



# TUCSON SOCCER ACADEMY

EXCELLENCE  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT



Southern Arizona's Premier Soccer Program

## Alejandro Gonzalez, 2013 Nicholson Scholarship Winner

The Tucson Soccer Academy is proud to announce that Alejandro Gonzalez is the 2013-14 recipient of the Nicholson Scholarship Award. Gonzalez, 17, who has been playing with TSA for four years, plays center midfield for the '96 Boys Red team. The scholarship covers the expenses for his final year in TSA.

"This is amazing," Gonzalez said. "It helps a lot for my parents. I'm grateful to my coaches. Being part of TSA means a lot. I have great coaches and great teammates. They've all been helpful." Gonzalez plays for Flowing Wells High School during the school year. He said he's been playing soccer since he was five years old. He also has two sisters.

"Soccer is everything I do," he said. "When I have time, it's all I do. It gets my mind off things. It's all I want to do." Gonzalez comes to TSA after spending some time with the Real Salt Lake Academy team in Casa Grande. Gonzalez dreams of playing soccer in college.

Wolfgang Weber is his coach. "Alejandro is a kid, who over the years, has been very loyal to TSA," Weber said. "He was offered a spot in Casa Grande but opted to stay with TSA. He's a perfect example of what we are looking for in players, excellence on and off the field. We are very pleased for him. We feel he has an excellent future (in the game)."

The Nicholson Scholarship is named after Mike Nicholson, the late husband of former TSA board member Cathy Nicholson. Mike passed away in 2005 and was a long-time supporter of TSA. The scholarship is chosen by the TSA coaches. "We are pleased that Cathy makes this available to us," Weber said. "We are very proud of Alejandro. And for Cathy to do this in Mike's memory is much appreciated."

## Great Start to Season

Now this is a great way to start a season.

The '96 Boys Red team was 3-1 in the NHB tournament in Southern California and continued its strong play with two well-played tournaments (both wins) in-state. The 96 Boys went 4-0 in Phoenix. It also went 3-0-1 in the TSA Tournament.

The team is 13-1-1 in its first 15 games. It has scored 39 goals and given up just 10.

The good news doesn't stop there. It has won its first three Arizona state league games and is in first place in mid-October. It's gone 10-0 in terms of goals scored vs. given up.

"The team has been working hard on improving on an already good season from last year," said Wolfgang Weber, the team's coach. "I'm very impressed with the progress we are making. Some newcomers to the team have been very impressive – goalkeeper Shawn Spitzer has only conceded four goals in 12 games with an impressive 0.33 goal against average. And, forward Hector Banegas leads the team in scoring with 15 goals.

"Soon we will enter the Far West Regional League competition and based on our efforts so far, I feel reasonably confident that we will compete for a position near the top of the standings. Most importantly is that we stay on this path of continuous improvement."



### Together as One!

From left to right: Jeff Rogers, TSA DOC; Don Hann Sierra Vista District Commissioner; Mark Thede, President AYSA; Leslie Johnson, CEO AYSA; Linda Corbett VP of Recreation AYSA; Ebie Aldaghi, TSA President; Kathy DeMers, TSA Tournament Director; Karen Farrell, TSA Treasurer & Tournament Czar; and Ted Schmidt, District II (Tucson) Commissioner.



### '02 Boys Red

The '02 Boys Red, coached this weekend by Travis Sanchez and Eddie Autz, won the Gold Medal for the U12 Division of the FC Sonora Socctoberfest Tournament.

Congratulations boys!



### '99 Boys White

The '99 Boys White came in second at the FC Sonora Socctoberfest Tournament.

Congratulations boys!

If you have a news item, please submit it to Ted Schmidt at (520) 545-1670, (520) 241-2794 or [Tschmidt@kss-law.com](mailto:Tschmidt@kss-law.com). Or contact [Steve.Rivera95@gmail.com](mailto:Steve.Rivera95@gmail.com) for any newsletter or website information.

# Thank you MaxInMotion & AYSA!

Through the generosity of MaxInMotion and the partnership with Arizona Youth Soccer Association, Tucson Soccer Academy has been awarded \$6,200 that will benefit 13 grant recipients. These funds from MaxInMotion will help ease the financial burden for many families. Thank you MaxInMotion and Arizona Youth Soccer Association!



## 2013-2014 Season Update: TSA Girls

It's been a season of success and some learning ups-and-downs. TSA's Girls are doing well in some areas and some others not.

The '96 Girls Red is 3-0 and in first place in the state league; the 96 Girls Blue is 0-3-0 (eighth place); 97 Girls Red is 2-0-1 (second); 98 Girls Red is 0-0-2 (fifth); 99 Girls Red 3-0-0 (first), '00 Girls Red 1-0-2 (third) and '01 Girls Red 1-2-0 (fourth).

In order to help the young group of soccer players, TSA will continue "Coaching the Kids" training sessions involving the older kids with the younger kids.

"This is an opportunity for our '96 and '97 girls' teams to give back to the club and community and run training sessions for our younger teams," said Todd Garelick, TSA's girls coaching director. "This was done last year by the '95 girls' team and was extremely well received. This will continue to bridge the gap between all teams, create club unity and allow the older girls to serve as role models for our younger teams."

## This & That ...

This and That ...  
Maira Alonzo was appointed secretary to the AYSA and Collier Hill of Tanque Verde was selected VP of Competition for AYSA. This is a huge step for TSA and Tucson. Never before has TSA had two representatives on the AYSA board nor Tucson three representatives. TSA's Ted Schmidt is also on the board. Tucson and TSA continue to take up space on the map of Arizona soccer and particularly youth soccer, Schmidt said. Alonzo is the mom of a 2002 TSA Red Boys player.



### '99 Girls Red

The '99 Girls Red won the premier division in the Ahwatukee Soccerfest Tournament (Oct 19-20).

Congratulations girls!

### '01 Girls Red

The '01 Girls Red team, coached by Sean Watkins, won the championship of the Ahwatukee Soccerfest (Oct 19-20). After the first game, the next two were must-wins and they won 3-0 in two straight matches to get through! The final was



tied 1-1 at the end of regulation and through two overtime periods. In the ensuing penalty kick shootout, goalkeeper Hope Hisey made two incredible saves to take home the championship. The girls wore pink during the weekend to show their support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Congratulations girls!

## What a great 2013 TSA Soccer Tournament!

There were 194 teams in all age groups in what turned out to be a super weekend with great soccer and fantastic weather. Among the out-of-state visitors were teams from New Mexico, Canada, and 11 teams from Texas.

"The tournament was a great success," said Karen Farrell, tournament co-director. "We would like to thank all the TSA families for their help during the tournament. Without all of our TSA family volunteers and our site coordinator volunteers we would not be able to put this tournament on."

Special thanks to Visit Tucson/Tucson Sports for their support with hotels and sponsorship for our tournament (<http://www.visittucson.org/>), as well as Aaron Rents and Alphagraphics.

## TSA Alums Doing Well All Over

The '95 Girls Red team has a number of former players doing well in their freshmen year at college. Here's a look: Shannon Shields (Sam Houston State) has played in 11 games (two starts). She has two goals and two assists in 493 minutes played ... Madi Irwin (New Mexico) has played in 13 games and scored 1 goal in 218 minutes played. Madison Parker and Laura DeMers are also with the Lobos. ... Maddie Kinzer (Oklahoma) has played in 12 games with three starts ... Kaylee Gambadoro (Loyola Chicago) has played in one game ... Briana Barreiro (UTEP) has played a total of 658 minutes in nine games ... Jasmin Stokes (Cal Baptist) has played in nine games and has two goals ... Morgan Rooney (Concordia, Oregon) has played in 10 games and has 348 minutes played. She has one goal ... Justene Kesterson (Arizona) has played in 10 games and has one goal ... Laura Pimienta (Arizona) has played in seven games ... Kaitlyn Lopez (Arizona) has 4 goals and 1 assist in 15 games. ... Emily Lai (Arizona) has played in 12 games and has a goal ... Also playing for UA are: Priscilla Pimienta and Karina Gabino.

On the boy's side: Jack Ferguson (Cornell) has played in 11 games and has four starts. He's played 341 minutes ... Ian Palmer (UC-Davis) has played in 13 games... Danny McDermott (San Diego) has played in three games with one start ... Cameron Rivera (Davis & Elkins) has played in eight games, with seven starts and is 6-1 as the starting goalkeeper. Cameron was named conference player of the week in mid-October.

