

## From the Executive Director

Hi Everyone,

I wanted to take some time and introduce myself to the membership. My family is very excited to be in Grand Junction. My wife and I grew up in the Denver Area and have always considered Grand Junction the dream destination for our family.

We are thrilled to have our 3 daughters at Wingate Elementary School and to have all three playing soccer for Grand Junction Soccer Club. My wife is working for Community Hospital as a family practice doctor and looking to grow her practice and serve the community.

As Larry mentioned in his article, I have been coaching soccer and working for soccer clubs for the past 17 years. As well as coaching, I did spend about five years teaching. I have degrees in English Literature and Secondary Education. I attended Bowling Green State University, University of Colorado at Boulder, and Drake University.

On the soccer and administrative side of things, I most recently was the Director of Coaching for Cedar River Soccer Association (CRSA). I also spent time in leadership roles at SC Del Sol (Phoenix, AZ) and West Des Moines Soccer Club (Iowa). I feel I have benefited greatly from being with multiple clubs and I look forward to bringing this diverse background to strengthen an already strong soccer club.

I look forward to meeting you all over the course of many years. My family and I are through moving J and we look forward to making Grand Junction our home. Soccer has always been a passion of mine as well as making a positive difference in the lives of kids. I would like to see GJSC continue to move in a direction that serves every level of soccer player in our club; from recreational to adult. I also envision a time when GJSC is a model club in Colorado and one that is widely considered among the best in the state. This should not be measured in state cup championships only, but how our club goes about developing players, the opportunity that our club provides for players, the quality coaching staff at our club and the relationships they develop with players, how our club contributes to the community and not only asks for support, but provides it, and lastly a club that not only strives to win games, but to develop strong community members through the many life lessons sport can teach. I am very excited about being a member of this club and community and look forward to working with you to help it evolve and thrive. I would like to be part of creating something special for my kids and yours and I look forward to your help and support.

Sincerely,  
Shaun Howe