

## Quotes

“The best youth soccer coaches strive to lose their best players”

Rinus Michels, Former Dutch National Team Coach

“A common question asked by youth coaches at coaching courses is "where do I hide my weaker players?" My answer to that is why do you feel the need to “hide” them when it is our job as coaches to develop them. If we never expose those players to situations that arise in games, how do we expect them to get better?”

Ian Mulliner – Illinois State Director

“For some reason, adults – some who can’t even kick a ball – think it is perfectly okay to scream at children while they’re playing soccer. How normal would it seem if a mother gave a six-year-old some crayons and a coloring book and started screaming? “Use the red crayon! Stay in the lines! Don’t use yellow?” You think that child would develop a passion for drawing? Most important, parents must realize that playing sports is a way for children to express themselves.”

Claudio Reyna, Former Men’s U.S. National Team Captain

“There are many people, particularly in sports who think that success and excellence are the same thing and they are not the same thing. Excellence is something that is lasting and dependable and largely within a person’s control. In contrast, success is perishable and is often outside our control... If you strive for excellence, you will probably be successful eventually... people who put excellence in first place have the patience to end up with success... An additional burden for the victim of the success mentality is that he/she is threatened by success of others and resents real excellence. In contrast, the person fascinated by quality is excited when he/she sees it in others.”

Joe Paterno – Penn State Football Coach – 1990