica 2000 and in the Gold Cup in Anaheim, CA 2003. Otto's play in Guatemala 1996 earned him the goalkeeper of the tournament trophy as the US team won the gold medal and qualified for the FIFA Futsal World Cup in Spain

In 2007 with former teammate Chris Dore, Great Lakes Futsal, formerly the Cleveland Futsal League, was formed and now runs three locations for over 400 teams on an annual basis.

In 2011 Otto was invited by US National Futsal Team head coach Keith Tozer to assist in training the US Men's Futsal Team in Torrence, California as they prepared for the Futsal Grand Prix in Manaus, Brazil.

Traveling to Spain in 2012 Otto revisited Segovia, the site of the 1996 World Cup and traveling to La Coruna and Madrid over 9 days to take part of the first LNFS Futsal Coaching Seminar earning a coaching diploma from the renowned futsal coaching legend Javier Lozano.



In 2013 Otto attended the first United States Youth Futsal Coaching Certification Course in Boston, Massachusetts. In 2014 he was invited to assist in the creation of the first CONCACAF Futsal Coaching Curriculum. In addition to directing 6 USYF player identification camps across the USA in 2016 Otto also attended another coaching seminar performed by the famous Brazilian player and coach Antonio 'Zego' Acevedo. Otto is now the USYF State Director of Ohio and national Director of Goalkeeping.

In 2013 Otto acquired permission from the City of Akron, Ohio to repurpose an under used outdoor roller hockey rink and transformed the property into one of the first public access futsal courts in the country. Current projects include adding 2 courts in Akron and 2 inner city futsal programs in the City of East Cleveland in partnership with the Salvation Army.

Otto continues to visit Costa Rica where he connects with new friends, past futsal acquaintances and the children from the 9 Guanacaste schools we have 'adopted' over the last 7 years. With his family and network of volunteers has distributed over 8,000 pair of shoes and other soccer equipment, food processors, classroom fans and structural funding through Project Retread. The efforts expanded to the Talamanca Jungle Reserve in 2015 where the indigenous Bribri, Cabecar and Amubri tribes are assisted with medical, dental and sporting supplies. In 2016 Otto added Colombia to the list of more than a dozen countries that receive equipment donations through Project Retread. It is his goal to connect NE Ohio youth with international youth through the game of soccer and futsal that has made such a great impact on his own life.