

**Highland United Soccer Club**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Special Needs Children Now Have  
The Opportunity to Score a Goal!!!**

(Highland, NY),-The **Highland United Soccer Club** is proud to announce the newest addition to its programs, Buddy Ball Soccer, a soccer team to benefit those with special needs.

This team offers boys and girls ages 5 through 21, who are developmentally delayed or physically challenged, the opportunity to participate in an organized game of soccer. This team is designed to allow children to participate in an athletic environment that is structured to accommodate their abilities. The use of "buddies" will assist the players on the field but whenever possible, the buddies will encourage the players to make plays themselves.

Buddy Ball Soccer allows athletes to enhance their confidence, promote self-esteem, improve their physical fitness and develop their social skills. Geoff Pesano, who is the Assistant Varsity Coach of the Marlboro Dukes Girl's Soccer Team, will coach the program. His experience working with players of all skill levels will be an exceptional asset to this team.

Co-Directors of the Buddy Ball Soccer Division, Heather Troncillito, Nicole Biengardo, and Meghan Fescue are anxious to start BBS's inaugural season. Troncillito and Biengardo have experience with organizing a sports program catered to children with special needs. They have implemented and successfully executed Marlboro Youth Baseball & Softball's Bambino Buddy Ball Division, a special needs baseball program the past two years. "Nicole and I are honored HUSC reached out to us to start this soccer program." states Troncillito. "Again, we are creating a program that gives children the opportunity to participate in a community sports activity they may not be able to participate in else-where." "We are incorporating the usage of buddies in this soccer program just like we did in the baseball program. The buddies are what make the program possible" says Biengardo. "Heather, Meghan and I are eager and excited to get this program started." Meghan Fescue, friends of Troncillito and Biengardo since high school will be bringing over five years of playing experience to the program as well. "As soon as I heard Heather and Nicole were involved in this soccer program, I contacted them immediately. I admire what they have done with the baseball program in Marlboro and I wanted to let them know I'd do whatever possible to make this soccer program a success!" states Fescue.

Yvette Sullivan, Board Member of the HUSC, states "We are excited to be able to offer a program that includes more children from our community. Soccer is a vehicle that can offer a wide variety of skills to everyone who participates, not only on the field, but off as well. Teamwork, persistence, communication and of course the physical benefits of exercise are something that every player can whole-heartedly benefit from. Also, those involved as "buddies / mentors" benefit as well. By giving of their time and expertise of the game of soccer, the relationships they build with the participants enhance the feeling of community within our towns".

The program will be based out of the Marlboro/Highland area and is open to the public. If you and/or your child are interested in the program, please contact Heather Troncillito at (845) 590-7271 or [BuddyBallSoccer@gmail.com](mailto:BuddyBallSoccer@gmail.com). You may also register your child at <http://www.huscsoccer.com/>