

TOPSoccer Coaching Without Tears

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TOPSoccer.....Coaching Without Tears

It is common to hear that 'helping kids' is near the top of the list for many coaches.

However, when you tell someone that the child has 'special needs' – sometimes, a sense of doubt and fear can come into play. "I can't do that – I have no experience".

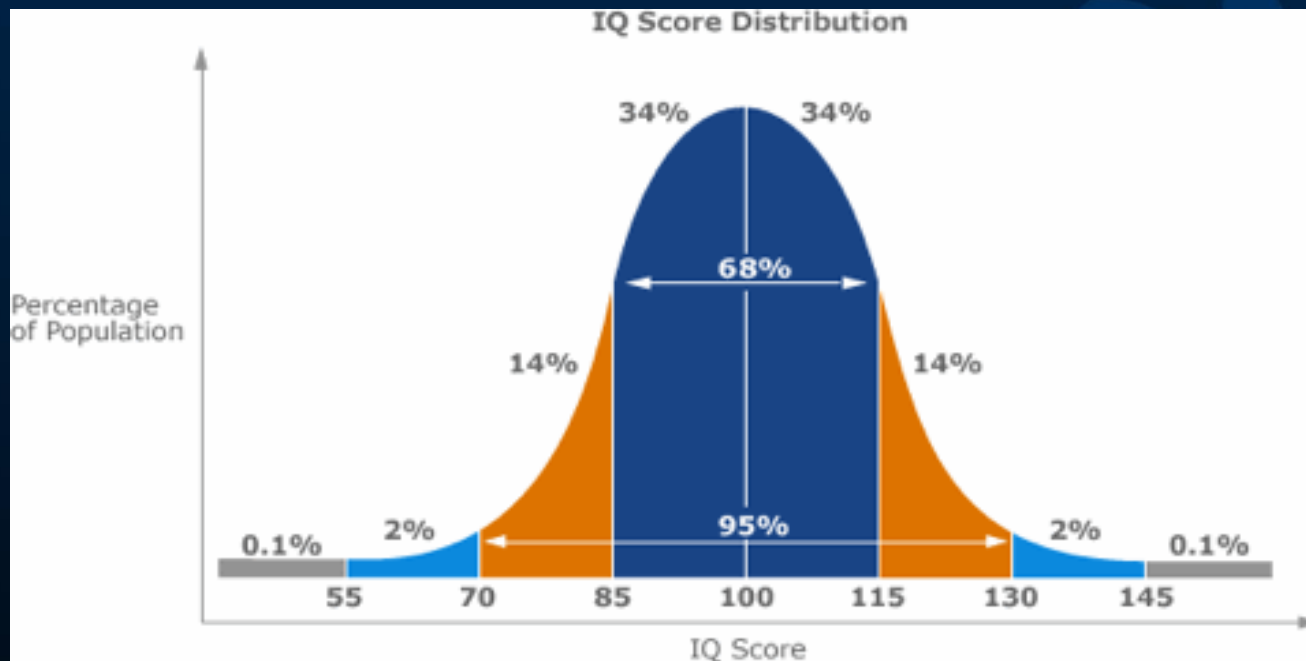
This presentation and resources are for you if;

- You are thinking about getting involved in TOPSoccer
- You are involved in TOPSoccerand are looking to get more people involved from a team, club, league or your community



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Life is just a spectrum.....Where Do You Fall?



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Life is just a Spectrum.....We are all on it.

What makes you unique?

Neat Freak

Introvert

On time

Late

Shy

Need company

Extrovert

Happy being by yourself

Slob

Outgoing



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'kids are just kids' – irrespective of perceived limitations.



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..... Or behaviors



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Who will you be coaching?

.....Wide Spectrum of Disabilities.....and ABILITIES.

The Common Four

- Autism
- Cerebral Palsy
- Down Syndrome
- Physical Disabilities (wheelchair, crutches)

Also.....

- Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD)
- Behavior Disorders



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Common Traits

- Wide range on the spectrum
- Sounds and noise can have a debilitating effect
- Can be withdrawn
- In own world
- Tough to communicate with



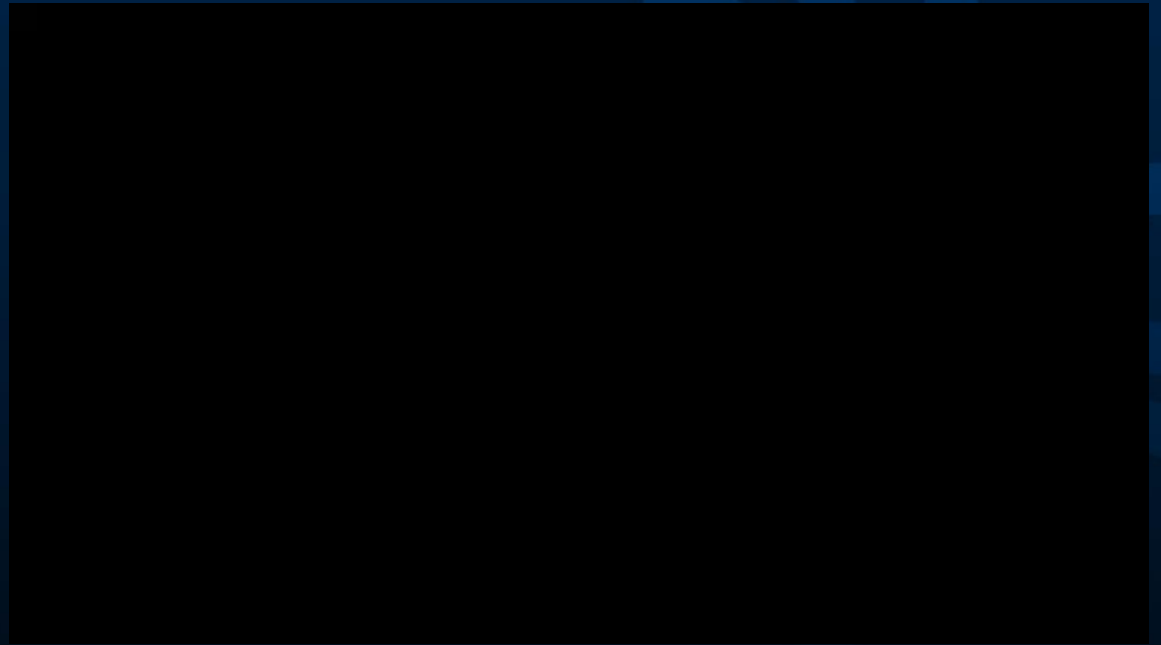
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All the way to.....

- Very bright
- Emotionally detached



This is commonly called Aspberger Syndrome.....



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Common Traits

- Decreased or poor muscle tone
- Small head, ears, and mouth
- Upward slanting eyes, often with a skin fold that comes out from the upper eyelid and covers the inner corner of the eye
- Wide, short hands with short fingers



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Wide range on the spectrum.....

- Delayed language and speech development
- Mild to moderate cognitive delays
- Tend to be very affectionate
- Short attention span
- Impulsive behavior
- Great personalities!



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Cerebral Palsy

What is Cerebral Palsy?

- Wide Range on the spectrum.....
- It is a PHYSICAL condition....not a COGNITIVE condition
- For some, imagine being trapped in a body making it hard to communicate



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ce•re•bral / of the brain



pal•sy / lack of muscle control

- Cerebral palsy is a physical disability that affects movement and posture.
- It is a permanent life-long condition, but generally does not worsen over time. It is due to damage to the developing brain either during pregnancy or shortly after birth.



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Cerebral Palsy

Cerebral palsy affects people in different ways and can affect body movement, muscle control, muscle coordination, muscle tone, reflex, posture and balance. (Cerebral Palsy Alliance Website)

Wide Range on the spectrum....
It is a PHYSICAL condition....



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Physical Disabilities

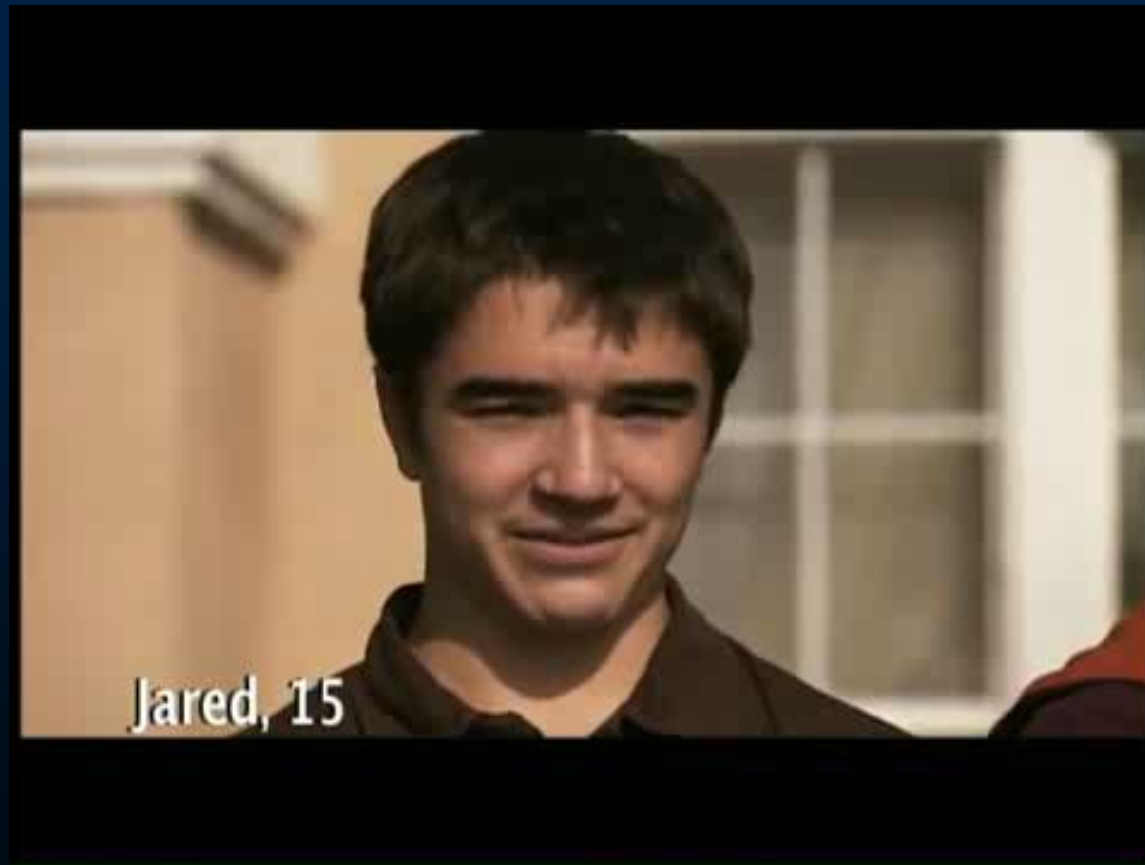
Wide range on the spectrum....(are you sensing a theme yet?)

Blind



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Deaf



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Physical Disabilities

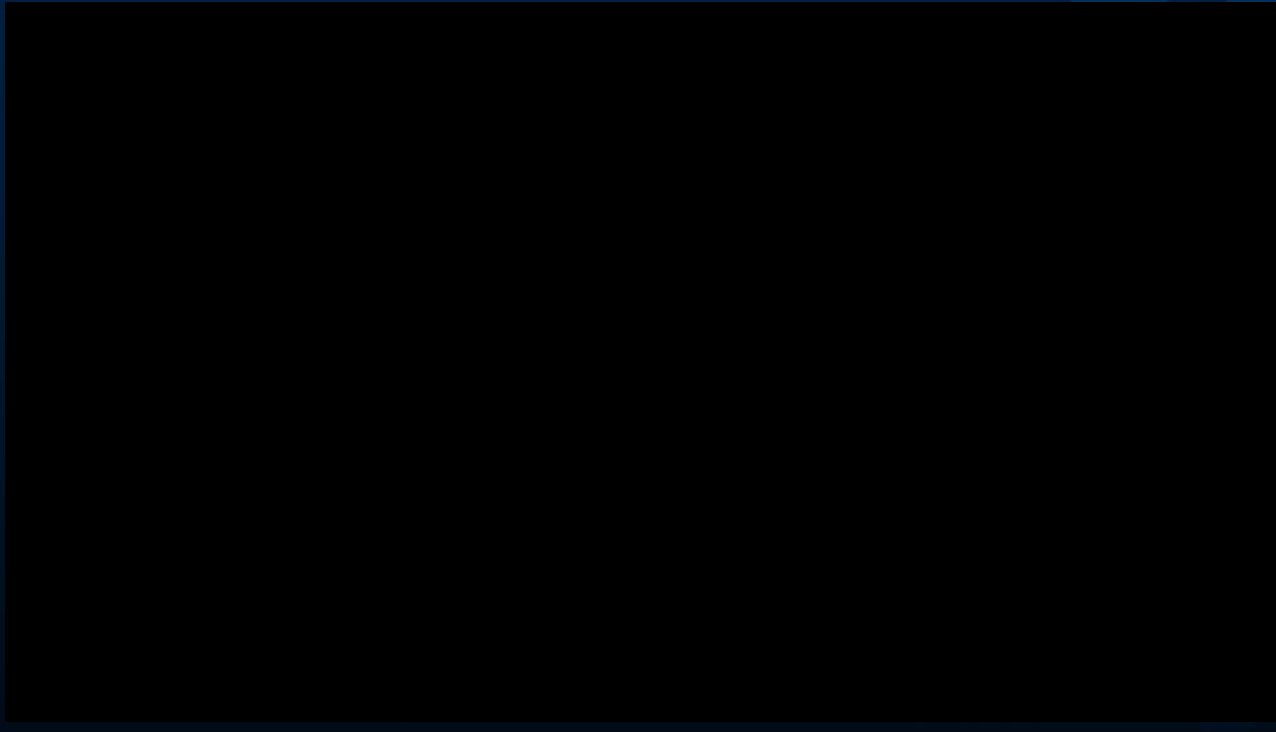
Low Muscle Tone



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Physical Disabilities

Amputee



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Physical Disabilities

Paralysis



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Behavior Disorders - ADHD

Wide range on the spectrum..... (you knew this was coming – right?)

Controlling Impulses

High levels of energy

Paying attention



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What about ADD?



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Conclusion

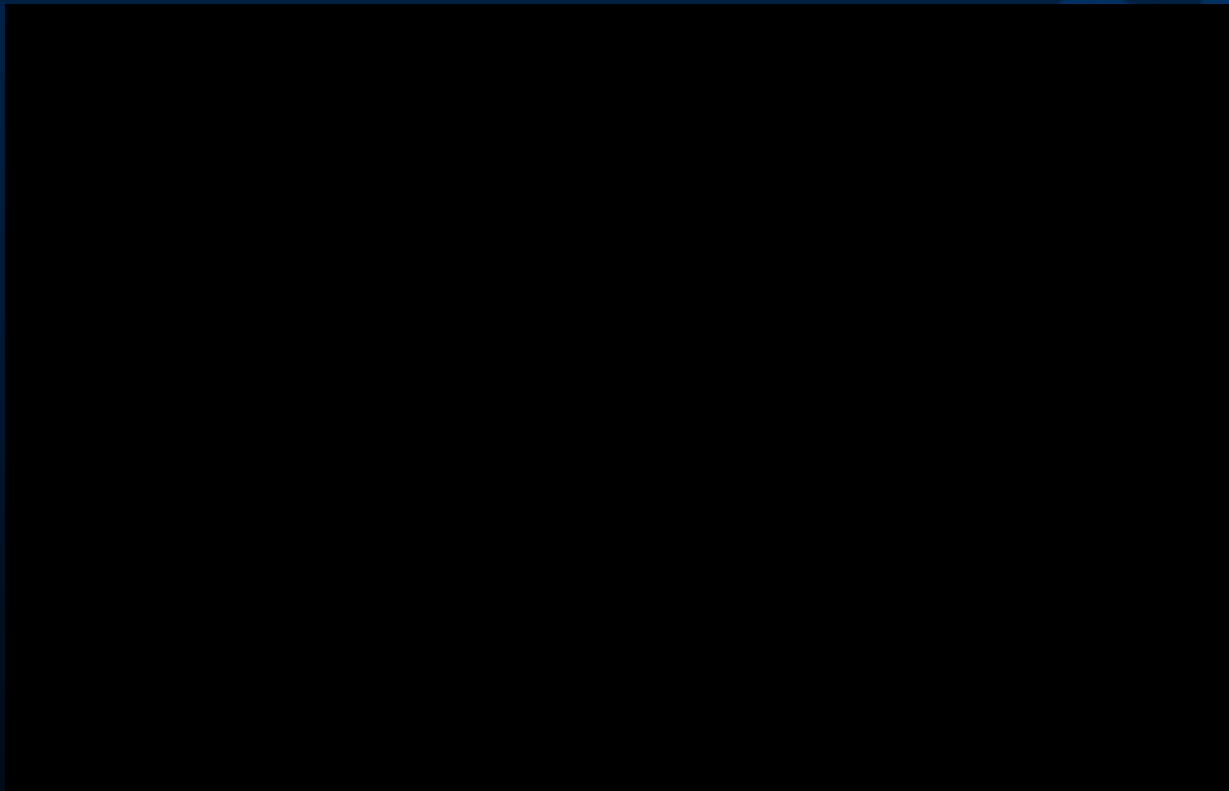
In conclusion.....

- TOPSoccer kids will always be on a spectrum
- You don't have to have a strong background in soccer or be a special needs expert to participate.....



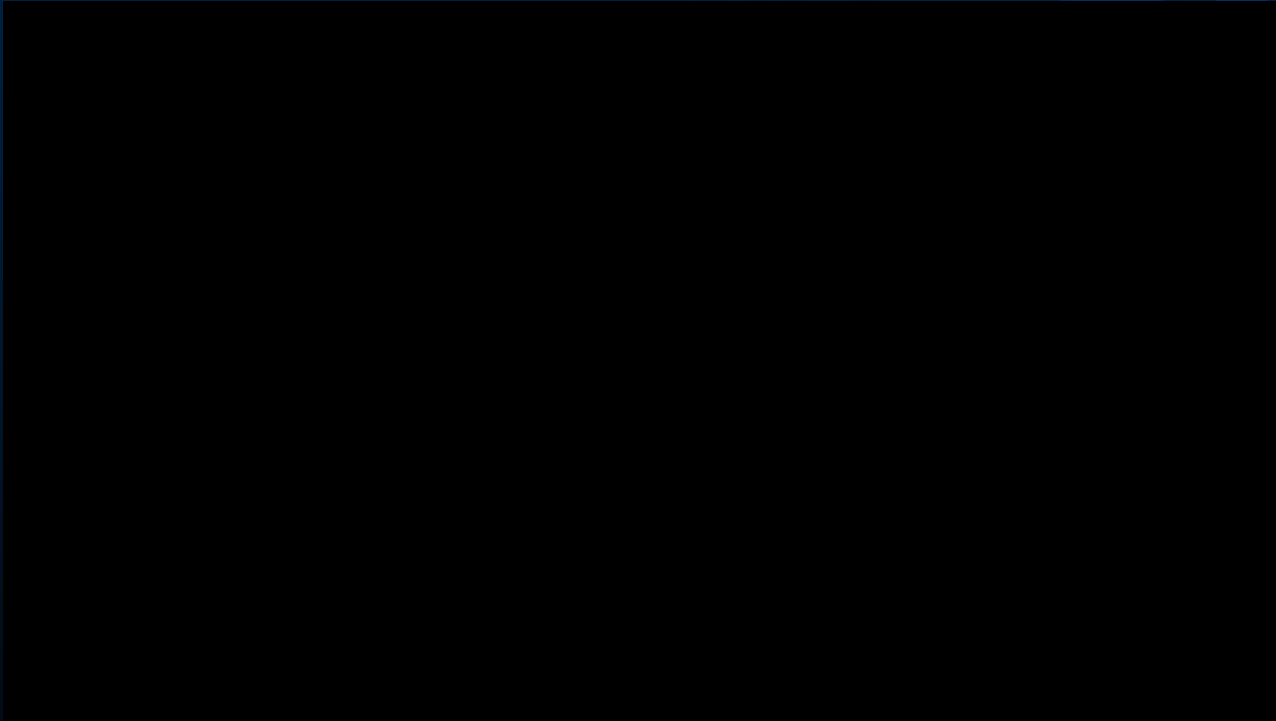
TOPSoccer - Coaching Without Tears Conclusion

See the person.....not the disability



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- Kids are just kids.....



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We are all a little different – that is what makes us unique

US Youth Soccer – The game for ALL kids!



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LOVE WHAT YOU'RE DOING?

If you have a passion for the game and love teaching it to children, then TOPSoccer holds rewards beyond your wildest dreams.



USYOUTHSOCCER.ORG