



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kevin Meek named Director of Coaching

November 6, 2009

LUDLOW- Kevin Meek, a former division 1 midfielder for Butler University in Indiana and former Director of Coaching and coach for top clubs in Indiana and Massachusetts for the past fifteen years, has been named Junior Pioneer's Director of Coaching by Jose Santos, Chairman.

Kevin has agreed to a three year contract and will serve as a liaison to the coaches and the coaching community across Western Massachusetts to offer top training to players in the area. During his first year, Kevin will focus on the Academy; building the current model and making sure the entire program is structurally sound with a clear cut mission, organizational structure, pedagogical approach, and clear connection to the overall soccer club. The Under 10 thru Under 12 program will be the focus in his second year with the development of a training curriculum. Kevin will then spend his third year focusing on the U13 to U15's.

"Without our coaches, our athletes cannot be successful," Santos said. "Early on in my position as Chairman I recognized the imperative that Junior Pioneers devote volunteer resources to serving their needs. The respect Coach Meek has from his peers as a coach, administrator, and coaches' advocate will serve him well as we strengthen our ties to coaches and revitalize the programs that serve them."

"I am very excited about this next phase in my career," Meek said. "To be able to elevate Junior Pioneer's programming to coaches, and by extension, to athletes, is something I couldn't pass up. I am looking forward to being part of this new era."

Kevin Meek was named the Elms College interim head women's soccer coach in August 2009. In addition, Coach Meek has spent the last four seasons as the assistant women's soccer coach at Division III Westfield State College. Last fall, he assisted the Owls to a 15-5 overall record, the Massachusetts State College Athletic Conference (MASCAC) championship, and a bid to the NCAA Division III tournament.

For the past two years, Coach Meek also served as the head coach of U-17 girls' premier soccer team and this past season served as the assistant coach of the Lady Pioneers W-League Professional Team.



Coach Meek has earned several diplomas from the USSF, the Gatorade Institute, the English Football Association, and the National Soccer Coaching Association, including his advanced regional diploma, national diplomas, and state and regional goalkeeping diplomas.

In addition to his coaching duties, Coach Meek is currently an associate professor in the English department at Westfield State College.

Coach Meek earned his Bachelor's degree in English and History from Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana and also holds a Master's degree in Fine Arts and Creative Writing from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He is working on his MA in Exercise Science, his SPARQ training certification, and is a certified physical trainer.

Please join us in welcoming Coach Meek to the Junior Pioneers!

Kevin can be reached via e-mail at: meeke@juniorpioneerssoccer.com

About the Junior Pioneers:

The mission of the Junior Pioneers Soccer Club, founded in 2002, is to provide top training to advanced youth soccer players from throughout western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut. The club offers a soccer learning experience that is unsurpassed in New England by employing a nationally-licensed professional coaching staff comprised of former professional, semi-professional, or college players. The club strives to play at the highest-levels of youth soccer in the United States and accomplishes this goal through participation in the Massachusetts Premier League, the United Soccer League's Super Y League, and United States Youth Soccer's National Championship Series. Player development strictly adheres to the guidelines set forth by US Soccer to develop each player's technical, tactical, physical, and psychological skills while strongly emphasizing teamwork and fair play. Player development continues beyond the soccer field to promote academic success, personal responsibility, and the necessary life skills required by all to become contributing members of the community.

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