



# FC BERNA

## Quarterly Newsletter



August 2020



### Spotlight...a word from Club President Dan Clarkin:

Dear Members,

For those who don't know me, my name is Dan Clarkin, and I have been a member of the FC Berna/Legacy soccer club for more than 6 years. During that period of time I have served as a team manager, parent coach, board member and now President of the club. Back in February when I was elected to the office of President, my biggest concern at the time was the Spring registrations for the club. How I yearn for those simpler times.

Over the past 6 months the entire Board has been meeting on a weekly basis (previously we used to meet once a month) to ensure that FC Berna/Legacy was able to safely return to the field once the State of New Jersey gave the go ahead, which they did on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. While we were waiting for approval from the State to return to the field, we worked with our Directors of Coaching and trainers to develop a whole new way for our players to train using Zoom, which permitted the players to continue training even if they couldn't be on the field together.

This past week we completed the Spring refund process and as you might imagine, ensuring that we got every refund/credit properly credited to each player's account required a Herculean effort. As with most tasks like this, they can only get done if you have a great team. I would like to thank Cheryl Thorpe (Board member, current Club Treasurer), Paul Silva (Board member, former Club President), Peter Hlavaty (Board member, former Club Treasurer) and Kim Lindsey (Club Coordinator) for their tireless work ethic and multiple spreadsheets that helped to ensure a smooth process. I would especially like to thank Peter Hlavaty, who has been an active member of club's Board for many years and will be resigning from the Board at the end of this month. Peter, please know that we are eternally grateful for all of your years of dedication to the club and wish you all the best with your future philanthropic endeavors.

I have high hopes for all of our teams as we enter this Fall season and encourage all of you to come out and support our players in a safe manner in accordance with local and state government rules. Please make sure that you are performing health checks prior to each practice/game.

If you have any interest in serving on the board please feel free to reach out to us at [president@fcberna.com](mailto:president@fcberna.com), as we are always looking for new members.

Thank you and be safe,  
Daniel Clarkin  
President of FC Berna/Legacy

### Spring Refund Recap:

When Covid-19 struck and we were unable to send teams to games and tournaments, it became clear to the Board that we needed to return a portion of the registration fees back to the families. As we are a non-profit organization, targeting approximately 0%-1% PnL over the course of the year, the Board wanted to pass those savings back to our club members. To that end we worked with NJ Youth Soccer, EDP, Maestro Soccer, Red Bulls and other vendors to roll credits to the next soccer season and to adjust the invoices to reflect the reduction in program content. We were pleased to be able to offer on average a 20% refund back to our Travel and Legacy Premier families. The High School teams who were impacted the most received the largest refund, which was approximately 30%. The refunds were all processed between July 15<sup>th</sup> and August 15<sup>th</sup>, either as a direct credit card refund, a discount towards the next soccer season, a refund via check if the credit cards were not valid, or in some cases, as reductions in overdue balances. More than 90% of the families in Travel and Legacy Premier were eligible for refunds. We published a Q&A regarding the refunds and distributed it to program participants. The Covid-19 refunds was an unusual and formidable logistical task for the club, and we are grateful to all those who worked hard to make it happen, and also grateful to you all for your patience in receiving the refunds.

## Return To Play:

The safety of our players, staff, and families is of the utmost importance to us. We follow federal, state, local, and NJ Youth Soccer guidelines to bring a safe return to play approach. Please reference the Return to Play section on the FC Berna website for general club-wide Health and Safety information and protocols.

Please also continue to reference your specific team's TeamSnap page and team communications for details regarding your specific FC Berna Legacy, Travel, Total Soccer, PEC Soccer and Futsal team's return to play plans during the season.

## Legacy Summer Roundup ...from Legacy Premier Program Director Jim Buchanan:



We have been cautiously but enthusiastically getting back on the field in the past two months, with our club safety protocols being meticulously put into place by Legacy staff and families – a huge thank you to all of you that have been a part of getting our players safely back on the field; it has been great to see everyone back in action. To those that don't feel ready to play – we will be here when you are.

In addition to a return to the training fields, we have also returned to the game fields. Legacy 2004 Girls Black and 2011 Girls have each participated in an EDP tournament, and several scrimmages have been participated in across multiple genders and ages. Again, a big thank you to our Legacy staff and families in supporting this safe return to the fields.

Legacy pre-season training began on August 17, as we prepare to return to competitive EDP league action next month. In addition, scrimmages are also being played to fine tune our preparations and several teams (2006G, 2007G, 2009G Black, 2010G and 2011G) are headed to the STA Girls Fall Kick Off Tournament the week of August 29-30. Good luck to all teams entering!

Lastly, I'd like to offer a warm welcome to our newest Legacy member of staff, Dominic Terkowski. Dominic is a talented coach, having a great deal of experience both in the UK and the US. Most recently with TSF Academy in NJ, Dominic will be coming in to work with our Legacy 2008 Boys and the Legacy Futures program. Welcome, Dominic!

## Total Soccer Summer Roundup ...from Total Soccer Program Director Mark Dutton



A special thank you to all who attended our first ever summer Total soccer program! Players came with a fantastic attitude and work ethic during this challenging time.

The Total Soccer players are a joy to be around and this created a wonderful learning and teaching environment for all of us.

Hope to see you all again soon!



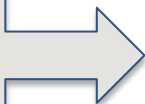
## 2020/21 Season – What’s coming up?



Registration is open for our 2020/2021 programs.  
 Limited spots remain on individual teams.  
 Contact individual Program Directors for more information:

- Total Soccer - Kick-Off on 9/12
- PEC - Kick-Off on 9/12
- Legacy Futures - practices begin on 9/8
- Berna Travel - practices begin on 8/31
- Legacy Premier - practices have begun!

Legacy Premier  
 High School  
 Tryouts for  
 2020/21



Tryouts for High School aged  
 players continue this week. Details  
 and preregistration are can be found  
 on the FC Berna website.

## Key Contacts:

TOTAL SOCCER  
 & PEC



Total Soccer /PEC Program Director  
**Mark Dutton:** [Totalsoccerdirector@fcberna.com](mailto:Totalsoccerdirector@fcberna.com)

Total Soccer/PEC Program Administrator  
**Mike Williams:** [Totalsocceradmin@fcberna.com](mailto:Totalsocceradmin@fcberna.com)

BERNA TRAVEL



Berna Travel Program Director  
**Mark Dutton:** [Traveldirector@fcberna.com](mailto:Traveldirector@fcberna.com)

Berna Travel Program Administrator  
**Mike Williams:** [Totalsocceradmin@fcberna.com](mailto:Totalsocceradmin@fcberna.com)

LEGACY PREMIER



Legacy Premier Program Director & Girls Director of Coaching  
**Jim Buchanan:** [jim@legacypremiersoccer.com](mailto:jim@legacypremiersoccer.com)

Legacy Premier Boys Director of Coaching  
**Sean Sweeney:** [Sean@legacypremier.com](mailto:Sean@legacypremier.com)

Legacy Premier College Coordinator  
**Tom Worthington:** [Tom@legacypremiersoccer.com](mailto:Tom@legacypremiersoccer.com)

## Club Fundraising:

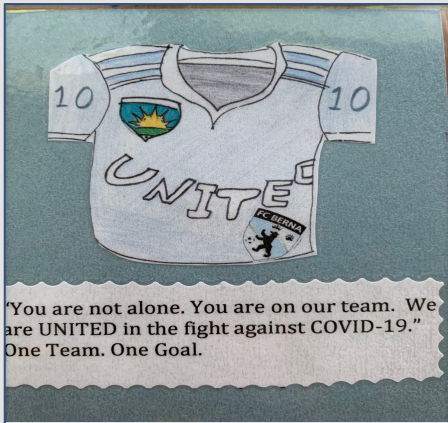
We are very grateful to the 126 families who contributed to our club’s fundraising efforts during the 2019/20 Soccer Year. This includes donations to the General Fund, Kimzey Scholarship and the PEC Fundraiser during the SportConnect registrations, as well the generous donations of the Spring ’20 refund back to our General Fund. The club relies on the donations to engage with our community, provide financial aid to players with demonstrated need, purchase new club equipment, fund a soccer program for children with special needs, provide scholarships to graduating high school players, and for the general needs of the club. A heartfelt **Thank You** for your generosity!

## BERNA CARES:



Throughout the year FC Berna engages in various forms of community outreach, from fundraising to community events participation.

Most recently, the Club donated jerseys and messages of encouragement to quarantined senior citizens at the Sunrise Assisted Living Facility in Basking Ridge, to let them know we support them and are all on the same "team" in the fight against COVID-19.



**Visit the [BERNA CARES](#) page on our website to find out more about our community outreach**

**The Kimzey Memorial Scholarship** also falls under the umbrella of our BERN A CARES initiative. The scholarship fund is made possible through the generosity of the Kimzey family in honor of their son Jack, as well as individual donors and broader FC Berna fundraising. The \$500 scholarship award is given to graduating high school seniors who participated in an FC Berna program for at least 4 seasons. Applications are made available each spring and can be found on our website.

Congratulations to our 2020 Kimzey Memorial Scholarship recipients:

**Regina Russo  
Abigail Umbenhaur  
Jacquelyn Wallace**

We wish them all the best in their next endeavors both on and off the field!



**PLEASE WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS:**

**DOTUN ADEJUYIGBE:**

Dotun heads commercial activities for an international energy company. He played soccer in high school and is a believer in the teamwork and full physical fitness that soccer provides. He is a resident of Basking Ridge, and his son is in the Legacy Futures program.



**MIRREN MANDALIA:**

Mirren moved from the UK to the US two years ago with his work for Johnson & Johnson. With his wife and two children, the family are now happily settled in Basking Ridge. Aarav, his son, is crazy about soccer and played with the Legacy Futures team for the past 2 years and is now part of the Legacy Premier 2012 boys team.

**FC Berna has the following opportunities available:**

Want to  
get  
involved?



- **Volunteer Team Manager & Assistant Coach** for Berna Travel teams.
- **Member, Board of Trustees** – Parents who are interested in shaping the direction of the Club are encouraged to apply to join the volunteer Board of Trustees. We welcome professionals with all backgrounds, including IT, accounting, finance, administration, law and insurance.

**Questions?**

- Check out the FAQ section or locate our list of contacts on the FC Berna website at: [www.fcberna.com](http://www.fcberna.com)

**GET READY FOR FALL SOCCER!**

