



# The Buzz

Final Spring Issue  
Issue 5

## And Before You Know It....

How does this happen? We spend so much time getting ready for tournaments, training, friendly matches, and club events and spend a lot of time enjoying that excited anticipation of the next trip with the team and before you know it another season has passed. Two things remain constant though, the players get older and move up and in several weeks we will sit down and start planning it all over again.

The Stingers Soccer Club has had a huge growth season and as with any growth we have had some growing pains but nothing that couldn't be handled. In the following pages we will look at what the teams have accomplished and where the club stands now. We will also take a look into the future of the Stingers Soccer Club and talk about the vision the club has for premier level soccer in Central West Virginia.

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## U12 Boys Finish out Season Strong

By Tom Bailey

For their final tournament of the spring season, the Stingers U12 Boys traveled to the 2006 Colonial Cup in Richmond Virginia. Hosted by the Richmond Kickers and the Central Virginia Soccer Association, the Boys came within inches of the championship, finishing second among the eight teams in their bracket.

In Saturday's first game, the Stingers faced the Augusta Untied U12 Steam, where the Stingers took a commanding 4-0 lead in the first half. Brandon Franklin and A. J. Smith scored in the 5<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> minutes, each assisted by Jacob Freeland. Brandon added his second goal of the game in the 19<sup>th</sup> minute, with an assist by Braden Stover. Jay Schwartzmiller closed the scoring in the 24<sup>th</sup> minute, with Jacob picking up his third assist. August United scored in the second half, but the Stingers held. With Matthew Bailey making three saves in goal, the Boys won their first game handily 4-1.

The Stingers faced R33 United in Game 2 Saturday afternoon, and shot to an early 2-0 lead. Jay Schwartzmiller opened the first half scoring with a goal in the 6<sup>th</sup> minute, assisted by Brandon Franklin. Then, in the 7<sup>th</sup> minute, Brandon scored an unassisted goal from an R33 United turnover. In the 27<sup>th</sup> minute, Connor Kornbrath scored on a beautiful header, set up by an arcing corner kick from Brandon Franklin. Brandon completed the Stingers Game 2 scoring in the 40<sup>th</sup> minute, assisted by A. J. Smith. Although two second half goals by R33 United made things interesting, the Stingers held on for the 4-2 win.

Believing they needed a win to against SOCA - Forest to advance

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*"the Boys came within inches of the championship, finishing second among eight teams in their bracket.."*

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Please see *U12 Boys* on page 3

## U14 Girls Head into End of Season on a High Note

With one more tournament to look forward to the U14 girls are heading in to the end of the season with a renewed outlook and better understanding of the game.

The U14 girls just finished up taking the championship in the 2006 Colonial Cup in Richmond Virginia. With six teams in their bracket the girls came away with a complete shut out outscoring their opponents 15-0.

In the first game they faced a good opponent ending in a 0-0 draw. After talking with the girls and going over some pointers the girls came out strong and completely dominated the next team winning 6-0. In the semi-final game on Sunday the girls faced the challenge of an early game but came out with a winning attitude and won again 6-0. Finally in the championship game the girls faced their best competition of the tournament and came away with the win 3-0.

The U14 girls finish up the regular season with a record of 9 wins, 4 losses, and 3 draws.

Parents and coaches are all very pleased with the way the season has gone considering this is a new team that had never really played together and the girls individually have really developed their skills and playing ability.

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*The U14 girls are heading into the end of the season with a renewed outlook*

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## Stingers Soccer Club and the Future of Central West Virginia Soccer

### Why Travel Soccer?

Whether you are reevaluating your season with the Stingers or considering travel this is a question you may be asking.

The Stingers travel program seeks players who want a more competitive soccer environment and who will make a commitment to improve their skills and knowledge of tactics and strategy. Players are chosen on the basis of their current soccer skills, general athletic ability, and willingness to commit to a more demanding program. Players with good soccer skills or good general athletic ability – and with dedicated and supportive parents – are encouraged to try out for positions with SSC travel teams.

Teams usually practice two times per week in the regular season. Players are expected to attend all practices and games. Many players sign up for individual skill training in addition to that provided by each team.

Practices for the fall season begin in early August. League games begin the week after Labor Day, and the season ends in early November. In the spring, practices begin in early March, and games run from April through mid June. Most teams also attend two or three tournaments each season.

Please see *Stingers Future* on page 4



*U14 girls at the Colonial Cup*

## U12 girls finish season with good showing

This year the U12G have played 12 Friendlies against teams ranging from U11 to U14. They ended up the season with 5 W, 5 L, and 2 T.

In the Huntington Friendlies, they had 1 Tie and 3 Losses playing against an all boys team, a coed team, a U11G, and a U12G.

In Richmond, the girls were a little short-handed, playing with only 12 girls. They won 1 game 6 - 0, and had losses of 2-1, 3-2, and 3-0.

Over all the girls had a good experience developing their skills and working towards their goals as individual players and a team.

### *U12 Boys from page 1*

to the Championship Game, the Boys came out strong in Game 3. (It was later determined that a tie in the final match would also have put the Stingers in the Championship.) Brandon Franklin had a natural hat trick in the first half, netting goals in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup> minutes. He was assisted on his first two goals by Jacob Freeland, and on his third goal by Jay Schwartzmiller. In the 38<sup>th</sup> minute, Brandon finished his scoring in Game 3 with an assist on a trademark corner kick, headed in by A. J. Smith for the goal. In the 45<sup>th</sup> minute, Justin Franklin earned an assist when he headed the ball to Jesse Hamrick, who scored the team's fifth goal. SOCA - Forest scored once in the second half, but added an own goal to close the scoring. Goalkeepers Matthew Bailey (3 saves in the first half) and Joey Reese (2 saves in the second half) helped the Boys to a 6-1 victory, and a trip to the Championship Game.

The Stingers faced the Richmond Kickers Youth Central U12 team in the Championship Game, and continued their trend of taking the lead early. Brandon Franklin scored in the 5<sup>th</sup> minute, with Jay Schwartzmiller adding a goal in the 17<sup>th</sup> minute. But the Kickers fought back and scored twice late in the first half to tie the match at 2-2. Each team had several more chances, but neither team could score in the second half or in two five-minute Golden Goal overtimes. The Championship moved to Penalty Kicks, with each team going five for five in the first set of PKs. (Jay Schwartzmiller, A. J. Smith, Brandon Franklin, Jesse Hamrick, and Connor Kornbrath each scored on their opening round PK.) The match remained tied through 3 more rounds of PKs (Timmy Wilson and Joey Reese had PK goals), but the Kickers won the game when they scored on their fourth PK while the Stingers did not.

While there was some disappointment at not winning the Championship, Coach John Reese was very proud of how the Stingers played throughout the weekend. The Boys accepted their runner-up medals with pride, and posed for a smiling team picture.

As the team closes its spring season, the author would like to extend thanks to all the Stingers Boys and their families for the dedication and commitment that made the spring season a great success. Special thanks to Coach John Reese and Assistant Coach Danny Hamrick for their guidance, instruction, patience, and leadership.



*U12 boys at Colonial Cup.*

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## What To Look Forward To

### Stingers Soccer Club Fall Tryouts

**The Stingers Soccer Club will be holding their fall season tryouts on July 15th at the Bridgeport City Park behind Bridgeport High School.**

The Stingers Soccer Club provides an opportunity for players who want a more competitive soccer experience and who are willing to make a commitment to improving their soccer skills and knowledge of the game.

**U12/U14 Girls: 4:00 pm**

**U12/U14 Boys: 6:00 pm**

**U10 Boys & Girls: 6:00 pm**

For directions and info please check out our web site [www.wvstingers.com](http://www.wvstingers.com) .

Be sure and check out the "**Why travel soccer and Should My Child Play Travel?**" link on our home page.

### *Stingers Future from page 2*

The purpose of Stingers Soccer Club is to provide a higher level of development and soccer experience for the youth of Central West Virginia.

These experiences include a more intense and higher level training program (that is, technique, tactics, and fitness), a higher and more demanding level of competition against players of similar caliber, and a high degree of dedication to the sport.

SSC is charged with the responsibility of providing the best possible player development programs and teams to represent Central West Virginia.



### Stingers Soccer Club

Bridgeport, WV 26330

[www.wvstingers.com](http://www.wvstingers.com)

E-mail:

Contact info is located on our web site.