

Whatcom County Youth Soccer Association Families,

Happy Holidays! I hope you are having a great holiday season!

My name is Brad Swanson. I am the president of WFC Rangers.

Many of you have been involved in our club Rangers or are looking forward to being involved in our Rangers in the next few years. For those of you who are not familiar with WFC Rangers, the club is the Whatcom County Youth Soccer Association's (WCYSA) club authorized to provide elite soccer for WCYSA's players. This is consistent with our Mission Statement, which states:

Foster growth of elite soccer players in Whatcom County by providing a holistic approach to player development.

On behalf of the club, I wanted to give our WCYSA families an end of the year summary of the Ranger program.

Tryouts for our teams occurred in May. We were able to create 34 premier and select teams and 8 RDP teams (4 girls teams and 4 boys teams).

Throughout the summer our teams competed in summer tournaments ranging from local tournaments here, like the Baker Blast and Rimland Challenge, to other places in the state and beyond. While the measure of success for each team was different, our teams were very successful in their summer endeavors.

In September, our RDP teams started their season. Our RDP teams played 8 hard weeks of competitive soccer at Phillips 66 Soccer Park. With games starting at either 8:00 am or 9:15 am, our RDP endured some early mornings, but their enthusiasm made those mornings really exciting and started the day at Phillips 66 on the right note.

Around the same time, most of our select and premier teams started their seasons. These teams played their seasons either in the Regional Club League or North Puget Sound League. Away games occurred as far away as Spokane, the Tri-Cities, and Vancouver, Washington, and as close as north Seattle and Skagit County. Our teams played most of their home games at Phillips 66. Those seasons are wrapping up now for the winter break.

Our high school girls teams did not play this fall. Because girls high school soccer is in the fall, statewide girls select soccer is played in the winter and spring. Thus, our girls high school teams are just starting their seasons following exciting high school seasons.

Our teams will start the new year with more soccer. Most of our teams will conclude their year by playing in one of several statewide tournaments, which are commonly known as the "State Cup". We wish all our teams well into the new year!

In additional news, Hubert Busby, Jr., our technical director, resigned in November. We will miss Hubie and wish him the best of luck, but this opens a door for the club to continue to evolve.

During the interim, our assistant technical directors, Travis Connell and Jason Conway have been promoted to co-interim technical directors. In addition to their new roles, they retain their duties as assistant technical directors. Further, we hired an interim technical assistant. Please welcome Noah Braun back to the WCYSA. As a youth player, Noah was a Ranger! Since moving out of the area, Noah has become an accomplished player and coach. Noah's resume includes some time with the Columbus Crew of the MLS. Now, Noah is back and excited about helping Whatcom County's youth soccer grow. We look forward to having him. Our search for a new technical director is ongoing. We expect to have a new technical director hired and ready to go by the end of April.

We take great pride in offering elite soccer for the WCYSA. Should you have any questions about our program, please visit our website at [www.wfcrangers.com](http://www.wfcrangers.com). Also, please feel free to email me or our technical staff at the following emails:

Brad Swanson – [rydersdad2005@hotmail.com](mailto:rydersdad2005@hotmail.com)

Travis Connell - [Travis.Connell@wwu.edu](mailto:Travis.Connell@wwu.edu)

Jason Conway - [jasonconway@comcast.net](mailto:jasonconway@comcast.net)

Noah Braun - [braun.nb@gmail.com](mailto:braun.nb@gmail.com)

As an aside, please congratulate Travis Connell on the amazing soccer season his Western Washington University women's soccer team had this year. As head coach, he led his Lady Vikings to an undefeated season that saw them win the NCAA Division II national title. We are fortunate to have such a great coach helping lead our club.

We look forward to continuing to serve the WCYSA with elite soccer. Again, happy holidays!

WFC Rangers

Brad Swanson, President