

You Know You're a Soccer Coach When...

(A reprint of a compiled list from 1998)

1. You tell yourself, when your team is losing 5-0 and hasn't had the ball over the midfield line, that you are really more concerned with player development, that the players will learn from this, and that the other coach is just interested in winning anyway.
2. You tell yourself, when your team is winning 5-0 and the other team hasn't had the ball over the midfield line that all that player development is paying off.
3. You organized a call-in campaign to get your cable company to carry ESPN2 (or Telemundo and Fox Sports World or ESPN Deportes).
5. You spend the last hour of work planning today's practice session.
6. You read every soccer catalog that comes in the mail cover to cover.
7. If You've ever said I really think 5 is a little young for Heather to be considered a "natural striker", Mrs. Walsh.
8. If You've ever said No, Mr. Rodriguez, putting more air into it will not make it a #4 ball.
9. You purchase soccer-related Christmas gifts for your non-soccer playing loved ones.
10. You decide to purchase a new vehicle "BIG ENOUGH FOR YOUR SOCCER GEAR"!
11. All kids within a radius of 4 miles know that you are the only one who owns a Mikasa air pump.
12. A whistle is permanently wrapped around your driver's side sunshade.
13. You wear a tracksuit to church.
14. You address the preacher as "ref".
15. You leave church at half-time.
16. You scream "Penalty ref" at precisely 4:34 am.
17. You get withdrawal symptoms when the season ends.
18. You have more pictures of your soccer teams on your walls than you do of your family.

19. At least 10% of your family budget goes for soccer.
20. All non-work clothing has three stripes or a Score brand name.
21. Main factor in buying a car is whether or not the portable goal will fit.
22. You lie about how much time you spend on soccer.
23. Thinks that ice is the answer to all injuries.
24. Recognizes ex-players by the way they run.
25. You call in sick from work, but you could be dying but never miss a game.
26. Love to watch games featuring your former players, and tell complete strangers you taught him how to make that perfect cross that player just executed.
27. After your team played their game at home, you stay to see the next 3 games.
28. Your will states your ashes should be spread over your home field.
29. Whenever you take the family out for a nice meal you pay for it using end-of-the season gift certificates from players and parents.
30. Out of habit you tie double knots in your dress shoes.

These were partially compiled from lists of Top Ten reasons submitted by various subscribers to the SOCCER-COACH-L mailing list.

If you have another, please e-mail it to me for posting.

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