

## **Thoughts from a parent of a Turkey Team Selection**

I got word today that my son made the Turkey B Team. Since I have known you just about as long as anyone I know through Region 70 I just want to share with you how much it means to us.

My wife and I are SO THRILLED for him He will be as excited about this as any kid who has ever made a select team. This kid will walk tall for quite some time to come regardless of how the tournament goes.

I think it would be fair to say that he is not a very strong player but he gives 110% on the field and I think that is what got him a slot on the team. I must say that AYSO is just a great platform for giving kids in this category a chance to succeed. This is his 5th year in the league and he has tried out for select teams before without success. As a parent, one of the most difficult tasks in our sports world to deal with are the tears that come with this "failure". However, the overall experience of the AYSO season is so positive, that he licks his wounds and comes back even more determined to make the Turkey team the next year. Finally he gets his day in the sun.

Region 70 deserves a lot of credit for putting together these additional teams to enable the kids, who normally take a back seat to the superstars, to have a chance to "be special."

So, in the midst of all my joy, I am thinking of all the kids and parents who are going through the tears of disappointment at the moment. I just hope they find the courage to come back strong next year and pursue their soccer dreams.

My kid is a classic case of "never give up".

Editorial Comment:

This was written in 2005 by an AYSO dad who has been a valued volunteer in our region for a number of years. The cliché of "it could not happen to a nicer family" is ever so true here.