



January 2026

CMSA Clubhouse

Building Players, People, and Community.



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Welcome to the CMSA Clubhouse

By Duncan Hawkins, CMSA President

Welcome to the CMSA Clubhouse — your inside look at what's happening across Crossfield Minor Soccer Association (CMSA). This newsletter is designed to keep our players, parents, coaches, volunteers, and community connected to the moments that matter most. From program updates and important dates to stories from the pitch, this is where the CMSA family comes together.

At CMSA, soccer is about more than wins and losses. It's about development, confidence, and belonging. Every session, every coach, and every program is guided by a simple belief: when kids feel supported and inspired, they grow — as players and as people. Through this newsletter, we'll share how that philosophy comes to life each week and how, together, we're growing the game the right way.



Building a strong community around our youth is one of the most important things we can do — in sport and in life. When young players feel they belong to something bigger than themselves, they develop confidence, resilience, and a sense of responsibility to others. A supportive soccer community creates safe spaces to learn, make mistakes, celebrate effort, and grow together. At CMSA, that community extends beyond the field to include families, coaches, volunteers, and local supporters who all play a role in shaping positive experiences that help our youth thrive — not just as athletes, but as people.

“Strong communities don’t just raise players — they raise confident, resilient people.”- Duncan Hawkins, President

Are you connected?

Staying connected helps our soccer community grow. We encourage families, players, and supporters to **follow CMSA and Big Country Soccer Association (BCSA) across our social media platforms and on the BCSA YouTube channel**, where we share updates, educational content, event highlights, and behind-the-scenes moments from across the district. These channels allow us to celebrate our players, support our coaches, and keep everyone informed while reinforcing our shared commitment to development, inclusion, and community.



Why We Coach the Way We Do

By *Duncan Hawkins,*
President

At CMSA, our coaching philosophy is built around one simple belief: when kids feel supported, confident, and engaged, they learn and grow faster. That's why our programs focus on age-appropriate training, positive coaching, and creating an environment where players are encouraged to try, make mistakes, and enjoy the game.

Rather than measuring success only by wins and losses, we look at effort, improvement, and enthusiasm. We want players to leave each session feeling more confident than when they arrived. By prioritizing development and enjoyment, we help build not only better soccer players, but resilient, curious, and motivated young people who carry those lessons beyond the field.

At CMSA, this approach also helps players develop important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and resilience. By giving players ownership of their learning and encouraging creativity, we allow them to build confidence in their decisions — on and off the field. Over time, this creates athletes who are not only more comfortable with the ball at their feet, but who also understand how to work through challenges, support their teammates, and enjoy the journey of improvement.



“When players are supported, encouraged, and free to try, development takes care of itself.”- Duncan Hawkins, President



What Parents Can Expect From the Sidelines

By Duncan Hawkins, President

At CMSA, the sideline is an extension of the learning environment. What players hear and feel during games has a powerful impact on their confidence, decision-making, and enjoyment of the sport. Our goal is to create sidelines that are positive, calm, and supportive — places where players feel encouraged to try, learn, and grow without fear of making mistakes.

Parents can expect CMSA coaches to guide players during training and games, providing age-appropriate instruction that aligns with our development-first philosophy. From the sidelines, the most helpful role for parents is to **cheer effort, celebrate teamwork, and support resilience**, regardless of the score. Simple encouragement like “Great effort,” “Keep going,” or “Well done” goes a long way in helping players stay confident and engaged.

At times, games will include mistakes, missed chances, and emotional moments — and that’s not only okay, it’s expected. These moments are essential to learning.

By allowing players to problem-solve and respond to challenges on their own, we help them build independence, confidence, and a deeper understanding of the game. Well-intended instructions shouted from the sidelines can unintentionally create confusion or pressure, pulling players out of the learning process.

When parents, coaches, and players are aligned, the environment becomes one where kids feel safe to take risks, express creativity, and enjoy the journey. Together, we can ensure that every game day reflects what CMSA stands for: **development over results, confidence over pressure, and a love for the game that lasts far beyond the final whistle.**



Important Date or Events

What: Early Bird Registration for 2026 Outdoor

When: January 01, 2026 - February 28, 2026

Where: [CMSA Registration Page](#)



IGNITEHer: Growing the Girls' Game



The **IGNITEHer Program**, led through **Big Country Soccer Association (BCSA)**, is a district-wide initiative focused on creating more opportunities for girls to belong, develop, and stay involved in soccer. By building supportive environments and clear pathways, IGNITEHer helps girls grow confidence, leadership, and a lifelong connection to the game.

The program is developing girls-specific opportunities across all levels, including player experiences, coach and referee development, mentorship, and events like **Girls Power Weekend**. Together, these initiatives are strengthening the girls' game across our rural communities and helping ensure soccer remains a positive, empowering space for girls now and into the future.

Looking for Coaches!

CMSA is looking for **volunteer coaches for the 2026 season**, and no previous experience is required. We provide **pre-built session plans** to guide each practice, along with **mentorship and ongoing support** throughout the season. Volunteer coaches play a vital role in creating positive, supportive environments where our youth can grow in confidence, skills, and love for the game.

