



NLSupnext

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NLS**buzz**

One club, one dream.

Fall 2019 Edition



BEST IN THE U.S.



NLS Ajax 06 (u-14) are ranked #6 in the United States after winning the prestigious EDP Fall Cup in New Jersey. After finishing as Maryland State finalists last year, and advancing to the U.S. Regional Quarter Final Match, NLS qualified for this year's US Youth National League.

The squad has picked up right where they left off. The 06 National League selection includes the top Olympians and Ajax players in the u-14 age group. #bettertogether #onamission #whoisnext



Davis and Jordy (NLS Olympians 06)

NLS AJAX 06 TAKE DOWN NEW YORK #1 TO LIFT THE 2019 EDP FALL CUP AND MOVE TO TOP 10 IN THE COUNTRY.



SOCCER SCHOOL IS IN SESSION!

NLS MYRMIDONS (u-7 - U-10) kick off their debut season this fall.

NLS launches the **NLS Soccer School Program** this fall. Coach Lindsay Hinkle and the NLS staff looks over the education, development, and progression of its next generation of top players. The Myrmidons (“Little Dons”) train twice a week and play matches on the weekends in **La Little Liga** (Travel/Rec League). They focus on the key fundamentals, skills, technique, ball mastery, and love of the game, that will allow them to be successful competitive players in the upcoming years. When these young ballers graduate from the NLS Soccer School Program they will be placed on Ajax and Olympians squads, equipped and ready for their next phase of soccer. #NLSsoccerschool #development #nextphase



THE FOUNDATION IS THE FUTURE

Creating a Culture of Learning



NLS Ajax 09 Training Session, September 19



NLS Ajax 09 EDP Fall League Match

NLS continues to raise the standard of youth player development and have become a leading program in building the next wave of top players and teams. **NLS Ajax 09 White, NLS Ajax 09 Red and NLS Ajax 08** are all enjoying successful Fall EDP campaigns under the direction of Rafik Kechrid, Daniel Bulls, Brett Blacker, Lindsay Hinkle, and Edwin David. NLS Ajax 09 will be travelling to Raleigh, North Carolina next month to compete in the CASL Shootout with other top clubs along the east coast. **NLS Ajax 08** battle for an EDP league championship in their final two matchups. The 08's are then grouped with top opponents from NY and PA in the Bethesda Premier Cup to finish out a stellar Fall Season.



NLS Ajax 08 shine in their first ever 11v11 match playing a year up in the finals of the APC Tournament in Delaware.



EDP AND USYS North Atlantic Conference

NLS has 12 teams compete in the 2019 Fall EDP and USYS National Conference League.

THE FUTURE

Ajax 09 Red and White, and Ajax 08



THE JUNIOR ELITE

Ajax 07 Red and White



Coaches - Mike Kozlowski, Christian Kershaw, Brian Davis

Olympians 07 Red and White



Coaches - Luis Rodriguez, Christian Macias

Ajax 06 Red and White



Olympians 06 Red and White



Coaches - Rafik Kechrid, Akeem Agbetu, Ty Hall, Brandon Basilio, Greg Bechard
Coaches - Luis Rodriguez, Christian Macias

THE ELITE

Ajax 05 Red



Coaches - Brian Davis, Daniel Bulls, Brett Blacker, Brandon Basilio

NLS Ajax High School Age Players Benefit From a Unique Hybrid System That Allows Them to Play and Train with Club during their 3 month Prep Season. #thefuture



NLS Ajax 05, 04, and 03 players during their Sunday evening training sessions.

BRINGING GLORY TO THE CAPITAL



In only his sophomore year, **NLS Ajax 04's Ryan Cooper**, leads the Annapolis High School Varsity squad to its first County Championship in decades. The center back / holding midfielder was one of the many NLS players that starred in prep competition this year.

THE FRESHMAN FAB FIVE

NLS Ajax 05 boasts its superior freshman class as 5 players are standouts for their high school's varsity teams as 9th graders.

Quantz Ramsay, Aden Sabur, Gerardo Rosario Bravo, Jose Rodriguez, and Jackson Behegan were all key players on their varsity squads this fall.

NLS Ajax 05 Captain, **Jose Rodriguez**, was Parkville HS's starting center back and led them to a division title in his very first year.



The entire 05 crew look to continue making a name for themselves as they kick off

an exciting series of top National College Showcases in November and December. #NLSupnext
#NCAAprspect #PROspect #thefuture

NLS PLAYERS UNDERGO ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE TESTING

Professional Coach, **Talel Bouaben**, administered Athletic Performance testing for NLS players this fall. Talel is a **CAF A License** coach and works at the very highest level of youth and professional soccer and **specializes** in the athletic performance side. Talel has experience working with **Esperance (3 Time Fifa Club World Cup)** evaluating, testing, and designing the player's athletic development programs. Many of these players currently play for the Algerian and Tunisian National teams, and play professionally in Europe.



INTERNATIONAL TRIP ALERT!!!

TUNISIA 2020

Youth Pro International Trip



NLS is proud to announce their next international trip is set for Tunisia in August of 2020 for 2007, 2006 and 2005 ages. The official meeting for all NLS players in ages 2007, 2006, 2005 will be announced soon.

NLSbuzz

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT - Gerardo Rosario Bravo



NLS Ajax 05 playmaker, Gerardo Rosario Bravo, has caught the interest of Belgian FA scouts and has been invited by the federation for trials for Belgium first Division clubs including **KV Mechelen** this spring. Gerardo was identified in June during NLS and SoccerPass's Pro ID Camp by Belgian FA Pro scout and Belgian Youth National Team scout. Since June, Gerardo has continued to develop into one of the top 05 youth players in the state, region, and country.



upnext with Coach Akeem Agbetu : New Chapters, New Challenges

NLS Ajax 06 Coach, Akeem Agbetu sits down with **NLSbuzz** to discuss some of his experiences as a top professional player in Europe and his aspirations as a youth coach for NLS.



Did you know Coach Keem has been all over the world? He has played in the French League for Le HAC and in Denmark for FC Midtjylland. He even played for US National Team coach Bob Bradley! #topcoaches #topplayers

NLSbuzz: What drew you to NLS? Why did you decide to coach for NLS?

AA: Having witnessed the NLS summer camp, I realized that the club had quite a lot of talented kids who only needed grooming to get better. I felt the need to come in and contribute from my own wealth of experience in this field.

NLSbuzz: How do your past experiences playing professionally around the world help you as a coach?

AA: I've been able to learn from a wide range of coaches over the years. With every coach teaching me one form of tactics or the other. What I learned from Bob Bradley of Le HAC for example is entirely different from what Eric of FC Midtjylland taught me. I am able to pass on all of these different ways of learning and playing the game to the kids.

NLSbuzz: What is one of your best memories as a pro player?

AA: My best memory would definitely have to be when I scored a 90th minute goal that saved my team from relegation in 2013.

NLSbuzz: You played for Bob Bradley (famous US National Team Coach) when you were playing pro in France. What was it like playing for Bob?

AA: Bob was a very technically sound coach and the training was always very intense, but unfortunately our time together didn't last very long when his coaching stint was cut short and he was transferred to Swansea City in the EPL (England Premier League)

NLSbuzz: What do you hope to accomplish here as a teacher and coach to our young NLS players?

AA: I hope my biggest accomplishment here will be watching many of these kids turn professional and play for big clubs around the world in the future.

NLSbuzz: What do you think a young player needs to play at the highest level?

AA: Discipline, focus, determination and most importantly, hard work.

NLSbuzz: You've implemented a style of play that is focused around possession, quick passing and moving. Can you explain this style and philosophy to our readers?

AA: Sure. First of all, the best way to defend is to attack and you can only do this when you have possession of the ball. This idea is where the philosophy comes from. Also, even more specifically, I have players that are gifted technically but not as physically strong or developed as many players in their current age group, so the best way to bring out their very best is to be able to teach them to possess the ball with quick decision making, passing, and movement.

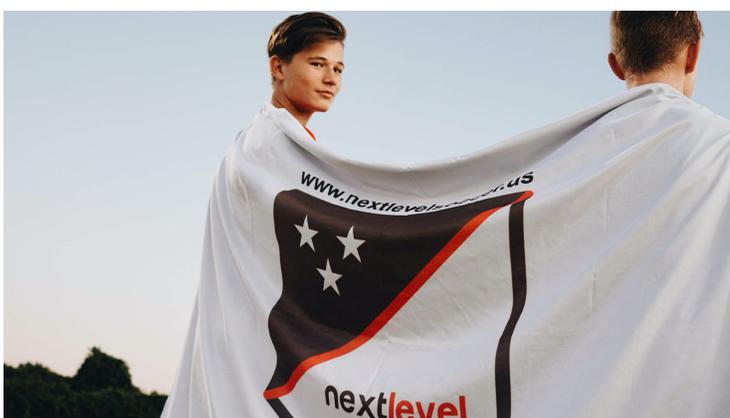
NLSbuzz: Who was your favorite player growing up?

AA: Growing up I always fancied Ronaldo de Lima (Brazil).

NLSbuzz: What is your favorite part about coaching the Ajax 06 Red team this season?

AA: Just knowing that the players are improving day by day and to see the smile on their faces after every training session. That warms my heart.

#creatingaculture THE MEANING BEHIND THE 3 X's



If you've been following NLS, chances are you've noticed those big X's being waved around or posted on social media. **What are they for? What do they mean?**

The 3 X's represent the core values of NLS while paying homage to Amsterdam, the birthplace of Ajax, and the creators of the "total football" philosophy. After World War II, Amsterdam used the 3 X's to protest against racism and genocide and it

has remained a symbol of Ajax and Amsterdam ever since. Each X represents a particular value that helps us all grow together as a community, to create a better future, not only in football, but in the entire world around us. **X = BRAVERY, X= DEDICATION, X= COMPASSION**

WINTER IS COMING !!!

NLS and **Coppermine SC** are set to announce the top Winter League in Maryland. The league will be played with specific developmental rules and will be one of the first of its kind! The league features top DMV clubs, **NLS**, **Coppermine SC**, **FC USA**, and **BRAUSA**.



BE SURE TO FOLLOW NLS ON YOUTUBE AND IGTV TO SEE RECENT EPISODES OF THE NLS MINI SERIES "ON A MISSION" as the Media Team follows players and staff on their exciting soccer journey.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC_j98OmtgcBdyFqymAxD5Uw

