

Russell Lewis **U8 and YDA Director**

Russell Lewis hails from Bristol, England. In his youth, Lewis played semi-professional soccer and began coaching at the age of 16. He was amongst only a few young coaches awarded the UEFA 'C' badge at the age of 17. In 2004 Lewis created a soccer school called Soccerstarters specializing in developing players aged 3-5 and Soccastarz developing 6-18 year olds, the school has grown from Bristol, England to New York, Philadelphia and now Ohio.

Lewis qualified at UEFA 'B' level and NSCAA Regional Diploma, in 2006 and became the Director of Training of Longwood Soccer (LYSA) coaching players 3-18 years old. In spring 2008 , he became the Head Goalkeeping Coach at Long Island University (LIU).

In the fall of 2008, Lewis was employed as Head Varsity Coach at Eastport South Manor High School. In his first season they reached the play-offs for the first time in four years; because of this feat Lewis and his team also won the Suffolk County Sportsmanship Award.

Lewis is currently trying to bridge the "Gap" between Recreation soccer & Select/Travel soccer in the YDA & U8 program, facilitating the needs of players aged 4-8 that desire an academy style learning environment.

Lewis is medically certified for both Adults and Children in CPR and AED and will gain USSF National Youth License status in June 09.