

# Under 10 - 96 Blues



**Back row:** Coach Gaetano (Guy) Pasini, Christopher Al-Youssef, Adam Muzzatti, Daniel Cassady, Angelo Bortolin, Dylan Desrosier, Dante Civiero, Matthew Middlemore, Ass't Coach Martin Thompson.

**Front row:** Ian Manser, Kevin Paonessa, Austin Peddle, Nikolaos Niforos, Juan Ortiz, Luca Pasini, Zachary Zahorouski, and team Manager Jacinthe (Jake) Renaud.

## **Overview :**

The Windsor F.C. Nationals Boys U10B Blue team had such an adventure. When we took our sons out for the tryouts, for the Boys 10 and under, we could never imagine the adventure we were embarking upon. We went from having a couple of spots to fill to having the majority of the team leaving. From the original B team, only two members remained, the rest of the team had all new recruits including the coaching staff and manager. As luck would have it, one of the new recruits brought his father along who became our head coach, Coach Gaetano. Since Martin Thompson and I were always at the practices we became assistant coach and team manager just because.

## **Spring League:**

Our team participated in the Great Lakes Soccer League Boys U11-1st Division. The lack of experience of the team and the competitive level of the division proved to be too much for our team. They lost all of their games, but remained as dedicated and hard working as a team could be.

## **Summer exhibition games :**

There was no competition for our team, but it was a good practice and a chance to recruit some new players.

## **Springfield tournament:**

First tournament, 4 games 4 wins, we had a great time in Springfield as a team and took second place.



Fall league:

The team participated in the Great Lakes Soccer League Boys U12 - 2nd Division. During the Fall league games our team was successful and improved with every game they played. The second division proved to be a great level for the boys. The team finished 6-4-0. Our last game was very challenging, not because of the level of competition, but the weather. It was very, very, cold, windy and raining. It will be one game that we will never forget.

Special Mention:

Marquise Thompson was and will remain part of our team. He is such a great player and finisher. After the Springfield tournament, Marquise was selected to play for the A team where his success continued. No matter where he will end up, he will always be one of our players and friend to our sons.



Luca Pasini, our team Captain, is the type of player no matter what responsibility you give him he does it 110%. He is very good at adjusting and adapting to all situations he is presented with. He is our left kicker and what a kick it is.

Martin Thompson, what can you say about Martin, he is so strict with the boys and demands respect for Coach Gaetano, but when it is playtime he's the biggest kid. Martin stepped in when Coach Gaetano had no assistant and when Marquise was moved to the A team, Martin continued giving his time to the B team. Thank you Martin for your time, helping shape the team and for sharing your family's friendship with us.

Coach Gaetano, wow where do you start. He is one of the most dedicated and hard working coaches I have ever had the pleasure to meet. He picked up the team when we didn't think anyone would and stuck with us all the way through. One of Gaetano's first comments gained him the most respect; at this age any boy can be taught how to play soccer. He wasn't looking for the best or the very talented players; he was looking for players that were willing to learn and apply what they were learning on the field. Coach Gaetano gave not only his time and energy; he also gave us his heart and his family.

The coaching staff and team manager would personally want to mention the parents. Without the parents' commitment and dedication to bring their sons to practices and games, rain or shine, the team would not been able to become as successful as they became. As the team grew we all grew, we all became close and we all became friends, we all became the team. Thank you for the laughs, the adventures, and most of all your friendship.

Special thanks to Jake our team manager for her help, her hard work and her dedication for the team.

Thank you team for a rewarding season and for your ability and willingness to learn.

