



Tommy Lahey

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

Passionate coach with a broad range of experience at the college, high school, and youth levels seeking to coach in a competitive local club. Proven leader with seven years as a U.S. Air Force Officer.

Philosophy: Soccer is a uniquely player-centric sport. The players, rather than the coaches, are the real decision-makers in the game. The coach's main impact on players must come during training. The coach must develop the players' skills so that they become automatic. This allows the players to make the split-second decisions necessary to excel in the fast-paced game. Youth in other countries benefit from playing lots of "street soccer" or pick up games, which helps their skill grow organically. We must allow the kids try and fail and learn in different positions. Rather than giving them all the answers, we must guide them with questions that help them solve the problems that the game presents.

Unfortunately, in America, we coaches and parents tend to "over-coach" our youth soccer players. We tend to put too much emphasis on the result of the game. We yell out instructions to our kids, thereby taking away their opportunity to make decisions on their own. Rather, we need to allow our kids to play and learn from the game with less sideline instruction. We want to expose our kids to more free play. They care more about playing and being part of a team, than they care about winning. This is the time when we must foster individual skill development and love for the game. A player-centric game requires a kid-centric approach.

Goals:

- Love of the game first, player development second. Winning is fun, too.
- Each player moves onto the next level.
- Each player steps onto the field and becomes a different person—driven, focused, confident, creative, passionate.

MEMBERSHIP

- US Youth Soccer, 2011-2012, 2017-2018

SOCCER BACKGROUND

Playmakers Indoor Sports, Covington, LA (2010-11, 2013-14, 2017-18)

Franciscan University Intramural Soccer (2009-10)



Franciscan University Rugby Team (2008)

SV Spangdahlem (Rheinland Kreisluga, Deutsch Fussball system) (2006-07)

Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, Varsity Soccer Team (2006-07)

- Runners up in All-Europe Air Force tournament at Cambridge, England

Riyadh Scorpions Rugby Club Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (2005-06)

- Shield runners-up (amateur division) at Dubai Rugby 7's Tournament '05

Hickam Air Force Base, HI, Varsity Soccer Team (2002-03)

- Runners up in Armed Forces in Hawaii tournament

Sheppard AFB, TX, Varsity Soccer Team (2000-02)

- Champions, North Texas Soccer Association

LSU Intramural Soccer and Indoor Soccer (1998-99)

LSU Rugby Team (1996-97)

Acadiana High School Soccer (1991-95)

- State Semifinalist

COACHING EXPERIENCE / EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Sacred Heart Academy, Louisville, KY

- *Assistant Coach, Varsity Soccer.* 2018 State Champions and #1 National Ranking (MaxPreps).

St. Paul's School, Covington, LA (2010-2018)

- *Head Coach, Soccer. JV and 9th grade teams.* 102-15-12 Record. 6 tourney championships, 6 Runners up.
- *Assistant Coach, Varsity Soccer.* Winner of 5 state championships and two #1 Nat'l Rankings (MaxPreps).
- *Director, St. Paul's Soccer Camp.* Trained several hundred campers in advanced skills. Trained jr. coaches.
- *Assistant Coach, Rugby.* Founded rugby team. Won multi-state conference championship in 2nd year.
- *Assistant Coach, Track and Field. Head Coach, JV.* Helped Varsity to 2 District championships.

Playmakers Soccer Academy, Covington, LA, (2017-2018)

Director, Founded a new soccer club dedicated to coaching younger athletes in soccer and virtue.

Mandeville Soccer Club, Mandeville, LA, (2015-2017)

Head Coach, U10 Girls Academy Team

Coach, U10 Boys Academy, U9 Skills Clinics

Franciscan University of Steubenville, Steubenville, OH, (2008-2010)

Assistant Coach, Men's Soccer Team (NCAA Div. III)

- Coached under 2 world class players: Antonio Soave (Lazio), Johan Marin (Trinidad /Tobago U-20)

Mission Worker/Catechist in Ecuador (2010)

- Trained orphan playground "ballers" with formal soccer training.

Assistant Coach, Catholic Soccer Camps (2008)

- Mentored by Antonio Soave and Massimo Carli (Castelnuovo, Italian Serie D)

Fitness Trainer (2008)

- Instructed university students and faculty on fitness training and wellness.

Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, TX, (2002-03)

Head Coach, U-10



COACHING LICENSES/CERTIFICATES

United States Soccer Federation, Baton Rouge, LA

National "D" License (2011)

National Youth Coaching License (2017)

