

# Mission Statement

Our mission is to cultivate a diverse, positive, inclusive environment that nurtures young talents, guiding them on a path of progress both as technical and tactical players. We aim to instill a relentless pursuit of excellence, empowering young athletes to master technical aspects of the game including ball control, accurate and decisive passing, collective playmaking, as well as individual and team defending. Our commitment extends beyond the game, shaping individuals who embody the ethos of teamwork, adaptability, and the continual pursuit of improvement.



**Why:** To elevate the level of youth soccer in the state by providing better opportunities for all levels of youth soccer players while cultivating an everlasting passion for the game.

**Objective:** To see more kids playing soccer at higher levels for a longer time period under a unified, clearly defined development structure.

We aim to provide distinct developmental pathways for youth soccer players in collaboration with Madison area clubs. Different opportunities for all levels of player, from recreational to competitive, will be clearly outlined to help families make the best decision for their child.

Our commitment is to keep playing costs as low as possible and to ensure access to our programming no matter what one's socio-economic background may be.

It is our duty as your local professional soccer club to help drive the development of players as well as help to ignite a lasting passion for the game of soccer.

**FORWARD**  
**MADISON ♦ FC**

# Youth Player Development Plan

## **Technical Skills Development:**

Ball Mastery: Emphasize individual ball control, dribbling, and manipulation techniques through regular drills and exercises.

Passing and Receiving: Practice various passing techniques, emphasizing accuracy, pace, and creativity. Encourage quick and precise ball circulation.

Shooting and Finishing: Focus on shooting from different angles, distances, and situations. Teach proper techniques for striking/heading the ball.

Tactical Understanding: Develop an understanding of the nuances of space, movement, and positioning to support attacking and defending play. Train players to become strategic thinkers who read the game and make intelligent decisions on and off the ball.

## **Mental and Personal Growth:**

Decision-Making Skills: Foster mental agility and quick decision-making abilities during training sessions and game simulations.

Resilience and Sportsmanship: Instill resilience in handling successes and failures gracefully. Encourage fair play, respect for opponents, and a team-first mentality.

Leadership and Communication: Provide opportunities for players to lead within training and matches, communicate effectively on the field, and support their teammates. Encourage players to be leaders at home club, maintaining the standards and principles learned at Futures training.

Academic and Life Skills Support: Promote a balanced lifestyle by emphasizing academic achievements and life skills development alongside soccer.

## **Physical Development:**

Strength and Conditioning: Implement age-appropriate fitness programs to enhance endurance, strength, speed, and agility.

Injury Prevention: Educate players on injury prevention strategies, including warm-ups, cooldowns, and proper recovery techniques.

Nutrition: Provide resources on best sports nutrition practices and encourage players to analyze their own nutritional choices.

# Individual Player Development Plan (IDP)

- **IDP process between staff and players**
  - Head Coach meets with individual players a minimum of 3 times per year
  - Coach will present player with feedback and an individual development plan including any performance analysis tools, including video.
- **Individualized Player Development**
  - Position Specific, Technical & Tactical Training
  - Player development is individualized based on collaborative evaluation from coaching staff (Physical/Technical/Mental & Tactical)
  - Set short term & long-term goals
    - Short Term – example: improving first-touch technique, increasing pass accuracy, strengthening off-the-ball movement
    - Long Term – example: improving positioning, becoming more effective in the final third, building stamina
- **Holistic Approach**
  - Physical Conditioning
  - Strength & Injury Prevention Training
  - Sports Psychology Training
  - Recovery
  - Regular adjustments with player feedback
  - Players self-evaluate and provide feedback to coaches



## Why is this good for Madison?

- **Consolidates player pool in Madison**
  - Brings the best players from around Madison together creating a more competitive environment
  - Keeps the most talented players from leaving Madison to play elsewhere
- **Clearly defines the various developmental pathways**
  - Recreational – Competitive – Elite (Academy)
  - Helps families decide what route is best for their child based on ambition and talent level
- **Ties the soccer community together**
  - Offers Madison clubs an opportunity to participate in the development and promotion of youth soccer players to the highest levels of soccer.
    - *How cool will it be when the first youth player from Madison climbs the pyramid to play for FMFC?*
  - Offers an opportunity for collaboration between Madison clubs to work together in providing the best experience possible for all youth soccer players.
- **More visibility**
  - For college soccer recruiting
  - For professional scouts
- **More player development opportunities**
  - Training with FMFC 1<sup>st</sup> Team
  - Mixed Age Training
  - Competing at the highest levels of American Youth Soccer
  - Relationships with Eintracht Frankfurt (Bundesliga), Amazonas (Brasileiro Serie B), and Minnesota United (MLS)

## How does the Tier 2 work?

- Tier 2 clubs are affiliated with MLS NEXT and play under the MLS umbrella.
  - They follow MLS NEXT standards and guidelines.
    - Creates best player development environment
  - They play more regionally than Tier 1 teams.
    - Saves money on travel time and cost
  - They have the opportunity to attend MLS NEXT Fest and qualify for MLS NEXT Cup.
    - Increases player exposure to highest level of US youth soccer
    - Increases player exposure to College & Professional Scouts
  - Players competing in the new tier will also be eligible to play high school soccer.
- [MLS Next Technical Standards](#)
  - [MLS Next Rules & Regulations](#)

## What's the goal of the Tier 2 leagues?

- To deepen the talent pool and welcome more players and coaches.
- To develop the next generation of talent who will impact the college game, professional game and national teams.
- To enhance player development by aligning teams with top-tier standards and creating more opportunities for growth.

## Competitions

- Clubs will participate in one of eight regional tournaments each season – (WI/MN/IL/IN/MI)
- The regional tournaments will serve as qualifying for a championship event at MLS NEXT Cup later in 2026.
- Eligible age groups to attend MLS NEXT Fest in December.
- These events will be marquee talent identification opportunities for college, professional, and national team scouts to evaluate players.

## League Opponents

### North

Bavarian United SC (WI)  
Elmbrook United (WI)  
Forward Madison FC (WI)  
Lakeville SC (MN)  
Manitou FC (MN)  
Minneapolis United SC (MN)  
SC Wave (WI)  
Saint Paul Blackhawks (MN)  
Tonka Fusion Elite (MN)  
Wisconsin United FC (WI)

## Regional Opponents

### Great Lakes

Beadling SC  
Chicago FC United  
Chicago Fire Youth SC  
Club Ohio  
Cincinnati United Premier SC  
Galaxy Soccer Club  
Indy Eleven  
Javanon FC  
Lexington SC  
Michigan Bucks Academy  
Michigan Futbol Academy  
Michigan Jaguars  
Michigan Jaguars United FC  
Michigan Stars Elite  
Michigan Tigers FC  
Michigan Wolves FC  
St. Louis Scott Gallagher Illinois  
Sockers FC Chicago  
Vardar Soccer Club

## Training Schedule

- 4 Trainings per week July – November
  - 2-3 Training per week November – February
  - 4 Trainings per week February – June
- **Duration:** The season will commence on July TBD, 2025 and conclude on June 30, 2026.



# MLS NEXT 2 SCHEDULE TIMELINE



# Matt Glaeser

## FMFC Technical Director

## 1<sup>st</sup> Team Head Coach

- Technical Director/Head Coach at Forward Madison FC.
- Assistant Coach/Director of Goalkeeping; Sacramento Republic FC (USL Championship) 2021
- Assistant Coach. Real Monarchs (USL Championship) 2017 - 2021
  - Regular Season Shield 2017
  - USL Champions 2019
- Assistant Coach. Real Salt Lake (MLS) 2020-2021
- Assistant Coach Wilmington Hammerheads
- Assistant Coach UNC-Wilmington
- Director of Goalkeeping Wilmington Hammerheads Youth
- Played Professionally
  - MLS Pool Goalkeeper
  - Fort Lauderdale Strikers (NASL)
  - Wilmington Hammerheads
  - Pallo-Iirrot (Finland)





## Keith Tiemeyer

### Director of Soccer Operations

- USSF B License
- University of Wisconsin-Madison men's soccer Assistant Coach 2009 – 2021
  - 2 NCAA tournaments and a Sweet 16 appearance
  - 2017 Big Ten Tournament Championship.
  - Tiemeyer helped develop two players went on to be drafted in the top 10 of the 2018 MLS SuperDraft
  - Developed 14 Badger for the professional ranks
  - Head Coach – Regis University (NCAA D2)
- Colorado State Youth Soccer Association 1998-2002
- Colorado Olympic Development Program Coach & Evaluator 1998-2002





# Aaron Hohlbein

MLS Next Director

Academy Head Coach

## Coaching Experience

- USSF B License Course Enrollee (July-December 2025)
- Assistant Coach – University of Wisconsin (2015-2022)
  - Helped develop more than 15 players for professional ranks (MLS/USL/Foreign Leagues)
- Assistant Coach – Forward Madison FC (2022-present)
- Head Coach & Director of Forward Futures Youth Program (2022-present)
  - Worked with players from over 20 local clubs
  - Established vertical integration to 1<sup>st</sup> Team
    - 6 Academy players invited to 1<sup>st</sup> Team Training
  - Moved Arian Von Mol to Minnesota United Academy (MLS)
- Madison 56ers Youth Academy (2013-2015)

## Playing Experience

- University of Wisconsin (All-American - 2006)
- Sporting Kansas City (2007-2010)
  - 2007 Supplemental Draft: 1<sup>st</sup> Round/3rd Pick
  - Over 50 league & cup appearances
- Fort Lauderdale Strikers (2011)
  - Club Captain
- U.S. National Teams
  - U23 U.S. Olympic Team Pool (2008)
  - U20 U.S. Training Camp





# **Patrick Nyarko**

FMFC MLS Next Academy Head Coach

## **Coaching Experience**

- USSF B License
- 10 year playing career in Major League Soccer (Chicago Fire & DC United)
  - 236 appearances (24 goals)
  - 1 appearance with the Ghanaian National Team
- Assistant Coach – Chicago Fire Academy
  - Won a national championship with Chicago Fire Academy
- Assistant Coach – Chicago Fire 2
- Assistant Coach – VCU (NCAA DI)



# **Tim Boruff**

FMFC MLS Next Academy

Director of Goalkeeping

## Playing Experience

- Played Goalkeeper at University of Missouri St. Louis

## Coaching Experience

- Collegiate Coaching Experience in Division 1 & Division 2
  - University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL/D2)
  - Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE/D1)
  - University of Wisconsin (D1)
- Professional Coaching Experience
  - Goalkeeper Coach - Forward Madison FC



# **Lee Ferderer**

FMFC MLS Next Academy

U16 Head Coach

## **Coaching Experience**

- USSF A License
- University of Wisconsin Men's Soccer – Assistant Coach (2003-2009)
- Wisconsin State ODP Head Coach
  - U-14 boys
  - the U-15 boys
  - U-16 boys - regional champions
  - U-17 boys.
- Milwaukee Kickers National's Head Coach U14/U16
  - WI State Champions
- Has helped develop multiple future professional players (Aaron Hohlbein (MLS)/Nick Van Sicklenn (MLS))
- Coached and developed a multitude of Madison players that went on to play in NCAA Division 1, 2 and 3.



## **Bryan Davis**

### **FMFC Academy College Recruiting Advisor**

In this position, he will help establish a baseline process for our FMFC Academy and Futures players. He will create college pathway opportunities that connect athletes with college coaches through ID sessions as well as invitations to observe training sessions and matches. More tailored individual options and referrals through the College Services Advisor will be available.

### **Coaching Experience**

- USSF B License
- NSCAA Premier Diploma
- Assistant Coach – The George Washington University (2005-2009)
- Head Coach – US Development Academy – Potomac Soccer (2006-2009)
- Head Coach – Wright State University (2009-2018)
- GK Director – Cincinnati United Premier (2015-2017)
- DOC – Madison FC (2018-2020)
- GA and MLS Next College Services – SC Wave (2024-present)



# Facilities



## **Home Match Facilities**

Breese Stevens Field (Classroom/Locker Room)  
Goodman Soccer Complex (Locker Room)



## **Training Facilities**

Breese Stevens Field (Classroom/Locker Room)  
Goodman Soccer Complex (Locker Room)  
Reindahl Park



## **Performance, strength & conditioning & medical physio/rehab facilities**

UW Sports Performance Center (UW East Madison  
Hospital)  
Princeton Club

# Outdoor Facilities

- **Breese Stevens Stadium**
  - Full Size/Turf/Lights



- **Madison College**
  - Goodman Sports Complex [Full Size/Turf/Lights]





# Indoor Facilities

- Other exciting partnerships and winter training opportunities will be released soon.
- UW East Madison Hospital
  - 30x20yd Turf Area (13,000 Square Feet)
  - Weight-Room & Track Area
  - 1 Basketball Court (Futsal)



# Player Characteristics

- **Adaptable**
  - Comfortable in uncomfortable situations
- **Resilient**
  - Is not afraid to take risks or make mistakes on the field.
- **Technically Adept**
  - Can execute the fundamental skills required to be a high-level soccer player
- **Tactically Aware**
  - Can understand the positional demands in various formations and styles of play
- **Relentless**
  - Puts in maximum effort Respectful
  - Respects teammates, coaches, refs

