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Madison, IN: Fall sports coaches announced for the 2024-2025 season

Madison Consolidated Schools Board of School Trustees approved the hiring of three fall sports coaches during their meeting on Wednesday. Charles Benintende was hired as the Varsity Football coach, Kyle Dunn is the Varsity Girls Soccer coach, and Alex Hobson returns as the Varsity Girls Volleyball coach.

“We have had a very successful hiring process for all three of our positions,” shared Athletic Director, Patric Morrison. “We have taken our time, involved a wide variety of individuals on our hiring committees, and student voice was very important as members of the teams were involved in the selection process.”

Madison Cubs Football

Charles Benintende brings a wide variety of skills to the Cubs. “As he entered the room, his presence was commanding yet very engaging,” shared Morrison. “From the start, it was evident he is passionate about the game, took time to learn about our student-athletes, and was able to connect names and stats - he was invested.”

Benintende is a U.S. Army Veteran having served from May 1994 to January 2015. As a soldier, he was awarded the Bronze Star and Leadership Award and served in the Special Forces Qualification Course and Airborne Operations. In 2010, he served as an Infantry Platoon Sergeant/Special Forces Assessment

School in Fort Bragg, NC where he engaged in various high-risk combat situations. He was responsible for setting up and operating field communication equipment for the infantry group, aided in a number of medical evacuations saving multiple soldier and Afghanistan civilian lives, and served as Chaplain while deployed. He ended his career as a Senior Military Science Instructor in Madison, WI where applied creative instruction methods to promote student learning, collaborated with fellow staff members to promote positive and welcoming learning environments, and supervised dissertation research work to assist the research publication process.

Following his military career, Benintende has held various coaching and teaching positions with Riverdale High School in Fort Myers, FL, and EVSC School Corporation in Evansville, IN. While coaching in both locations, he was also the JROTC Instructor and built programs using engaging, creative, and motivating methods in and out of the classroom. Relationships are at the core of his work and while in Evansville he grew the program from 71 cadets to 200 cadets in the course of a year, while simultaneously building a nationally contending Raider and Drill team. He was the defensive line coach and recruiting coordinator for Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, IL where he worked closely with over 100 football players daily to ensure academic accountability, athletic performance expectations, and effective training and nutrition programs. Benintende resigned his position as the Assistant Store Manager of the Home Depot in New Albany, IN where he was directly responsible for the management of over 195 employees in a store that averages 900 customers a day and has an annual revenue of over \$75 million. As part of his responsibilities, he conducted the training, coaching, and mentoring of all employees creating relationships and building a culture of customer excellence for store patrons.

“I am so excited to be here,” Coach Benintende shared. “I have all of my things ready and I cannot wait to get started with our team. I look forward to building a program built on pride, hard work, and camaraderie where we can build one another up and be a part of something special and larger than any of us individually.”

Please help us welcome Coach B and his wife, Dana, and their blended family Colt, Beaux, Hunter, Noah, and Abbygail to the Madison staff!

Lady Cubs Soccer

Coach Dunn brings a unique perspective and experience to the Lady Cubs soccer program as a coach, active player, club team co-owner, and Captain. From an early age, soccer has been a passion and led to a number of opportunities for Dunn. As a player beginning in the Hagerstown Optimist Soccer program as a youth, to Tri-County Select, Indy Elite, and US Soccer Olympic Development Program (ODP), he has developed a foundation that has enabled him to crossover from player to coach to owner with success at each level. In 2000-2001 while playing in the OPD, he had the opportunity to compete in the 2000 Kanga Cup which is the largest international youth football tournament in the southern hemisphere held annually each July in Australia.

Dunn continues to compete as part of the Dayton Amateur Soccer League which is affiliated with the Southern Ohio Adult Soccer Association (SOASA). SOASA is one of fifty-four State Associations sanctioned by the United States Adult Soccer Association and the United States Soccer Federation. As a member of the DASL Rogues, Dunn competed in the ten-team league from 2012-2018. Currently, Dunn co-owns and Captains the DASL Indiana Ohio Football Club (IOFC). Started in 2020, the club has already jumped into the top three teams in the league in its first four seasons.

Most recently, Dunn was the assistant coach for the girls' varsity soccer team at Centerville High School in Centerville, IN. As the boys' varsity coach at Seton Catholic, he led his team to three sectional championships between 2016-2020 and was the head Youth Select coach for Richmond Premier Soccer from 2010-2014.

Originally from Hagerstown, Dunn has lived in that area most of his life. He is employed with RTF Fire Protection where he covers the tri-state area working with fire suppression systems. "I was looking for something in a new market, new area but it needed to be a community that supported the program, and supported the sport," Dunn shared following his hiring. "Madison offers a chance to coach exceptional athletes who are committed to the sport of soccer and supported by a great school and wonderful community. I knew it was one

position I would want to explore. I look forward to meeting with players and parents and rapidly integrating myself into the community.”

Following spring break, Dunn will host a callout meeting for high school athletes who intend on playing soccer in the fall. His plans also include a close working relationship with the junior high soccer athletes who will continue to build a strong program over the next several years.

Lady Cubs Volleyball

Fans will notice a familiar face on the court this fall when Alex Hobson makes his varsity coaching debut. No stranger to coaching, Alex returns to Madison after serving as a former JV, freshman, and 8th-grade team coach. “I enjoy building relationships, am dedicated to high expectations, and sharing my love of the game,” Hobson shared. “I believe that in order to be successful, we need to work together as a team, but more so, work closely with our youth programs and create opportunities for younger players to develop skills close to home so we can build our program.”

Hobson began coaching in 2009 where he spent nine years at New Washington High School working with both their middle school and junior varsity teams. Simultaneously, he was a club coach with Union Volleyball Club out of New Albany, IN. Hobson joined Madison Athletics in 2018, as the 8th-grade and freshman coach and also coached a club team at Rage Volleyball creating a club experience for players a little closer to home, and was a JV coach in 2020.

Alex is the Technical Director at North Madison Christian Church. He and his wife, Vanessa, enjoy spending time with their daughter Emma June, and look forward to being back on the court with the Lady Cubs.