



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

KICK OFF: PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Now that Fall is almost upon us, it's time to reflect on a great summer for soccer, as the US, Canada and Mexico hosted World Cup. For many JJFC players this will be the first World Cup they remember, and for some it will turn into a lifelong love of the game. As parents and coaches we can play huge role in nurturing and encouraging their interest and ambitions – maybe the next Messi will come from Lewisboro!

We're excited to carry the World Cup excitement into the Fall season at JJFC. Our huge Labor Day weekend tournament hosts 160 teams across two sites, we have fifteen Travel teams competing in the Westchester Youth Soccer League between U8 and U14, and our Academy program starts on September 9th! Registration is open at www.johnjayfc.com

Thank you for being part of the JJFC community. We appreciate your participation and it is our privilege to support the development of the players we coach, on and off the field.



IN THIS NEWSLETTER YOU'LL FIND:

Travel season recap & lookahead | Academy updates | Meet our coaching team
Tech updates | Fundraising progress | Community events recap
Board updates & ways to get involved



See you on the pitch

Simon Smith

Simon Smith
President JJFC



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

TRAVEL PROGRAM UPDATE

25/26 TRAVEL SEASON RECAP

It was another successful season for all of our Travel teams. Our players showed tremendous growth, teamwork and determination on and off the field.



SUCCESSFUL SEASON

Our Travel teams competed in the WYSL and our youngest teams played in the FC Transylvania 5 aside league.



TOP DIVISION REPRESENTED

We had two teams in the WYSL's top division (Girls U9 and U10).



THREE TOURNAMENTS

Our travel teams played in three tournaments: SCOR, Fishkill and JJFC. Look out for more in 2026/27!

LOOKAHEAD TO 26/27



FOCUS ON DEVELOPMENT

Establishing age group-based standards and development objectives. Implementing mid-season and end-of-season development feedback. Exploring the use of VEO to capture match video for post-game analysis and feedback.



NEW AGE GROUP STRUCTURE

We have now switched to the new school year based age group approach mandated by US Soccer. Our focus while transitioning is always on the development needs and outcomes of our players.

ADVANCED TRAVEL TRAINING

Register for additional advanced training! Open to all travel players via

www.johnjayfc.com/travelprogram

(non-travel players by invite, contact JJFC's Director of Coaching on director@johnjayfc.com).

INTERESTED IN PLAYING JJFC TRAVEL?

We are still accepting travel players across some teams!

Arrange for a tryout via JJFC's Director of Coaching.



LABOR DAY WEEKEND TOURNAMENT



SEPT 5TH & 6TH



RECORD
160 TEAMS
REGISTERED!



TWO SITES:
Onatru Farm | Allens Meadows



SAT, SEPT 5TH
BOYS



SUN, SEPT 6TH
GIRLS

COME DOWN TO CHEER ON JJFC!
ENJOY A BEAUTIFUL DAY WATCHING SOCCER
IN THE SUNSHINE!



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

ACADEMY CORNER

SPRING RECAP & FALL 2026 PLANS



RECORD-BREAKING SPRING 2026!

Our spring 2026 academy program hit **238 registrants** – our highest ever!



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

For fall 2026, we will continue to refine and improve the program based on family feedback, player development needs and lessons learned.



BETTER COMMUNICATION

We introduced WhatsApp groups to share updates more quickly. For the Fall season we will use **PlayMetrics** for enhanced communication across all registered families.



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

We welcomed several parent volunteers to a more active role with the program, including helping with refreshments, selling JJFC merch and acting as team parents to support communications. We thank you and look forward to more support in the fall.



THANK YOU, SARAH!

Our board member Sarah took over as Academy Coordinator and did a great job – **thank you Sarah!**



WE  OUR
ACADEMY PLAYERS



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our JJFC community, we're making big progress toward brighter nights and even better fields!

 **OVER
\$5,000+**
DONATED SO FAR! 

Your support is helping us purchase portable field lights ahead of the fall season.



**THE FUNDRAISER
IS STILL OPEN!**

Every dollar brings us closer to lighting up our fields.



DONATE TODAY!

SCAN QR CODE OR VISIT:
justgiving.com/campaign/john-jay-fc-2026



HOW YOUR GENEROSITY HELPS!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, community-focused soccer club, your donations make a real difference to our ability to serve the children in our community.



INVESTING IN OUR PLAYERS

In 2026 we purchased new goals following our SNAP! fundraiser and provided financial support to families who otherwise could not afford to participate.



GET INVOLVED!

Want to help make a difference? We're seeking fundraising volunteers to join the effort. Contact Simon Smith for details: president@johnjayfc.com



THANK YOU

to every family, player and supporter who continues to invest in JJFC.



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER



MEET THE COACHES

We are thrilled about the fantastic team of professional soccer coaches to work with our players. This season you will see many of your favorites, and have added some new faces. Our coaches are excited about working with your players during the new season, and will bring energy, passion and drive.



**DIRECTOR OF COACHING AND OPERATIONS
U8 GIRLS PURPLE
GARETH HORROCKS**



**U12 BOYS PURPLE
BRADY HUTCHISON**



**U8 BOYS PURPLE
DANNY WHEELAN**



**U9 BOYS WHITE
MARCELO DIAZ**



**U9 BOYS PURPLE
PAXTON BALLARD**



**U10 BOYS PURPLE
U8 BOYS WHITE
GABRIEL AZEVEDO**



**U11 BOYS PURPLE
U14 BOYS PURPLE
VAL MARKAJ**



**U12 BOYS WHITE
BRANDON TYNDALE**



**U10 GIRLS PURPLE
U11 BOYS PURPLE
KRISTEN RIOLO**



**U11 GIRLS PURPLE
JOHN MARTIN**

Our travel coaches also coach in our academy program!



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER



TECH UPDATE



NEW WEBSITE

We moved johnjayfc.com to a brand-new website providing useful information to JJFC families, including

- Details on our programs and ability to directly register
- Club calendar so you know what's happening when
- JJFC store for JJFC swag!
- Helpful resources such as at-home practices and club policies



VISIT JOHNJAYFC.COM



PLAYMETRICS

- Moved to a modern registration platform **PlayMetrics** for Travel and Academy.
- Platform allows more seamless registration experience for parents, and direct communication from the club to our families.
- **DOWNLOAD THE APP NOW – TRAVEL AND ACADEMY!**



SOCIAL MEDIA



- Our social media presence is building
- We have increased content, engagement and reach over the last year
- Please tag or share **#johnjayfc** to help us grow further!
- Instagram and facebook

LET'S KEEP CONNECTING!  FOLLOW. TAG. SHARE.



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER



JJFC COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- We held a **World Cup Watch Party** in June for the US opening game against Paraguay
- Around 150 people watched the 4-1 win for the US on massive 26ft screen
- The event was reported in the Katonah Lewisboro Times:
 - <https://news.halstonmedia.com/katonah-lewisboro-times/katonah-lewisboro-times/stories/john-jay-fc-world-cup-watch-party.84588>
- We also held a **Travel meet-up** to promote cross-travel community building, along with two end-of-Academy celebrations and medal ceremonies!
- Stay tuned for more community events in 2026/27!



USED SOCCER GEAR DONATION DRIVE

- A former JJFC player, **Sahej Cohen**, organized the collection of lightly used soccer gear to donate to underprivileged kids in Brazil
- Sahej collected a large volume of equipment including jerseys, shorts, socks, cleats and shin guards
- These are currently being shipped to Brazil and we hope to share photos once they arrive



WANT TO HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE?
WE ARE SEEKING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS!
CONTACT SIMON SMITH FOR DETAILS (president@johnjayfc.com)



SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER



BOARD UPDATES

- JJFC is delighted to welcome **Delphine Kramer** as a new board member. Delphine – whose daughter plays JJFC travel – specializes in talent management and organizational effectiveness. We look forward to her helping JJFC improve even further!
- Moving on: **Joanne Baird** and **Dina Borelli** have decided to step away the JJFC board – we are very appreciative of their efforts to support the club including uniforms, fundraising, community events and swag sales.



WE HAVE BOARD OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We are seeking support for:

- ✓ Community engagement & outreach
- ✓ Marketing and profile raising
- ✓ Fundraising



Contact
Simon Smith
for more
information
(president@johnjayfc.com)



THE FINAL WHISTLE

- We're really proud of the past six months at JJFC.
 - Grew community – the World Cup watch party and other events
 - Grew program – our Academy program was its biggest ever
 - And most importantly, we saw growth in our players on and off the pitch
- Thank you for being part of the JJFC community, and we look forward to an amazing Fall season!
- Please spread the JJFC word to your friends and family – this helps grow the club and the sport
- Sincerely, John Jay FC Board of Directors
 - Simon Smith, Kevin Francis, Paul Fusco, Josh Cocciardi, Sarah Menichelli, Matt Brennan and Delphine Kramer
- Follow us on Instagram and Facebook
- [#johnjayFC](https://www.instagram.com/johnjayfc)
- www.johnjayFC.com

