

Edmonton Drillers Youth Soccer Club

Special points of interest

- Outdoor Season Startup—May 2017
- Men's Coach of the Year
- Paperless Drillers
- Fundraising / Events
- Special Recognitions
- Technical Director Message

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Top Stories

Alberta Soccer (ASA) - AMSL Coach of the Year, Ralf Schmidt

ASA Major League Provincials—Men's Major League Provincial Finals

Shout out to U17 Drillers Boys Coach Rocky DeLuca—His Angels Women's Major League Team wins Provincial Finals

Chance Carter—Accepted to Whitecaps Residency Program

Welcome to:

U10 boys Coach Michael Lounsbury

Grassroots Coordinator Alex Dickson

Drillers Board member, Club Administrator, Diane Mounteer

Thank you to Canadian Tire West Edmonton for the gracious donation of 300 gloves to our Club. Our intention is to affix our logo to them for team recognition.



Grassroots Update

It is with great pleasure that the Drillers introduce Alex Dickson as our new Grassroots Coordinator. Alex holds a Provincial B-License coaching certification, Masters of Arts in Coaching, and Bachelor of Physical Education. Alex has extensive experience as a coach over the last 16 years and has been involved as an assistant coach with the University of Alberta Golden Bears, Principal Coach with the Green and Gold Soccer Academy, and he has coached with the Alberta Select All-Star teams. He is especially passionate about Grassroots and Coaching Development. Alex has introduced a new Grassroots Program for the 2017 outdoor season; Check it out on our website at www.edmdrillers.com/grassroots/

Please join us in welcoming Alex to the club. He is going to be a great addition to our Technical Team.



Indoor Season Wrap / Outdoor Startup

Another successful Indoor season is under our belts. We thank all the parents, players, coaches, managers, technical directors, Board, and anyone else that plays a role in making the Club a success.

With that we have the start of the 2017 Outdoor season.

- ◆ We had 395 players participate in tryouts/orientation sessions.
- ◆ We are declaring 13 teams in the U10—U17 categories and 1 team in the U6/U8 category.
- ◆ We raised 437 kilograms of food for the food bank.

Thank you to everyone who helped collect donations for the Fun Team Belize soccer, baseball, and running camp in Placencia and Seine Bight.

At this time, we say goodbye to Alesha Weicker (former Grassroots Coordinator), Karen Sheydwasser (former Club Administrator), and Mario Stagliano (former Club Marketing Director).

Note** We have gone paperless; all registrations/forms will be completed on-line. All teams will be using TeamSnap.

AMSL Coach of the Year (ASA)



At the yearly ASA banquet, Ralf Schmidt (long-time coach of our Major league Men's team) won the AMSL Men's Coach of the Year award for the 2016 Outdoor season. Ralf led the team to a 6 game winning streak near the end of the regular season and a berth at the ASA Provincials.

Ralf has been a coach with the Edmonton Drillers since the Club's inception in 2003 and, along with his duties as a men's coach, he continues to help as a technical coach with youth teams in the Club. While he is quick to give credit to his players and right-hand man, Ralf's years of dedication and commitment to coaching players and developing the Club embodies what it means to be a Driller. This has inspired several of his players who have been or are currently coaches within the Drillers program.

On behalf of the Drillers Club, congratulations to Ralf on a well-deserved award!

Player Recognition

The Edmonton Drillers Soccer Club would like to congratulate:

- ◆ Chance Carter (left), U17 Tier 1 boys, has been accepted to the Whitecaps Residency Program starting in February 2017.
- ◆ Luis Burke (right) who made the U13 boys North Provincial Training Program for 2017.

We wish you both all the best and success in your future endeavors.



Team Recognition

For your viewing pleasure..... A great photo of the first graduating class of Drillers players circa 2003. You might recognize a few of the players; Ralf Schmidt, Tanner Ross, Dave Vanberkel, Mark Spiller, Shawn Dowling, Rob Risling.



Congratulations to our Major League Men's team. This team has emerged as one of the top teams in the highest level of amateur soccer in Canada. It is a flagship team for the adult program teams; built upon former Drillers youth players. Their success continued into the winter, capturing a third consecutive indoor league title, sadly losing the Provincial Championship to Green and Gold.



Club Days

The club will host its annual Club Days on **April 27—29, 2017**.

The two day event will consist of technical training for the players, family BBQ, team recognitions, and a potential major league soccer game.

Thank you to Ernie Cavaliere, the Club's Technical Director, for organizing the training sessions.

Thank you to the Board Members, and helpers, for arranging this.

Thank you to M&M Food Market for catering the food and drink again this year.



Inside Info

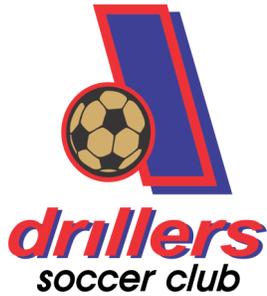
To recycle any Drillers Merchandise, please contact Jim Kiezik at: merchandise@edmdrillers.com

Volunteers for the Drillers Board are always welcome. Contact Yvonne Seethram at: president@edmdrillers.com

Thank you to all our teams for supporting the Madden DeLuca CHD Awareness Golf Tournament June 10, 2017 and the Madden DeLuca 6v6 Adult Soccer Tournament May 13, 2017.

Stop in at **Kicks Sports—North** for all your Drillers apparel. Check out the great selection of soccer shoes and other necessities.

We have the inside scoop for you.....



Leading Youth Soccer!

We're on the Web!
www.edmdrillers.com

Our Mission

Provide opportunities for youth soccer players to excel in individual and team soccer skills in a challenging and competitive environment.

Ensure that each participant has an enjoyable soccer experience while moving toward his or her personal goals.

Maintain a reputation as the model Tier 1 and Tier 2 program that constantly strives for character development, fair play, and a higher level of achievement.

Develop the highest quality facilities, program, and coaching staff in the Province of Alberta.

Visit our Facebook page and like us at: <https://www.facebook.com/drillerssoccerclub/>

Upcoming Events

Drillers Club Days—West Meadowlark Hall, April 27—29, Family BBQ on the 29th (more information to follow via email). Make sure to submit your food choice once your Team Manager sends out the link.

Grocery Cards —This event will be held late April / Early May. Contact your Team Manager for information on this activity. If your team has never participated but would like to, contact Ann Eddy (ameddy@shaw.ca) for information on how to participate at the team level.

Club Fundraising

Stay Tuned....

With the Outdoor season underway, the next Club fundraising activity will be the raffle tickets. Contact your Team Manager for further information.

If your team is hosting a fundraising activity, feel free to contact the Club Administrator (admin@edmdrillers.com) to post the information to the Drillers Facebook page or have it communicated in the Newsletter.

Note that a new Club Fundraising Policy is currently under review at the Board Level. Please ensure your teams contact the Club Administrator (admin@edmdrillers.com) when fundraising licenses are required.

Technical Director's Message

With the leagues having just finished up and tryouts now behind us, our attention turns to the outdoor season. The outdoor game is the reason we all fell in love with soccer in the first place and we look forward to it throughout the long, cold indoor season. Before we know it, we will be outside on the grass training and playing three or four times a week while also managing school teams and other activities.

For some, work and academics continue to be a priority and then there is the all dreaded question "When do we take a family summer trip that is not soccer related?" Together it can become an overwhelming balancing act of schedules and endless time in the car travelling from one venue to another. For all of these reasons, it is of paramount importance that we take a step away from the game on occasion and re-energize ourselves and everyone involved in making soccer happen. We need to take time to recover physically, mentally, and emotionally from time to time but we regularly neglect to do so. Statements like "I'll lose my touch", "my fitness will drop", "my team will get bad habits" and "lazy" can often be heard from players and coaches alike.

I have found throughout my long coaching career, as well as reading literature on the topic, that rest periods are vital for everyone involved with the team. Players, coaching staff, parents, and families can all use a break from the grind of the training season to then return refreshed with renewed excitement for the team, training, and game. After all, we may only be talking about a break of a couple of weeks and this could be the difference between still being enthused, or not, come late July. I have always given my teams time off at various points in the season and throughout the course of the year and I have never been disappointed with the long term results. Sure the first session back might be a bit sketchy but building and developing is what we do as teams and what makes the game so rewarding. I would encourage any team to take strategically scheduled breaks. Now is the perfect time.

Ernie Cavaliere

Technical Director

Edmonton Drillers Soccer Club