



2020 Dr. Thomas Fleck Award

Jacob Daniel

Jacob Daniel is a true educator of the game. As Technical Director of the South Region he is responsible for technical oversight of the Olympic Development Program (ODP) covering the 12 states of the Southeast Region of the US and has implemented an ODP integration process across State and Region ODP programs. This integration successfully instituted a consistent playing style and training curriculum that unified player development and training methods. Alongside these integration efforts Jacob also worked with the Region's development of a holistic Coaching Manual that was adopted as the Official US Youth soccer ODP Coaching Manual and is used by all 54 State Associations and 4 Regions to train their ODP teams, marking the first time in US Youth Soccer ODP history that all 4 Regions are following the same curriculum.

Jacob has served for 27 years as the Director of Coaching for Georgia State Soccer Association and is responsible for the State Coaching School Program and the State Olympic Development Program. He has served for 8 years as Technical Director of Region III / South Region, US Soccer instructional staff and is a published author ('The Complete Guide to Coaching Soccer Systems & Tactics') and recipient of the NSCAA Charlotte Moran Award for Long Term Service to Youth Soccer. From Suwanee, GA, Jacob has a USSF 'A' License, National Youth License and NSCAA Premier Diploma. He has presented at the US Youth Soccer Annual Coaches Workshop numerous times as well as the NSCAA Convention, coaching symposiums in Canada, Jamaica, Bahamas and Belize. He has traveled extensively studying the development and technical practices of top clubs from around the world including Sporting CP (Lisbon), Ajax, AC Milan, FC Barcelona, FC Porto, Real Madrid, Empoli, Vasco De Gama, and Flamengo.

Jacob played semi-professional soccer in the National Soccer League (Canada) from 1978-1982 and graduated from McGill University while playing varsity soccer. Jacob and his wife Tara have one daughter, Pia and reside in Suwanee, GA