



## **Reference**

I met Graham when he came to the United States to run a skills camp for my club. In short time, we all realized he was the best instructor we'd ever had. Graham was demanding, but never overbearing. In fact, Graham was so effective we begged him to come back each summer and coach our team. Unsurprisingly, Graham became the best coach we had ever had. He possesses the technical skill to explain and demonstrate all the maneuvers a top-tier player needs to compete at elite levels. More importantly, he understands that mental preparation is equally—if not more—important.

Graham helped turn our squad into a group of athletes who happened to play soccer into a group of proper soccer players. He varied his sessions so we remained enthused and challenged each time we stepped on the pitch. Our technical skill improved. We became more disciplined. And we never lost a single game in our league's championship tournament—winning seven consecutive championships. Our play would have never elevated as high as it did without Graham's love of the game and unwavering commitment to our improvement.

Not only did Graham teach me how sell defenders on a cross-over and exploit gaps in the opposition's defense, he also built my confidence and taught me how to lead. Because Graham had confidence in me, I become more confident in myself. And as I became more confident in myself, I was more comfortable taking on a greater role with my squad, and bearing the weight of problems that inevitably went wrong during any match. The best part is that I know that Graham made each of his players feel this way. That's what makes him such a great coach, mentor, and friend.

**Nick Klenow (Red River Arsenal - Soccer Club)**