



Johnny Cardello  
Portland City United  
OYSA 2021 Girls Competitive Coach of the Year

**On The Pitch:** On the field, his love of the game is on display. He does not berate or belittle, but that certainly does not mean that his passion doesn't show. He always has words of both encouragement and areas of improvement for each girl regardless of how well they played. Johnny has built an environment that is motivating and fun. He plans practices, organizes tournaments and team activities, and still takes time to check in with his players as individual human beings. It's important to him that no one feels overlooked whether they are starting on the first team or the bench for the fourth team. He is the head coach of the 08 girls age group which has over 60 players, a head coach for the U9 girls, and an assistant for the 04 boys.

He is a coach that builds teams that win soccer games. But while these things are important in sports, what makes him truly special is what he gives to his players above and beyond soccer victories. Johnny is developing, solid, strong, confident, capable, and kind young women as he strengthens their technical and tactical abilities. He encourages creativity, expects mistakes, applauds effort, even if it does not materialize into points and, demands that his players trust and support each other. His players are individually tremendous athletes, but their successes are absolutely a result of their unity, their love for each other and the game, and their respect for Johnny. The impact that all these behaviors and attributes are noticeable on his players – put simply, they adore him.

**For his community:** Johnny is also developing the next generation of coaches. Several of his players are also assistant coaches for Johnny's younger teams. This opportunity has helped develop players as leaders, mentors, and most importantly as community members. All assistant coaches are held capable of showing up, being strength based, and learning the game at a deep level.

"Johnny Cardello is an amazing coach and an extraordinary person. He has a gift for teaching and a passion for player development. He gives, gives, gives and asks for nothing more than best effort." -PCU Parent-

"Johnny Cardello started coaching me in 2015, when I was 11 years old, he began to teach me different skill moves and proper techniques, but I think his most impressive accomplishment is inspiring hundreds of kids to love the game. It's impossible to express how grateful I am for everything he has done for me as a player and human being. " -PCU Player-

"Johnny spreads positivity and courage throughout our team and his confidence of our potential is partially why we have succeeded so much."  
-PCU Player-

"For Johnny, teaching his players soccer skills is only one part of his mission; what Johnny does is develop young women who have a love of the game, confidence in themselves, and a drive to be the best they can be on and off the field."

-PCU Parent-

"Johnny thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to the Portland City United community and especially the young athletes you coach. We appreciate you and are proud to have you as our 2021 Girls Competitive Coach of the Year."  
-OYSA Board and Staff-