

RED RIVER SOCCER CLUB

Fargo, North Dakota

July 26, 2004

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a reference for Mr. Graham Nicholas. Graham has been employed by Red River Soccer Club for the past three summers. Over this time period he has served in a number of capacities. Each year he has served as the head coach of the same Red River Soccer Club's Arsenal boys team. This year the team is U-16 but he coached them as U-14s and U-15s as well. This year the club also asked him to coach two additional teams, the U-12 Boys Classic II team and the U-19 Girls Classic I team. In addition, he conducted a community wide camp for recreational players and is also working in a club coach capacity doing sessions for our traveling competitive teams.

Graham is an outstanding coach with a tremendous amount of knowledge and expertise. His rapport with players is excellent and this extends from younger players (ages nine through twelve) as well as older ones (thirteen through nineteen). In addition, he has done an excellent job with boys as well as girls teams.

In addition to technical and tactical knowledge, Graham demonstrates a great deal of enthusiasm for the game and this rubs off on the players that he is coaching. His motivational skills are also excellent. His success in these areas extends across the age spectrum and to boys as well as girls.

Graham has worked specifically as a coach with the U-16 team as mentioned earlier. Overall, the team advanced in their individual skills and tactical skills this year. The players enjoyed Graham's practices and coaching style. In addition, they respected him for his ability to personally demonstrate a high level of skill in the technical skills that he taught to the boys. Many American coaches at the youth level do not have the background to actually do many of the advanced foot skills that they want their players to learn. This season he has brought the team to its highest level ever. His level of dedication to that team over the past three years has been outstanding. He has scheduled training sessions every day and then coached the team at tournaments on the weekend. Currently the team has 16 wins, 2 losses and 4 ties.

In summary, Graham is an outstanding coach and individual and has my highest recommendation. If you require additional information feel free to contact me by phone (701-231-8925) or e-mail (daniel.klenow@ndsu.nodak.edu).

Sincerely,



Daniel J. Klenow, Ph.D.,
Director of Player Development, Red River Soccer Club