

Understanding and Coaching Players with Disabilities

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US YOUTH SOCCER WORKSHOP
AT THE NSCAA CONVENTION



USYOUTHSOCCER.ORG

Common Disabilities of Children Playing TOPSoccer

- Autism - 1 child in 88
- Down Syndrome - 1 child in 691
- Cerebral Palsy - 1.5 to 4 children in 1,000
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder - 3 to 7 children in 100
- Visually Impaired - 1 child in 100
- Hearing Impaired – 1.4 children in 100



Meeting the Children's Needs

- Nurturing and Safe Environment
- Mindful of each child's likes and dislikes
- Recognizing frustrations
- Age and ability level
- Establishing a relationship with the parents
- The importance of connecting
- Consistent attendance
- Able to deal with unconventional behaviors



From a Parent's Point of View

- Video interview with mom and her son who participates in the Upper Dublin Soccer Club's TOPSoccer Program



Organization of TOPSoccer Athletes and Keeping the Program Running Successfully

- Video of founding members of the Upper Dublin TOPSoccer Program, as they describe their 14 year history of successfully establishing and maintaining TOPSoccer in their club



Running Events for TOPSoccer

- Organization
- Challenges
- Guest Appearances
- Location
- Running Independent or with other youth soccer events
- Role of TOPSoccer Parents
- Education

Scoring Goals for Autism

- Photos and Soundtrack

Questions or Comments

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