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| **How to win a Tournament or State Championship (according to Soccer Coach Weekly)**  WYSA has 3 teams in the Summer State Championship (U16 Girls, U15 Boys, U12 Boys). The coaches have done the hard work and are ready to ‘enjoy’ the end of season games. So here are some top tips on how to win State:   * Check your team’s player availability – we have all had surprises with this one * Outline the travel options – not always easy if you are in a sudden death game; ask the U12 Boys – game at 6pm in Shakopee, if you win you play at 8am the next day in Shakopee * Get ready the night before – tell the payers this; how many turn up without their full kit! * Prepare for the weather conditions and keep an eye on the forecasts – games may be shortened due to heat * Choose your tactics for your players, opposition, conditions, surface, etc and change them if necessary * Spread the load – use your subs; ask the U15 Boys who played a team in the 1st Qualifier that only had 11 players – Winona won the game with 2 goals in the last quarter of the match * Go on the attack straight away and get on top early if you are able to * Prepare for the gap between games – this may be hours or days * Use substitutes to win games – conditions are generally hot and players need a rest   The Club is proud of your achievement. Try to make sure you and your players have fun and enjoy the experience! |
| **Get to know your WYSA coaches**  This week, there is no WYSA coach input, so we will get to know some more about a guest coach and former WYSA player and coach, Chris Bagshaw. Chris is Technical Director at Eden Prairie Soccer Club and coaches a U15 C1 Girls team.   1. What are the 3 most important qualities that you coach into your teams? *Technical ability; work rate, effort and commitment; and a positive atmosphere where the players want to learn, like being around each other and the coach and are competitive and want to win.* 2. Where are the worst fields your team has played and why? *Monticello where the fields were rock hard, bumpy and all the grass was dead. I hate playing on a sloped field or if the grass is too long.* 3. Your one piece of advice to players taking a PK? *I am in no position to give advice on how to take penalties. I have missed 2 penalties in 1 game before. Maybe SMACK it as hard as you can,* 4. Describe a memorable game or event that you participated in as a player or coach?*As a coach: a few weeks ago, winning a tournament 5-3 in overtime. As a player: winning a State Tournament at U19 with my dad as the coach and my brother as a teammate was pretty special to me.* 5. Your favorite post game food place to eat after an away game? *Never hungry after a game. A gas station is the best place to go.* 6. Grass or turf? *Turf, as long as it is not too hot outside.* 7. What is your favorite Tournament? *USA Cup. I used to love the Winona Tournament a few years back as well.* 8. Your pet hate as a coach? *Lazy players – I would take an average player who has fantastic work rate, passion for the game and wants to learn. Over a talented player who is lazy and thinks they know everything. Players who wear flashy cleats – bring back the all black cleats.* 9. What is your favorite team? *Leeds United and England. More recently I have been following MNUFC.* 10. Your #1 piece of soccer advice to any player? *Simple – work hard and love the game* |