

Dear Parents,

When I took over as head coach for the women's soccer team at Bellaire, I knew the challenges to take the program from where it was to where it could be were great, but possible.

In the six years we have been at Bellaire, we have taken the program from finishing 3rd in district, to 2nd, to 1st the last three years. We have a 39-1-2 district record in that time span. We have gone from being non-competitive in the playoffs, to our players feeling like if we play our best, we can win. We have gone from scheduling an overall very weak schedule, to perhaps one of the toughest non-district schedules in the state. We have changed the culture of our program from players playing school soccer for recreation, to one of the most focused, hard-working, team-first programs in the area.

We have made those strides because we have put a tremendous amount of effort into our program. We have made those strides because our players have bought into what we are trying to build, and together, we have all elevated our program into one that is well-respected in the area. I feel confident in the reputation our program has in the way our teams compete and conduct themselves.

I am very proud of the work we have done on and off the field to help bring out our players' best versions of themselves. It has not always been easy, but I am so grateful to the players we had the first couple of years who were part of the transition from where we were to where we wanted to be. We have created a family-like environment where former players come back to spend time, and, I have to say, the comments they have made to us as coaches and in speaking to our players about this program and how it has helped them beyond soccer has been humbling.

This season, we have very high expectations. As coaches, we will try and promote a culture of competition, positive energy, hard work, and unselfishness. We strive to communicate with players and parents honestly and transparently. We will always do our best to be available to players and parents when there is an issue or concern.

Please read through and sign the papers in this packet and return to us by the end of the first week of school. Let us know if you have any questions. We take a lot of pride in our program, and in helping to make your daughters the best kids they can be on and off the field. Thank you for your support.

Alan Thompson

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