

Under 12 Blue - 1992s



Back Row (from Left): **Coach – Paul Aikman, Jordan Lidia, Ronald Mayorga, Joseph Moavro, Sylvester Albrecht, Eric Walo, Benly Thonglor, Rory Aikman**
Front Row (from Left): **Derek DiMenna, Kyle Aveiro, Adrian Maciejewski, Paul Janikowski**
Absent from picture: **Alex Gaspar, Isaac Santos, Dylan Tome, D’Arcy Turner, Dalton Turner**

LEAGUES

Great Lakes Soccer League – Spring

The boys got off to a rough start in the spring season playing in the Great Lakes Soccer League. The effort was certainly there, but the team was rarely able to come up with 11 players for games, and had to play with 8 or 9 players for almost all 8 of their games. The boys worked hard game in and game out, but over the course of a 70 minute game, they just ran out of steam.



Windsor & District S.L. – U12 division – Summer

The boys played an exhibition schedule against teams in the WADSL. They finished with 6 wins, 2 ties, and 0 losses having played every other team in the division twice, and beating every team at least once. The team showed they had learned from their experiences in the spring, and now that they had a full team to work with, they dominated all 8 games they played with a highlight 4-0 victory over the eventual league champions. The boys proved their passing and ball control were second to none against all the other Under 12 teams in the Windsor & District Soccer League. They were able to stay sharp for tournaments and prepare for their upcoming season in the fall in the Michigan Premier Program.





Saltfleet Tournament

This was the first tournament this team ever participated in as a full group. It was a bit of a learning experience, but the boys (and families!) enjoyed it. Although a sluggish start resulted in a 1-0 defeat, the boys rebounded with an amazing come-from-behind tie against the Oakville Fusion in what was probably the most exciting game of the year so far! The boys prepared for their third game against the "A" team from Clarkson, but our opponents failed to show up! With the forfeit, the team went back to the hotel expecting to play in the semi-finals the next day only to receive a call from the organizers informing us that they had decided to keep the Clarkson team in the tournament; since they had won their other two games, they advanced and we did not. It was a bitter disappointment to an otherwise successful weekend.

St. Clair Shores Tournament

The boys learned they needed to get off to quick starts in tournaments and they made no mistake in their opening Friday night game. A convincing 4-0 victory over an older, Michigan team put the boys in the driver's seat going into Saturday. But with only one team going directly to the final from our group, the boys were faced with a game that they had to tie, at the very least. A slow start to the game found the team down by 2 goals. The boys pulled up their socks and took control of the game, scoring in the second half to reduce the deficit to only one. But plagued by some highly questionable officiating, the boys just couldn't find a break, as they hit crossbars and goalposts but failed to score the all-important tying goal. Although a strong 5-1 victory in their final game was an excellent wrap-up to the preliminary round, the single loss bumped us into second place, and the team that beat us coasted to the tournament victory the following day.

Season Wrap-Up

To wrap things up, it was a successful year to a new endeavor. With strong support given by this team to the "A" team and vice versa, the boys were all able to learn from each other and raise their level of play, as well as enjoy a combined team water slide party in August (and, yes, the parents beat the kids in an exciting game earlier that day!) Thanks to the Windsor F.C. Nationals for allowing this opportunity for a two-team system with the LaSalle Stompers. By doing this, we were able to train and give an opportunity to a larger pool of players at a higher level than would otherwise have been possible, and the two teams will continue to support each other in the fall season in Michigan.

