

# ***THE NEW JERSEY SOCCER GROUP***

## ***Press Release***



Morristown, NJ, Friday November 16<sup>th</sup>

### ***New Men's Soccer Franchise Launched in Northern New Jersey***

The National Premier Soccer League came to Northern NJ today, with the announcement of the Morris County Colonials as an expansion team for the 2008 season. The NPSL, is open aged and is the highest level of men's amateur soccer in the United States, and has featured international players as The team's Head Coach is Adrian Borrows and the Colonial organization is headed by Andy Sones, who is heavily involved in youth soccer coaching in the area. The 2008 Colonial roster will include Morristown High School captain and standout Connor Lade, who is graduating to play at St Johns. "This is a fantastic opportunity" said Lade, "it is wonderful to be able to keep playing in my home town at such a high level". In addition to local talent, the Colonials have already recruited some of the top talent from New Jersey. Rob Alman is well known as a trainer of many of the youth teams in the town, and will be anchoring the midfield alongside Brazilian ex-professional player Leandro.

There are open tryouts on November 24<sup>th</sup> and December 22<sup>nd</sup>, from which the club hopes to find a talented roster for the 2008 season – full information is at [www.colonialsoccer.com](http://www.colonialsoccer.com). "Morris County is full of soccer lovers" said Sones, and what better way to support and develop that than by providing them great soccer every week the best role models. When they're not playing, the Colonial players will be involved training and coaching individuals and local teams in the town, so the kids can actually relate to them as well as watching them on the field". The team is in discussions to finalize a home field for 2008, but will be playing on a turf field in a central Morristown location by the start of the 2009 season.

"We welcome the Morris County Colonials to the league", said NPSL Commissioner Dan Trainor. The league has been looking to expand into Northern New Jersey for some time, but until now didn't have the right candidate. The Colonial organization combines a high level of both soccer and business expertise with a strong youth soccer Infrastructure, which set them aside from other interested parties. The league has complete confidence in their ability to be successful on and off the field moving forward". While player expenses are covered, the league is strictly amateur, with travel and operating costs met by sponsorship and other revenues.

The announcement of the team's arrival garnered considerable support from the town: "The Colonials are bringing the highest level of men's amateur soccer to the area", said Morris township Mayor Bob Nace "which is a wonderful way to establish the town and the county on the sporting landscape". He continued "the township welcomes and is very supportive of the team, particularly as it represents an extension of existing long-term partnerships between youth soccer organizations. I am confident that the community as a whole will support this initiative, and the more ways we can bring visitors to this area the better". Morris United President John Gilfillan added "this is fantastic for soccer in town. It can only help getting more kids playing and loving the game".

The Morris County Colonials team will play in the NPSL Mid-Atlantic Conference, where opponents will include the Philadelphia Liberty and 2007 conference winners Queen City (Buffalo) Long Island Academy, Pennsylvania Stoners, Boston Aztecs and Maine Sting. Conference winners move on to national play-offs, and the current national champions are SoCal Fusion (San Diego, CA) who beat Queen City in Los Angeles three months ago. The season runs May through the end of July, so players can return to their college teams for pre-season.

More about the Morris County Colonials at  
More about the New Jersey Soccer Group at  
More about the NPSL at

[www.colonialsoccer.com](http://www.colonialsoccer.com)  
[www.njsoccergroup.com](http://www.njsoccergroup.com)  
[www.nationalpremiersoccerleague.com](http://www.nationalpremiersoccerleague.com)

The New Jersey Soccer Group  
P.O. Box 3  
Long Valley, NJ  
07853

[www.njsoccergroup.com](http://www.njsoccergroup.com)  
[info@njsoccergroup.com](mailto:info@njsoccergroup.com)  
Phone: 973-315-3098  
Fax: 973-315-3104