



KICKS for KIDS SPRING PROGRAM

Monday & Wednesday : April 8th - June 3rd

6:00 PM - 6:45 PM | 4-6 yr. olds
6:45 PM - 7:30 PM | 6-8 yr. olds

\$100/PROGRAM + \$50/UNIFORM

ANDREWS OSBORNE ACADEMY INDOOR ATHLETIC CENTER
38588 Mentor Avenue Willoughby, Ohio 44094



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Register online at:
CROATIAJUNIORS.COM

It's not too late to sign up for our Kick's for Kids Spring Program at Croatia Juniors. This program may be the single most beneficial program we offer at the Club. This program provides the necessary motor skill, and social skill development that each and every child will need to help them become a better player in the future. This fun, soccer-skilled based program allows young players to express themselves in the game while providing great exercise for our kids. Kicks for Kids gives the kids a head start in the game. We have seen great success with kids who have gone through the program as opposed to kids who have not. It gives kids the confidence on the field as they grow older. The stage is the field and the nervousness dissipates every time the kids hit the field to play. If anyone has any questions regarding this wonderful program feel free to contact our instructors above. Best of luck to all our Kicks for Kids Academy players this spring. We hope you have a blast!!!!!!!

~ Croatia Juniors Directors

Spring Is Finally Here Or Is it?????

The Spring season has finally arrived but mother nature is not giving up on the cold just yet. Croatia Juniors boys and girls kicked off the GLA season in brutal conditions the past two weekends. Gloves and hats were definitely needed as the players did their best to stay warm. Croatia Juniors have come away with some recent good showings beating clubs from Cleveland, Columbus, and Pittsburgh. The GLA is a Regional League founded in 2016 and provides a great platform for our kids to showcase their abilities in a competitive setting. It also provides an opportunity to play against some of the best teams in the region. We would like to wish all of our players as they begin to embark on their spring seasons. Transitioning from the perfect conditions of AOA to outdoors takes a few games to get used to. Let's be patient with our young players as they get adjusted to the outdoor game. Best of luck to your players and staff. Go CROATIA!!!!



Technical, Technical and More Technical Skills

Regardless if you're a striker, a midfielder, a defender or goalkeeper the single most important skill in the game is first touch. It's no coincidence that coaches prefer to play players who show the most consistency with this soccer skill. This skill helps team retain a higher level of possession, results in fewer turnovers, provides confidence when playing under pressure, better vision and leads to better to score goals. Here are the key factors in receiving the ball properly;

1. Body Position of the player receiving the ball
2. Position on the Field and Opponent
3. The space around the player receiving the ball
4. Using all part of the foot to control the ball



As simplistic as this sounds the single fastest way to perfect this skill is to find a wall and kick the ball over and over again against the wall working on receiving the ball properly. This skill must be done thousands of times before the skill can be mastered. Once this skill becomes a strength it will open the door to the player having comfort on the field and a player comfortable handling the ball.

Get Your Croatia Juniors Raffle Tickets!!!

Croatia Juniors are holding their annual raffle fundraiser. As in years past Croatia Juniors will continue using these valuable funds to improve facilities primarily our outdoor fields that were hydro-seeded last fall. Equipment to cut and maintain the new grass fields will be a big expense to the club this year. We encourage all families to participate in our one and only fundraiser of the year. We would like to thank all of our Croatia Juniors families for their efforts selling tickets. None of this would be possible without your efforts. Thank you!!!!!!



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