



### *Jacob Wiebe's Buddies (JWB) League*

TOPSoccer Buddies are invaluable volunteers who participate directly with individual players or within a team with several players to enable participation in a soccer activity. The TOPSoccer buddy is on the field of play but is not a player and does not score goals. They help the TOPSoccer player succeed and keep them as safe as possible. TOPSoccer Buddies can be a teenager or an adult. They can be a soccer player, someone who works with special needs children or someone who has no soccer experience, but a strong desire to enable children to have FUN.

#### **More about the role of a TOPSoccer Buddy . . .**

- Participates with player to enable player participation as needed.
- Interacts directly with player, parents, and coaches.
- Creates safe playing situations by creating safety zones around the player
- Continuously monitors/assesses the players for sensory sensitivities, fatigue, water breaks, melt-downs, over-heating.
- Assists/Creates/Directs/Guides/Teaches in a FUN but learning environment.
- Creates opportunities for play by assisting player with ball retrieval/control, keeping the ball close to the player, assisting the player into a position to play and with balance as necessary.
- Ensures player understands instructions and provides additional individual instruction during play as needed by modeling desired skill, and helping to define the space and "strategies" (example : "We are going in this direction").
- Assists player to focus on activity and allows for quiet time as needed.
- Provide stability in an often chaotic environment.
- Encourages player by providing positive feedback and cheering them on.