



September 11, 2006

To: Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Michael Louter who is a candidate for the Head Men's Soccer Coach position. I have known Coach Louter on a personal and professional basis for the past 10 years. I was his instructor in the National Coaching School, his employer at IMG Academies but most importantly I am his colleague and friend.

As a candidate in the United States Soccer Federation coaching schools Michael proved to be the outstanding student of his class. A consummate student of the game, sports psychology and motivational techniques, Michael so impressed me over the first 10 days that I knew him, I offered him a position with IMG on the spot.

At IMG Michael proved to be every thing my intuition had lead me to believe. He was a quick study to the operation of IMG, our standards and methodologies. He is a tireless and dogmatic worker who never shies away from the less pleasing aspects of any job. Michael's "can do" attitude and approach was emulated by more senior coaches on our staff.

As a coach and clinician Michael has a proven record as one of the most innovative and successful soccer personalities in the game. His success with the IMG 88 boy's team culminated in 3 national tournament victories including the prestigious Tampa Sunbowl and Dallas Cups. Everyboy from the 88 team went onto play in a top flight NCAA Division I Soccer team which is further proof of Mike's ability to identify and cultivate talent.

As a colleague you can't find a better sounding board or listener. Mike is compassionate, dependable and fiercely loyal to those who earn his respect. I am proud of Michael Louters many accomplishments as a soccer coach but I am more proud to call him my friend.

I recommend Michael Louter with out reservations, as I believe he will be a credit to your program. Michael will build your soccer department into the model of efficiency. He will never put winning over the development of integrity and character. And, he will teach life lessons to players that have long lasting effects on their young lives.

If you would wish to speak to me personally, feel free to contact me at 941-752-2676 and I would be glad to elaborate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas Durkin'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Thomas Durkin
Director/IMG Soccer Academy