

# LONDON GRYPHONS SOCCER

## 2009

### MEDIA GUIDE



**PLAY WITH PASSION. LIVE THE GAME!**

[WWW.LONDONGRYPHONSOCCER.CA](http://WWW.LONDONGRYPHONSOCCER.CA)

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INFORMATION ABOUT THE 2009 W LEAGUE SOCCER TEAM WILL BE COORDINATED BY ED LAUTERBACH AND ALDO CARANCI.

## INTERVIEWS

ACADEMY PLAYER INFORMATION CAN BE ARRANGED THROUGH CONTACT WITH EACH TEAM GENERAL MANAGER AS IDENTIFIED IN ACADEMY SECTION OF THE MEDIA GUIDE OR ON [WWW.LONDONGRYPHONSOCCER.CA](http://WWW.LONDONGRYPHONSOCCER.CA).

CLUB HEAD COACH AARON LAUTERBACH SHOULD BE CONTACTED DIRECTLY IN HIS OFFICE FOR INTERVIEWS.

YOU CAN FIND ALL THE UPDATED STATISTICS, RELEASES, BIOS, PICTURES AND HISTORY OF THE LONDON GRYPHONS W-LEAGUE AND ACADEMY TEAMS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB .

[LONDONGRYPHONSOCCER.CA](http://LONDONGRYPHONSOCCER.CA)

# QUICK FACTS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION .....LONDON, ON.  
FOUNDED .....2005  
COLOURS ..... NAVY BLUE, **RED** & WHITE  
STADIUM .....NORTH LONDON STADIUM  
AFFILIATION .....USL W-LEAGUE  
CONFERENCE ..... MID WEST DIVISION  
PRESIDENT ..... ED LAUTERBACH  
GENERAL MANAGER ..... ALDO CARANCI  
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR &  
TREASURER.....AARON LAUTERBACH

HEAD COACH.....AARON LAUTERBACH  
ASSISTANT COACHES .....  
ATHLETIC TRAINER .....

## TEAM INFORMATION

2008 RECORD .....  
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## INFORMATION

GENERAL ADMISSION .....\$5.00  
ADULTS/\$3.00 YOUTH

## ACADEMY

COLORS .....NAVY BLUE, **RED** & WHITE  
STADIUM .....NORTH LONDON STADIUM

## U17 GIRLS

AFFILIATION .....USL SUPER Y  
CONFERENCE ..... MID WEST DIVISION  
HEAD COACH.....ROMEO ARAUJO, JOHN CURK  
ASSISTANT COACHES .....AMY RAFLEWSKI, DUANE MARINO

## U14 GIRLS

AFFILIATION .....USL SUPER Y  
CONFERENCE ..... MID WEST DIVISION  
HEAD COACH.....RAY MCMANUS  
ASSISTANT COACHES .....MIKE CVETKOVIC,  
DOUG MACKENZIE



# A GREAT TIME TO BE A GRYPHON

## **Working together to realize the dream:**

In 2005, the London Gryphons entered the W-League as the only Canadian team competing in the powerhouse Midwest Division. Loaded with the finest female talent from London and the surrounding area, the Gryphons have pursued the ideal of promoting this beautiful game, while at the same time providing London's most elite female players the chance to compete with the highest calibre of women's soccer players in North America.

In 2008, the London Gryphons expanded the club to include a *Youth Academy*. The Academy was structured to aggressively challenge the most elite and committed youth soccer players with the opportunities to achieve their soccer dreams through intensive training and the proper exposure. The club enters the 2009 campaign with the three most elite teams in North America in their respective age categories of U17, & U14, playing in the United Soccer Leagues top Super Y League.

In the summer of 2009, London Gryphons Soccer Club will be entering its 5<sup>th</sup> year of association with the United Soccer Leagues. It is our partnership with this world-class organization that has opened so many doors for players to achieve their soccer dreams. The United Soccer Leagues is owned in principle by Umbro International who has long been recognized by soccer enthusiasts around the world as the #1 brand in soccer apparel. In March of 2008 this position was only further strengthened with Nike's acquisition of Umbro International. Nike's reputation as the best in sports apparel and equipment manufacturer is without repute. Nike has publicly emphasized that they are committed to further strengthening Umbro standards with their marketing prowess and massive financial backing. The effect that this acquisition has had with the United Soccer Leagues has been tremendous. It will only draw further worldwide attention the USL as an elite professional and developmental soccer organization. London Gryphons Soccer Club is committed to the USL and we believe that both of our organizations bring the passion for the game and the drive to achieve our lofty goals.

***“PLAY WITH PASSION –  
LIVE THE GAME”***

The London Gryphons Soccer Club slogan resonates with every person involved in the program and it is evident to anyone that comes in contact with one of our players, coaches or parents:

## **Our Mission:**

To spread our passion and enthusiasm for soccer by the way we play and promote the sport.

Our management, coaches, players and parents have all been “bitten by the bug,” and want to afford our players every opportunity to pursue their soccer dreams, whether that is playing in the NCAA, for national teams or even professionally. We are a community driven club, dedicated to giving back to our community, not only by showcasing our passion for the game, but also through various charitable contributions.



# THE LEAGUES



UNITED SOCCER LEAGUES



USL W-LEAGUE

As the United Soccer Leagues begins their third decade of operation, soccer at all levels continues to grow in the U.S.A., Canada, and Caribbean. As the largest organization of elite-level soccer leagues in North America, the USL is dedicated to soccer's growth at the grassroots level in every community. Since 1986, The USL First Division and Second Division (North American men's professional soccer), the USL Premier Development League (U23 North American men's amateur soccer), the USL W-League (North American women's amateur soccer), the USL Super-20 League, (U20 North American men's and women's amateur soccer) and the USL Super Y-League (North American boy's and girl's elite youth amateur soccer), have all provided a platform for thousands of players to reach their dreams.

Exceptional competitive women's soccer lives in the W-League, the USL's highest level of women's soccer in North America. The 2008 campaign featured a forty-one-team format in four conferences, playing twelve to fourteen regular season matches. The top female players throughout the world compete in the USL W-League through the summer months. In addition to the league featuring international and former professional stars, elite collegiate players compete in the league while maintaining their collegiate eligibility. The league is recognized throughout the world for providing elite competition for the best female players, a goal to strive towards for younger female players, and affordable family entertainment to many fans in each of the team locations.

The vision and commitment to develop a soccer nation of fans, investors, administrators, coaches, and players, has created the foundation for the growth of the sport while presenting affordable and exciting family entertainment in over 100 cities and towns across the continent.

See us on the web!

[www.londongryphonsoccer.ca](http://www.londongryphonsoccer.ca)

# GRYPHONS GIVING BACK

## Kickaroo Kids

May 11-July 27, 2009.

In association with the London United Soccer Club, the Academy players will be participating in developing tomorrow's soccer stars.

Parent and Me Program (ages 5-8): Great introductory class for our young up and coming soccer stars. Coordination, running and interaction are the focus of the program.

We will be running mini soccer for Boys and Girls in age divisions 5 – 6 years old 7 – 8 years old at the London United Soccer Complex (Oxford @ Highbury) Season to commence week of May 11 running to week of July 27, 2009.

Registration will be accepted until April 17th, 2009 Cost will be \$100



## COMMUNITY

The Gryphon W-League and Academy players participate in countless community activities.

The girls have all been afforded numerous opportunities not only through their association with soccer in London, but by growing up in such a diverse and forward thinking community.

They now recognize their unique opportunity to give back to a community that has been so supportive to them.

Thames Valley  Children's Centre

**Thames Valley Children's Centre:** Our Academy teams will be competing in the Forest City Road Races (<http://www.forestcityroadraces.com/>) on Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The girls will be raising funds for Thames Valley Children's Centre which is a regional rehabilitation centre for children and young adults with physical disabilities, communication disorders, developmental delays, and autism spectrum disorders, living primarily in South Western Ontario. Our goal is to raise \$4,000 for the Centre.

# LONDON GRYPHONS W- LEAGUE



## **Team President: Ed Lauterbach**

Ed's involvement in soccer has span upwards of four decades as a player, coach and administrator. Having played as high as the National League level, Ed turned his attentions to coaching and winning numerous championships. As an administrator, Ed has been President of London United Competitive Soccer Club for the past 14 years. Ed was instrumental as Chairperson in the development of the City of London's acclaimed soccer complexes. Ed has also volunteered many hours building the John Henderson Memorial Tournament to becoming the largest youth soccer tournament in Ontario.

## **General Manager: Aldo Caranci**

Aldo has been involved with the Gryphons since its inception in 2003. Aldo is extremely active in the local, national and international soccer communities. He is closely affiliated with CONI (Italian Olympic Federation); FIGC (Lazio Region) as well as several Serie "A" FIGC women's teams and academy directors. He is very active with amateur youth soccer as a Board Member of London United Competitive Soccer Club and spending countless hours on the John Henderson Memorial Tournament Organizing Committee. He is a member of the NSCAA (National Soccer Coaches Association of America). Aldo is married with three children.

## **Club Head Coach(W-League) & Technical Director - Aaron Lauterbach**

Aaron has been directly involved coaching the W-League Gryphons since 2004. Beginning as an Assistant Coach in 2005 & '06 it was a natural progression when Aaron assumed the Head Coaching role in 2007. Now entering his third season as W-League Head Coach, Aaron has undertaken the key leadership role in the planning and execution of an elite development model for the Gryphons Academy. Over the past 9 years, the players that Aaron has been involved in developing is long and extensive. Drawing on his professional playing background overseas in the German Bundesliga or his NCAA collegiate soccer experience, it is evident Aaron's knowledge, passion and dedication to the game is without repute Aaron guided St. Thomas Aquinas to OFSAA gold becoming the first London H.S. to win Provincial gold in soccer. The following year, Aaron lead London United Blitz to the Ontario Cup a first in London United as well. Aaron has 15 years involvement in organizing and operating elite soccer camps in London and the U.S.

# LONDON GRYPHONS W- LEAGUE

Aaron has dedicated himself to working with committed female soccer players preparing them on and off the field to achieve their dreams off achieving full athletic scholarship to NCAA colleges or universities. Back in 2001, Aaron began this initiative under the banner of London United Competitive Soccer Club in which he was already a coach. The list of athletes that he has successfully guided through this scholarship process includes the following players:

<u>Player Name</u>	<u>College</u>	<u>Year</u>
Jaime Workman	Lees McRae College	2001
Katie Nadalin	Ball State University	2001
Emily Cairncross	Univ. of Tennessee Martin	2001
Katie Hunter	Northwood University	2002
Stephanie Elgie	Jacksonville University	2003
Cassandra VanLeeuwen	University of Vermont	2003
Emma O'Connor	Mississippi Valley State	2003
Sheena Cussen	Mississippi Valley State	2003
Maria DelGuercio	Mississippi Valley State	2004
Meghan Robinson	Grand Valley State	2005
Natalie D'Oria	Florida Atlantic Univ.	2005
Keri Zwikker	Jacksonville Univ.	2005
Katie Orr	Jacksonville Univ.	2005
Nikki Gabrielli	Canisius College	2005
Devon Romak	Florida Atlantic Univ.	2006
Emily Gillet	Univ. of Detroit Mercy	2006
Jessica Salgado	Alcorn State Univ.	2008
Ashley Sieb	Univ. of South Florida	2008
Erin Suckling	Valparsio Univ.	2008



# 2009 GRYPHONS W- LEAGUE SCHEDULE

## May 2009

19322	Sat	May 23	7:30 pm	London Gryphons	at	Toronto Lady Lynx	Soccer Centre
19341	Wed	May 27	1:00 pm	Toronto Lady Lynx	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium
19327	Sat	May 30	3:00 pm	Ottawa Fury	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium

## June 2009

19312	Sat	Jun 6	3:00 pm	Laval Comets	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium
19321	Sat	Jun 13	3:00 pm	London Gryphons	at	Quebec City Arsenal	SSF
19319	Sun	Jun 14	3:00 pm	London Gryphons	at	Laval Comets	Bois-de-Boulogne Sports Center
19334	Sat	Jun 20	1:00 pm	Quebec City Arsenal	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium
19318	Wed	Jun 24	7:30 pm	London Gryphons	at	Hamilton Avalanche	Brian Timmins Field Brian Timmis Field
19298	Fri	Jun 26	7:30 pm	Buffalo Flash	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium
19348	Sun	Jun 28	3:00 pm	Western New York Pride	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium

## July 2009

19320	Sun	Jul 5	3:00 pm	London Gryphons	at	Ottawa Fury	Algonquin College Soccer Complex
19317	Sat	Jul 11	7:00 pm	London Gryphons	at	Buffalo Flash	Orchard Park High School
19323	Sun	Jul 12	3:30 pm	London Gryphons	at	Western New York Pride	Rochester Rhinos Stadium
19305	Sat	Jul 18	3:00 pm	Hamilton Avalanche	at	London Gryphons	North London Stadium

# LONDON GRYPHONS ACADEMY

## ACADEMY GOALS

&

## METHODOLOGIES

Our club is focused on promoting our passion for the game. All club members whether players, parents or coaches are soccer enthusiasts who have found real joy in identifying the purest elements of the game. Make no mistake about it, we are very committed and impassioned people that are set on achieving our personal and collective goals through participation in the sport we so dearly love.

Playing in the most elite amateur leagues in North America demands an unbelievable level of commitment and sacrifice. Each of our coaches and players are focused on improving themselves and challenging one another to be the very best individual they can be for the club.



We feel that it is very important to set your sights high both individually and as a team, as it is these goals that will fuel your desire to achieve and ultimately succeed. Without setting goals, a person is just walking aimlessly, never feeling any sense of fulfillment and satisfaction. Our club feels that helping our players set realistic and attainable goals, even at a young age, gives them a target to work towards. It is the direction and leadership of our coaches, and the support of the parents, that contributes to the young Gryphons sense that they have the support system to step outside of their comfort zone and challenge themselves. It is this type of attitude that underscores why our players will achieve their lofty goals.

# LONDON GRYPHONS



UNITED SOCCER

The future of soccer lives in the USL Super Y-League, a professionalized system that is the first step for developing elite youth soccer players in North America. Affiliated with US Soccer, the league is designed for talented youth-players that are destined for professional or international soccer careers. The league contains the youth academies of USL First Division, USL Second Division, Premier Development League, W-League, and Major League Soccer clubs, as well as many of the established premier youth clubs on both sides of the border. Through Olympic development program status events such as the North American Finals and National ODP Camps, the nation's top players are identified for selection to US National Team Programs. The 2008 campaign features over 800 teams within the U13 – U17 boys and girls age groups, competing within 10 geographic divisions of the U.S. and Canada.

The 2009 Gryphon Academy will enter U14, and U17 girls teams in the Super Y Mid West Division competing against the Cleveland Internationals, Fort Wayne Fever, Chicago Magic, Toronto Lynx, Penns Forest (Pennsylvania), West Michigan Fire, Alliance Academy (Michigan) and Mequon United (Wisconsin) among others.



# GRYPHONS ACADEMY COACHES

## Gryphon Club Technical Director, W-League – Head Coach Aaron Lauterbach

Aaron has been directly involved coaching the W-League Gryphons since 2004. Beginning as an Assistant Coach in 2005 & '06 it was a natural progression when Aaron assumed the Head Coaching role in 2007. Now entering his third season as W-League Head Coach, Aaron has undertaken the key leadership role in the planning and execution of an elite development model for the Gryphons Academy. Over the past 9 years, the list of players that Aaron has been involved in developing is long and extensive. Drawing on his professional playing background overseas in the German Bundesliga or his NCAA collegiate soccer experience, it is evident Aaron's knowledge, passion and dedication to the game is without repute. Aaron guided St. Thomas Aquinas to OFSAA gold becoming the first London H.S. to win Provincial gold in soccer. The following year, Aaron led London United Blitz to the Ontario Cup a first in London United as well. Aaron has 15 years involvement in organizing and operating elite soccer camps in London and the U.S.

## Goalkeeper Coach - Amy Raflewski

**Credentials:** Ontario Soccer Association Level 1 and 2.

**Coaching Experience:**

2008: WADA Athletic Training: Soccer Goalie Trainer; 2002-2008: Head Coach, Medway High School Girls soccer team; 2005: Head Coach, U16 Lucan Ilderton Boys Soccer Team

**Playing Experience:** 2001-2003 Queen's University Varsity Goalie (OUA Champions); 1997-2001 London United Competitive Goalie (OYSL, OWSL, Ontario Cup Finalists, League Cup Finalists, Henderson Tournament Champions, Nation's Cup Tournament Finalists); 1998-2001 Medway High School Goalie (WOSSA Champions, OFSAA Silver medal)

## Peak Performance Coach - Duane Marino

**Credentials:** Owns StrongInnovations.com Peak Performance Systems, Certified Master Practitioner of Neuro Linguistic Programming, Graduate of the Ontario Hypnosis Centre, Emotional Freedom Technique Practitioner, Member of the International Association of Coaching

**Playing Experience:** London & District Men's Premier Soccer continues to play London & District Masters soccer.

# USL SUPER-Y LEAGUE COACHING STAFF

**U17 Head Coach – Romeo Araujo, John Curk**

**U17 Assistant Coach – Amy Raflewski, Duane Marino**

**U14 Head Coach – Ray McManus**

**U14 Assistant Coach – Mike Cvetkovic**

**U14 Assistant Coach – Doug MacKenzie**

# LONDON GRYPHONS ACADEMY U17



2009

## **Head Coach : Romeo Araujo, John Curk**

Romeo was born in El Salvador and has lived in Canada for the past 24 years. He is married (wife Maria Elena) with two children (Raquel 16 & Renato 10). Romeo roots in coaching really developed from his on-field playing experiences in El Salvador's highest professional league. For the past 20 years, Romeo has continued to play the game he loves in Canada capturing numerous championships and MVP's with the Latino flare that is now evident in his coaching style. Romeo's passion for helping developing players is obvious to those who have watched him coach and his unique technical acumen is a real benefit to the Academy.

**Assistant Coach: Amy Raflewski, Duane Marino**

**General Manager: Gord McLeod, Bob MacDonald**

The core group of the U17 Academy team completed the 2008 season in the Ontario Youth Soccer League (OYSL). The team developed very well, challenging the top teams in Ontario and finishing the season with a win at the Henderson Tournament in London.

The team will compete in the USL Super Y U17 Mid West division in 2009.

John brings an extensive coaching resume that is really unmatched in London and dates back over 35 years. John's success at fostering the development of youth players from a high school & club competitive platform is well established. John has coached in London United Competitive Soccer Club (LU) since 1995. He has coached both boys and girls teams, winning numerous district & regional championships along the way. John was distinguished as LU's all-time winningest coach in 2008. While coaching high school soccer, John's resume is the most decorated having won over several city and a provincial championship while at JP11. John is currently the head coach at RMC girls program. John is married (wife Mary) with three children (Josh 22, Lauren 18 & Samantha 17).

# U14 LONDON GRYPHONS



## **Head Coach : Ray McManus**

**Credentials:** Ontario Soccer Association Pre “B”, Senior, Youth and Children’s coaching license, OHA Hockey Referee.

**Coaching Experience:** 1986 London Youth soccer club, 2002-2008 Head Coach North London/London City Magic

**Playing Experience:** London Caledonia Thistle, University of Windsor, Played for Ontario from under 14 to under 18, part of the National youth program for 2 years, and won 2 national championships as a player.

## **Assistant Coach: Mike Cvetkovic**

Ontario Soccer Association Senior, Youth and Children’s Coaching licenses

## **Assistant Coach & General Manager: Doug MacKenzie**

Ontario Soccer Association Senior, Youth and Children’s Coaching licenses

Ray has coached the majority of this group of girls for the past four years. Under the leadership of Ray, Mike Cvetkovic and Doug Mackenzie, the group has had a tremendous level of development that has seen it rise to the top echelons of soccer in Ontario. The team is poised to take that success to the USL and Super Y League in 2009 with the goal of playing in the North American championships in Tampa in November, 2009.