



“On Equal Footing” Soccer Scholarship Program

Central Marin Competitive Youth Soccer Club

Contact: Mark Bloomberg at mark_bloomberg@yahoo.com

Goal of Program

The goal of the On Equal Footing Program is to eliminate the financial barriers that keep talented kids from playing soccer at the Competitive/Select level. The Competitive program is a higher level program which includes advanced training for the more athletic player and allows them to travel to play against a higher level of competition. Whereas players may play 12 games in a recreational soccer season, it is typical for Competitive teams to play 25-35 games. Due to additional costs incurred in travel, special training, tournament fees, uniforms and equipment, youths from lower income families have historically been unable to participate at this level. This program has attempted to eliminate that barrier for some players in hopes that the program can be expanded and others will follow the lead of the contributors to this program by supporting players in other ways.

Special focus is being given to kids from the Canal Area, many of who do not try out for the traveling Teams due to the higher costs. Even though we limit our fees to \$1,700 for the highest level and \$1400 for the 2nd level, this makes the program inaccessible for many players in Central Marin. This focus is to help a known problem and in a small way attempt to bring our communities together with a common sport. The program not only facilitates these players to play at a higher level, but also helps integrate the communities and develops common bonds between families that would not normally interact. In addition, many teams do extensive traveling, some to other states and countries, which helps broaden their view of the world. The program is open to all kids aged 8-17 living in Central Marin. It is not focused on specific race or sex, but on helping kids progress in sports and in life.

Each team must provide a scholarship to one player on their team before they are eligible for the Club or the “On Equal Footing” scholarship.

Brief History

- Over \$200,000 has been raised and distributed
- More than 350 scholarships have been awarded

Scholarship Qualification

- Candidate must be age 8-17 in 2016
- Candidate is currently a resident within the geography covered by the Central Marin Competitive Youth Soccer Club. Designated scholarships have been set-up for youths from the Canal Area and Central Marin. For these scholarships, the candidate must be from the Canal Area or Central Marin.
- Coach or team parents will commit to provide transportation to and from practices, games and tournaments.
- Teams must provide a team scholarship before a player from that team is eligible for an “On Equal Footing Scholarship.
- Teams from outside CMSC may not participate in this scholarship program.

Scholarship Award Process

STEP ONE:

- Coaches/Team Manager may nominate players for scholarships.
- Coach or Team manager must submit application forms to Mark Bloomberg.
- PLEASE DO NOT have parents send applications directly to Mark Bloomberg but instead submit through Team Manager.
- Maximum Scholarship will be based on available funds and the amount of applications. In the past the maximum award has been \$400 to \$800 per player, but may be less.

STEP TWO:

- “On Equal Footing” Board will review all applications and determine proposed scholarship awards.
- All decisions of the OEF Board are final, there will be no appeal process.

STEP THREE:

- Coaches/Team Manager will be notified of the acceptance or denial of their application.
- In the likely event of limited scholarships, a priority schedule has been established. Each team with qualified candidates will receive one scholarship before any team receives a second scholarship. Based on the amount of money available and number of applicants, partial scholarships may be awarded. Priority for scholarships will be as follows:
 - ✓ Returning Players who received the On Equal Footing Scholarship in the past
 - ✓ Younger Players (Age 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, through 17)
 - ✓ Board Decision

For More Information, Contact Mark Bloomberg at e-mail: mark_bloomberg@yahoo.com



On Equal Footing 2016

Central Marin Youth Soccer Club

Scholarship Application

FOR TEAM MANAGER TO COMPLETE

Team Manager to submit this application to

Mark Bloomberg @ OEF Central Marin Soccer Club, 64 Canyon Oak Dr, San Rafael, CA 94903

Or e-mail to: mark_bloomberg@yahoo.com

Date _____

Player Name _____ Phone _____

Player's Home Address _____

Why you think player deserves a scholarship: _____

Family Income Estimate: Under \$50,000 per year _____, \$50,000 to \$100,000 _____, Over \$100,000 _____

Team Name _____ Age Group _____ Boys / Girls _____

Team Name or Pool: _____

Coach or Team Manager Name _____ Phone _____

Coach or Team Manager Home Address _____
(WHERE CHECK IS SENT)

Total Team Fee \$ _____ Team Fundraising Plan _____

Was this player on a Competitive Team last year? (Yes/No) _____

Has this player participated in Spring 2015 "open" tryouts? (Yes/No) _____

How many Players is your team sponsoring (providing financial support) for this season? _____

Who do you know who may be willing to fund a scholarship(s)? _____

Address & Phone: _____

Would you be willing to make the introduction? _____