



## **CC Riders Annual Report 2023**

### **President's Report**

2023 was a busy year for the CC Riders Soccer Club - full of renewal and growth.

In January, a new group of volunteers were voted onto the Executive Board and in the Spring, a new Club Administrator was hired.

Soccer NS introduced a new registration system to clubs across the province, RAMP, which led to lots of learning and the creation of a new website.

Planning for our summer season began very early in the year - ordering our Community soccer Timbits kit and new uniforms for all our competitive teams. We kept our popular Riders blue and added purple to our Club colors this year as a twist on our traditional maroon.

We increased our social media presence to engage with our community and created a Riders online store to share our Riders pride .

Registration was up significantly this summer with the addition of 221 new registered players. We had community programming from ages 3-18. Our competitive teams increased in number this year as well. We had 13 teams ranging from U9 to Men's Senior teams competing throughout the Province.

While it was a successful year, there is still plenty to do. We are seeking out and building community partnerships to help the Club continue to grow and offer quality programming for our local players. With an increase in membership, we need to encourage more volunteers to step forward whether that be as a coach, team manager or Board member. We are taking steps to ensure all coaches have the training and tools they need through further education and investing in equipment.

We are looking forward to an even better year in 2024!

## Board Members

### Current Members

Rene Despres - President  
Trevor Gordon - Vice President  
Michelle Miller - Secretary  
Haley Smith - Director of Community Teen League  
Nancy MacDougall - Member at Large

### Former Members

Bouzid MBarek - Director of Coach Development  
Pam McEwing - Member at Large  
Greg Morris - Director of Community Mini Soccer

## Employees

Lori Thorne - Administrator

## Social Events

### 2023 Mini Soccer Jamboree

All community players, U5-U11, were invited to the Timbits Field to take part in the end of year jamboree on August 12th. The Club provided players with water, freezies, and treat bags. Local Tim Hortons franchisee, Quinn MacKenzie provided timbits for the players, and with other local owners, sponsored medals for all players. Not Your Grandma's Kitchen food truck was on hand with lots of delicious snacks and lunch options for purchase. Our competitive teams volunteered to help out with everything from setting up, refereeing, and handing out treats to playing some games with our future competitive players.



## Teen League Season Finale

Our Teen League was smaller this year with the increase in Competitive teams with two teams - Team Green and Team Grey - played throughout the summer. On August 16th, the "rivals" played off for the final time. The Club provided treat bags for the players including Biosteel, some snacks and a CC Riders sticker.



## U9 Jamborees

Our Competitive U9 teams participated in four jamborees over the summer in Antigonish, New Glasgow, Guysborough, and here at home on August 19th. Our CC Riders hosted Boys and Girls teams from throughout the Highland Region. Our U9 players received special Riders medals for their well played season.





## Halifax Wanderers Visit

On August 1st, members of the Halifax Wanderers popped by our Competitive U11 Boys practice. The players led some drills, answered questions and signed a few autographs.



## Results from Competitions

**THE COLCHESTER WIRE**  
Find more local stories at SaltWire.com Wednesday, November 1, 2023

### Riders score provincial soccer medals

Youth teams net three gold, two silver as Truro club reaps summer membership growth

**JOHN MACNEIL**  
COLCHESTER WIRE  
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@JohnnyMacHockey

It was truly a banner season for the CC Riders Soccer Club.

Compiling its Soccer Nova Scotia youth divisions this past summer, the Truro-based Riders took home three provincial championships and a pair of silver medals.

"Our soccer club had a fantastic summer season," said Riders administrator Len Thorne, also a coach with the organization. "Our competitive program had a big jump in numbers. We fielded both boys and girls' teams from U11 all the way to U18 AA."

Five of the six eligible Riders teams qualified for provincial championships and went on to earn medals. The under-18 AA boys, the U11 A girls and the U15 A boys each captured gold, while the U15 AA girls and the U18 AA boys each mined silver.

With a new board of directors in place since earlier this year, the Riders had 691 players registered this summer.

That was an appreciable climb from last year, when about 450 players participated, Thorne reported.

The Colchester association also fielded a senior men's team — 19 years and over — in the Metro Men's Soccer League.

"Our community programs also had a boost in numbers," Thorne said. "We ran our mini football program for ages U5 to U11. Our teen league offered recreational soccer for ages 12 to 18."

As the calendar switches to November, the Riders' focus has turned to winter soccer for competitive teams and community programs alike.

For more information on the club, email admin@ridersoc.ca or visit the website: ridersoc.ca.

**FALL SAVINGS**

MS U18 \$249.99

MS U15 \$349.99

MS U12 \$159.99

**Milford Station**  
(902) 738-2228

**GOLD:** The CC Riders U18 AA boys are provincial champions. In the back row, from left, are coach Terri Brown, Grace Peakes, Lily MacIntyre, Lily Connolly, Abbie Oakley, Addison Marshall, Laila Burns, Alex Ritov, Addison Fisher, Maya Teedie, Darius MacKenzie and coach Chris Connolly. In the front row, from left, are Marissa Hunter, Blake Phillips, Olivia Bissan, Lily MacIntyre, Rowan Brown, Con Young, Makiah Robinson, Elena Sutherland and Lauren Finningan. Missing from the photo is Kysia Patil. CONTRIBUTED

**GOLD:** The CC Riders U11 A girls are provincial champions. In the back row, from left, are coach Rob Trono, Christie Murray, Jack Miller, Trevor Kozarynski, Grayson Despres, Beckoff Fourth, Landon Aarts, Kenny Oulah and coaches Len Thorne and Rene Despres. In the front row, from left, are By Adalabovici, Dariaan Esau, Reid McConkey, William Davis, Noah MacDonald, Ewan MacPherson and Ewan Turine. Missing from the photo is Malcolm, Mullins. CONTRIBUTED

**SILVER:** The CC Riders U15 AA girls are provincial runners-up. In the back row, from left, are coach Lori Thorne, Leah Higgins, Ella Rogier, Kennedy Borge, Olivia Cook, Marley Sumner, Marlin Graham, Sophia Carrington, Gabrielle Brun, Sara MacKenzie, Sophia Whitford and coach Rob Poole. In the front row, from left, are Emilee Toole, Marcus Rushton, Mya MacDougal, Abbey Thorne, Benjamin Aerts, Haggan Blag and Mariah Thorne. Missing from the photo are

**SILVER:** The CC Riders U18 AA boys are provincial runners-up. In the back row, from left, are coach Rob Trono, Noah Trone, Brogan MacDonald, Kyle Hill, MacMillan, Max Lilly, Simon MacPhee, Keenan Gerro, Marcus Campbell, Max Warren and coach Graham Thorne. In the front row, from left, are Blake Bissan, Alex Cook, Ian Monpey, Ty Shure, Sebby Caldwell, Liam Watson and Chase McDermott. Missing from the photo are Austin Burris, Cameron Benn

**NSSL Summer League 2023 -**  
U15A Girls - Indoor Finals Champions  
U15A Boys - Indoor Finals Champions

**NSSL Summer League 2023 -**  
U18AA Boys - Provincial Champions  
U15AA Boys - Provincial Runner-up  
U15AA Girls - Provincial Runner-Up U13A  
Boys - Provincial Champions  
U13A Girls - Provincial Champions

**Eastern Eagles Tournament 2023 -**  
**Montague PEI**  
U18AA Boys - Premier Division Champions  
U15AA Girls - Premier Division Runner-Up

**Awards -  
SNS Night of Excellence 2023**

Female Team of the Year - CC Riders U13A  
Girls



True Sport Regional Player of the Year - Highland  
Region - Sam and Zach Boone



Community Player of the Year - Highland Region -  
Chase McDermott

## **2023 Programs and Projects**

Summer Competitive soccer U9-U18

Summer Community mini soccer U5-U11

Summer Teen League U13-U18

Winter Competitive soccer U15/U18

Winter Skills sessions

Winter Teen Scrimmage Nights

Partnership with the Truro Saints Rugby Club for field and facility usage

Ongoing partnership with the TAAC Revitalization Project