

Rio Rancho President Wins National Coaching Award

NMYSA would like to congratulate Matt Geisel on being recognized as a Liberty Mutual Responsible Coach. The award honors nearly 100 soccer and football coaches countrywide who best reflect character building and sportsmanship in their approach to mentoring young athletes. Matt the current president of Rio Rancho Soccer Club was awarded \$500 in a ceremony on March 8th.

Geisel was among thousands of coaches countrywide nominated online by parents, peers and organizations between Sept. 17 and Dec. 7, 2007. Liberty Mutual launched ResponsibleSports.com last fall in partnership with Positive Coaching Alliance, US Youth Soccer and USA Football. The online resource provides parents and coaches with advice, toolkits and best practices on coaching and mentoring today's youth, so they can maximize the positive role they play in young athletes' lives.

This is what members of Matt's U10 boys Rio Rancho Racing team had to say about their coach:

“Matt Geisel goes above and beyond what a volunteer coach needs to do. Matt is constantly reading articles about youth soccer, he takes coaching education courses (Most recent-National youth license), takes the time to create developmentally appropriate practice plans; he works hard to help his kids become connected to the game. Matt does not allow money to be a deciding factor on a family's decision to play soccer; he actively seeks out scholarships from within the community. Matt not only emphasizes development and having FUN over winning, he organizes team functions, such as, team get together at different players homes, team trips to high school, college, and MLS soccer games. It is obvious that Matt does an outstanding job by watching his kids play with so much energy and excitement! Matt is a true ambassador to the sport and a wonderful role model for our youth. It is an honor to know such an outstanding citizen in our society. Matt is a true difference maker!”



What Is A Responsible Coach?

At Liberty Mutual, we think a Responsible Coach is someone who:

Exhibits a high level of coaching competence

- Personal commitment to coaching excellence – on and off the field
- Commitment to constant development of personal coaching skills
- Collaborates and partners with other coaches for personal and game improvement

Achieves and maintains excellence on-the-field

- Maintains paramount concern for the health and safety of the athletes
- Focuses on mastery of skills over winning; effort over outcome
- Fosters success through positive feedback, valuing teamwork and consistently providing support to players

Demonstrates an on-going commitment to the well-being and development of athletes off-the-field

- Concerned for the development of the athlete as a whole person – emotional, physical and intellectual
- Understands and embraces their role as mentor and role model
- Respects the rights, dignity and worth of every athlete and treats everyone equally regardless of background or ability

Honors and respects the Game

- Upholds the spirit as well as the letter of the rules of the game
- Respects all opponents, officials and opposing players
- Instills a love of the game to players and parents alike

For more information please visit www.reposablesports.com