TUCSON SOCCER ACADEMY

Southern Arizona's Premier Soccer Program

EXCELLENCE
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT

EST 2000 — EXPECT THE BEST

AKS Kickin' It Clubhouse Ribbon Cutting

It was a great moment for the Tucson Soccer Academy and a lifetime moment for Ted Schmidt and his family when the Ann Kathryn Schmidt Kickin' It Clubhouse finally opened its doors on January 3, 2014.

The official ribbon cutting ceremony took place on a beautiful winter afternoon, three years to the day after Ann passed away from breast cancer. She is the late wife of TSA President Ted Schmidt.

"The generosity and good will of so many wonderful folks in our community in making this a reality is overwhelming," Schmidt said. "Ann always brought out the best in everyone. And, it is so fitting that she not only brought out the best in folks as they brought the clubhouse to reality, but it will also, for many years to come, provide the means and motivation for countless kids to be their best."

More than 200 friends and family turned out for the ceremony, including numerous past and present players.

The facility is beyond everyone's expectations as the local soccer community and local companies came together to make it all possible.

"This is the most incredible clubhouse I have ever seen," TSA co-founder Wolfgang Weber said. "I'm sure it will inspire generations of young players for decades to come."

Also in attendance was current county supervisor Ray Carroll, park founder John Fenton and retired Pima County Supervisor Ann Day, who was instrumental in helping the clubhouse become possible.

"Your athletes are coached by the most respected and accomplished coaches available in the area and therefore Tucson Soccer Academy athletes are not only prepared for the game of soccer but also for the game of life," said Day.

Weber spoke about the numerous former players who have gone on to play college soccer and about six former players who have gone on to sign professional contracts.

Two of them attended the event. Luis Robles, a starter for the New York Red Bulls of Major League Soccer, was fourth in the voting for last season's MLS Goalkeeper of the Year. He was also the Red Bulls Humanitarian of the Year and one of just seven players in the MLS and the only Red Bull to play all 3,060 minutes of the regular season.

Also attending was Donny Toia, who recently signed with Chivas USA and is just awaiting news for what's next for him.

Mark Your Calendar!
Arizona Youth Soccer Association's
Kid's Cancer Shave-Off
March 5, 2014
St. Baldrick's FOUNDATION
ARIZONA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION
http://www.stbaldrick.org

Coaches Against Cancer

Help fund childhood cancer research by becoming a part of the TSA-sponsored "Coaches Against Cancer" event on March 5, 2014 at the Ann Kathryn Schmidt Kickin' It Clubhourse. Since 1999, the St. Baldrick's Foundation has raised over $100,000,000 for childhood cancer research. You can donate your hair, sponsor others to do so, or just be a volunteer for this this very worthwhile cause. Click the "join us" button and register on the website: http://www.stbaldricks.org/events/aysatucson.

Players, parents, and coaches may enter as individuals or as part of a team. Gather pledges and raise money to fight cancer while earning free registration and cash for your team and club.

If you have a news item, please submit it to Ted Schmidt at (520) 545-1670, (520) 241-2794 or Tschmidt@kss-law.com. Or contact Steve.Rivera95@gmail.com for any newsletter or website information.

The Nina Weber-Panipinto Scholarship

TSA has established The Nina Weber-Panapinto Scholarship in the name of the TSA Co-Founder and Coach Wolfgang Weber's late wife who recently passed away. Nina was a well-known and widely respected member of the Tucson soccer community in her own right as the co-proprietor, along with Wolfgang, of Eiger Sportswear. Our condolences go out to Wolfgang and Nina's family.

In addition, an ironwood tree will be planted at the Ann K. Schmidt Kickin' It Clubhouse in Nina's memory. Donations, which will help local TSA youth soccer players, should be sent to: TSA, P.O. Box 2190, Tucson, AZ 85701.

Title Team

TSA's '02 Girls Red team has been impressive this winter! They won the MSC United Patriots Cup Tournament in November in Phoenix and finished first in PCJSL's U-13 Gold Division during the fall season, earning a promotion to the Chipotle State League. The team is coached by Lisa Fraser.

Way to go girls!

National Title Participant

Former TSA standout Morgan Rooney, a freshman at Concordia University (Portland, Ore.) helped the Cavaliers win the NAIA Women's Collegiate Championship on December 7, 2013.. Rooney, a defender, played for the TSA '95 Girls Red and TSAFC.

The Cavaliers finished with a record of 21-1-1 after winning their first NAIA women's soccer national championship trophy, defeating No. 2-seeded Westmont College (California) 1-0 in Orange Beach, Alabama. Morgan participated in 17 matches this season.

McKale Cleanups

It's that time of year ... UA sporting events. If you have signed up for a McKale Center clean up please see the full schedule here. And please check ArizonaWildcats.com for updated game times. Arrive and meet on the 3rd level 1 ½ hours after the game starts.

If you have any questions contact Dawn Marie Bogdanowich at 520-603-9803.

Please email Dawn at McKale_CleanUps@hotmail.com later that day or the next day and let her know how the cleanup went.

And finally ...

Congratulations to David Cosgrove, Wolfgang Weber and Charlie Kendrick for making Greg Hansen's top 100 list for Southern Arizona's significant sports figures for 2013. Cosgrove was named to the Pima County Sports Hall of Fame and the ACCAC Hall of Fame; Weber won his sixth boys' state title at Salpointe Catholic High School (back to back in 2012-13); and Kendrick won his seventh overall, and fourth consecutive girls' state title at Catalina Foothills High School.

Fall Commitments

Maddi Quinn, a forward for the 96 Girls Red, has committed to play for the University of Great Falls in Montana. Teammate Breanna Parkinson, a midfielder, has committed to Dixie State University in St. George, Utah.