



Board of Directors Elections – 2019 Biography and Candidacy Statement

For Regional Board Director | Midwest Region (II) *Adil Salmoni (Michigan Hawks)*

BIOGRAPHY:

I grew up in New York and went to undergrad in Rhode Island. While my passion for the beautiful game has not waned since I first kicked the ball, my ability on the field, was never good enough to play at the higher level than the regional ODP team.

I began coaching high school while pursuing a masters of engineering at the University of Michigan in 1996. My coaching career path has allowed me to coach ODP teams, help run a successful girls club, and be part of the US Soccer National Team coaching staff. But I still remember my first experience as a coach with the most fondness.

I coached at Greenhills High school and I will be forever grateful to Eric Gajar and MeG Seng who, as athletic directors, gave me my first opportunity to coach and opened that wondrous door.

My path is full of people who mentored me, challenged and taught me to be a better human and be a competent coach.

Janet Rayfield hired me to her ODP regional staff after I took her NSCAA Premier Diploma coach in 2006.

April Heinrichs added me to her national team staff in 2008

Doug Landefeld Hired me as a coach with the Michigan Hawks in 2007

And countless of other people were instrumental in helping me throughout my career.

Timeline

- US Soccer U16 and U18 National Team Coach since 2012
- UEFA "A" Licence
- USSF "A" and National Youth License
- NSCAA Premier Diploma
- Former Regional Age Group Coach with Region 2 (2006-2010)
- Former Boys and Girls Varsity Head Coach at Greenhills School (1996-2009)
- Former Head Coach at Ann Arbor Arsenal Soccer Club (2004-2006)
- Former Head Coach at Concordia University (2005-2007)
- Former Director of Coaching for the Livonia Meteors (2006-2008)
- Michigan Hawks Coach since 2008



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CANDIDACY STATEMENT:

Dear colleagues,

My Name is Adil Salmoni. I am currently the technical director for the Michigan Hawks and I am seeking a position on the board of Us Club Soccer.

My journey into coaching became a career path when, to the chagrin of my mother, I decided to give up my dreams of a corner office for a lifetime of carrying cones and bibs, moving goals, painting fields, and of course, the joy of working with young people who are just as passionate about the game as I was (and still am).

Since that decision, I have seeked, everyday, to get better for the sake of my players and my teams. I took coaching courses, went to seminars, seeked mentors and kept trying to learn as much as I can in order to better serve the people who put their trust in me.

My interactions with so many influential people has helped shape my vision and define my core values. The following 5 tenes remain the guiding principles of every action that I take as a soccer coach.

- Joyful Participation
- Development
- Respect
- Inclusiveness
- Perseverance

My Vision is to help create a safe, curious and challenging environment where young people are empowered to achieve their potential through athletics.

My hope is to work with like minded coaches, staff, and administrators to create a roadmap for that vision. I am looking to work tirelessly to help create a development platform, through under US Club Soccer, that can reach players regardless of socio economic or geographic restraints.

The current soccer landscape in the midwest and in the country for that matter has created a system of inequality when it comes to the resources available to certain communities.

There are isolated major clubs in affluent and demographically dense pockets. But those resources are sparse to non existent in inner cities and rural areas.

I aspire to help imagine a process that enables the growth of soccer in small communities and inner cities by allocating the resources necessary. Those resources may include coaching education, player development models, organizational structure, and the ability to self audit and plan strategically. Reinvesting in US Club Soccer charter organizations will create a network of clubs no longer just competing for trophies, but a community of allies working toward the same ideals.

The need for developing a process that helps clubs big and small whether they serve families in the the suburbs, the inner city or in rural areas, is no longer a luxury. Our organizations are in dire need of individualized road maps that will and help define ways to improve the competence of the people involved, streamline the operational processes, and incentivize individual player development.

My experience with Us Club Soccer has been limited to the Elite Clubs National League platform, the National Premier League, and some isolated tournaments and events. Our club for example has been forced to participate in multiple leagues under US Club Soccer and other umbrella organizations in order to serve all our members.



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One of the primary reasons for my candidacy is to imagine Us Clubs Soccer as an organization that integrates all our members. Boys and girls, from recreational players to national team players, from little kickers to high school seniors and beyond.

I am humbled by the prospect of serving the midwest and fighting for a better tomorrow for the clubs that call our region home. My pledge is to display the same tireless dedication and commitment that have been ingrained in me by years of watching and learning from some of the best people and mentors I could have hoped for.

I want to thank all the people who have done so much for bringing us this far and I am hoping that you will give me the opportunity to help move US Club Soccer forward with your help and assistance.

Humbly yours,

Adil Salmoni
Michigan Hawks
Technical Director