

Jay Tippeconnic

Inducted February 5, 2016

We honor Jay Tippeconnic with induction into the Hall of Fame as one who has long been a part of the Oklahoma soccer community. Jay, from Scottsdale, AZ, is survived by his family: wife, Lisa, and their four children – Tom, Troy, Tristan, and Tresur, as well as their dog, Tuesday. They have been members of Edmond's soccer club and Oklahoma Football Club, and they have all been active in soccer as players, coaches, and referees. Jay and Lisa met in California at a Home Depot management conference. Jay worked as store Manager for Home Depot and Business Owner, but like many volunteers, he got involved in the game of soccer when his children started soccer after the family moved to Oklahoma. Some of his most memorable soccer moments were TOPSoccer; Family Night at ESC; tournaments like Beat the Heat and Turkey Shoot Out or watching the high school teams play at ESC; and undeniably his most favorite, watching the kid play. The family has sent all three sons to school on almost full soccer scholarships, and Tresuri is preparing to be the fourth member to play college ball on scholarship as well. This is a great legacy for Jay and his family.

He was a long-time administrator, board member, volunteer and coach with the ESC and OFC. Jay truly was one of those individuals who wore many hats in the organization and was always interested in helping and providing avenues for players to participate in soccer. In speaking with several current and former board members and staff with the Edmond Soccer Club, Jay was commonly referred to as "Mr. Edmond Soccer Club." He was one of those volunteers that tirelessly worked as a booster, supporter and advocate for the youth players and volunteers at the club. While he served as President of the Edmond Soccer Club in 2012-2013 and has served as both Club Secretary and 1st Vice President; he did not always serve in high profile jobs. He was often the person behind the scenes and a key to the work that goes into a successful soccer club. He developed the position of "Volunteer Coordinator" for the Club and served in that role for several years.

Jay was a constant presence at the fields and helped to host club tournaments, state tournaments. PLW and SRPL regional events, TOPSoccer, as well as helped with concessions and lined field, cut grass and any other labor needed. No project or need was beneath Jay in supporting the soccer club. Some of the obstacles he helped to overcome were getting the Academy off the ground; the merging of NOKC and ESC to create OFC; and working to help repair and bridge the gap with ESC and Edmond School District. Some of his accomplishments include transforming the club's Board of Directors from being competitive program driven to one focused on recreational soccer and developing avenues for younger players to participate. Under Jay's leadership and dedicated work, the club has grown to a membership of over 1,400 recreational players. He was also instrumental in developing and bringing TOPSoccer to the Edmond Soccer Club and it was one of the first TOPSoccer programs in the Oklahoma City area. Jay's greatest contribution to the game was not only TOPSoccer but also assisting the Edmond Soccer Club in obtaining and hosting the 2013 Southern Regional Tournament as well as the State Cup and the President's Cup Tournaments from 2005-2015.

Jay saw the future of soccer as a sport to be implemented in middle schools and utilizing the Pulse and Energy FC teams to create interest and something lasting for the game of soccer in Oklahoma. What did he advise upcoming soccer generations? "Enjoy the game as much as possible and have fun."