



**Red River Soccer Club**  
P.O. Box 9316  
Fargo, ND 58106

September 10, 2002

To whom it may concern:

This letter constitutes a reference for Mr. Graham Nicholas. Graham served as head coach for the Red River Soccer Club U-14 Arsenal Boys team for the 2002 traveling season (May 15<sup>th</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2002). In this capacity Graham was responsible for daily practices, including technical and tactical training, as well as game and tournament coaching for the team. The team had an outstanding season finishing with a record of 18 wins 5 losses and 1 tie. The team won two tournaments and finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in two others. In addition, the team competed in the USA Cup which is the largest youth soccer tournament in the United States and finished with a record of 3-1-1 in advancing to the second round of the playoffs. Most notable in that tournament was the teams 2-2 tie with Mexico City (Simone de Bolivar de la Salle Soccer Club), a team that beat them 3-0 in that same tournament last year.

Overall, the team advanced in their individual skills and tactical awareness. The players enjoyed Graham's practices and coaching style. In addition, they respected him for his ability to personally demonstrate a high level of skill in the technical skills that he taught to the boys. Many American coaches at the youth level do not have the background to actually do many of the advanced foot skills that they want their players to learn.

In addition to serving as team coach for the U-14 Boys Arsenal, Graham also served as one of two club coaches for the Red River Soccer Club. I should point out that the Red River Soccer Club is the largest club in the state of North Dakota with 22 teams ranging from age 10 through 19 and a total of nearly 400 traveling players. Graham was responsible for conducting skills sessions with boys and girls teams for ages 10, 11, 12, and 13. He did an outstanding job with these players and I have received many very positive comments about the skills that he imparted to the players. In addition, he works very well with players at the younger ages and is able to establish a friendly rapport with them. Not all coaches have the ability and patience to work with the young players in this way. Graham also conducted special sessions for the U-16 girls team and I also had him help out with the U-19 boys on occasion. In all cases the reviews were very positive.

Serving as a club coach for ½ of the club is a big responsibility and Graham handled the job very well. I will be recommending that we rehire him for the 2003 summer season both as a team coach and as a club coach.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Klenow, Ph.D.,  
Director of Coaching, Red River Soccer Club