



Kennedy Torres – who first fell in love with *futebol* on the streets of his native Brazil and later played professionally in the U.S. – has joined the Board of the Seneca Soccer Association.

“Kennedy was a first-rate player in his day,” said Lance Van Winter, President of Seneca SA, “and he’s been a first-rate coach since coming to the club. He has a broad range of personal experience and expert credentials that you simply don’t see everyday.”

A network engineer for Verizon, Torres is the Head Coach of the U12 Seneca Blink Magic ‘98 girls squad, and oversaw the re-design of the club’s web site in 2009 as SSA’s volunteer Web Master.

But he had been out of the game for years after shattering his knee in the late-80s as a member of the Philadelphia Futures semi-professional team. The injury cut short what had been a meteoric rise in the sport up until then.

The Captain and leading scorer of his U15 team, he won the Youth State Championship in Alagoas, Brazil and had received an offer to move to the youth development squad of the legendary Sao Paulo Futebol Clube when he decided to take some time off to visit his brother in North Wales, Pa. outside Philadelphia.

There, he attended Hatboro-Horsham High School, leading that team to one of their most successful seasons ever – which won him selection to the 1985 Pennsylvania All-State Team.

It wasn’t long before he was entertaining other offers.

Torres was awarded a full scholarship to play for Div. 1 Temple University in Philadelphia — one of the most storied teams in U.S. collegiate history -- where he played one game coming off the bench. He started in every game after that for the next four years.

He was named to three consecutive “Philadelphia Soccer Seven” All-Star Teams (1987-89) before graduating with a dual-degree in Computer Science and International Business and moving on to the Philadelphia Futures, where his career was abruptly ended in his first season.

“It was my daughter, Gabby, who brought me back into it in 2006,” Torres said, recalling his early days as an MSI-Classic coach. “She just loved it, and the next thing I knew I was back doing this thing that I loved, too -- this time as a coach.”

Torres holds a United States Soccer Federation (USSF) National “C” License and a National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Advanced Regional License.