

# Brent Valente, North Surrey Secondary Coach

## *About Brent Valente:*

Brent has been coaching for 22 years. His first coaching experience was with a U6 boys team, in North Delta, when he was 20. He calls himself a “soccer guy” and currently coaches the senior boys and girls teams at North Surrey Secondary.



## *Why He Became a Coach:*

“I had broken my ankle and had not started playing again and coaching was a way to get back into the game.”

## *Most Rewarding Experience as a Coach:*

“I definitely enjoy seeing the players come back and visit. It really means something when they make that effort.”

## *What Coaching Has Brought to His Life:*

“I truly believe that coaching made me a better player back in the day; you become more aware of the game and have a much better understanding. I also believe in giving something back to the game. I have played since I was 6 and had a number of really good coaches along the way, and feel that I should give back to the sport. I also feel that I am able to get through to kids easily.”

## *Biggest Challenges as a Coach*

“With the sport of soccer at school I find that the players’ commitment is poor. I would like them to commit more but they have club obligations. It becomes a choice: run a program with what commitment you have or do nothing. I struggle with this one all the time and have to ask myself is it worth it? The usual answer is ‘yes’ because of those kids that truly enjoy working hard and putting in the time.”



## *Proudest Moment:*

“The first time I went to the provincials with my senior girls team. We were a good team, had a really good run and played a lot of soccer to qualify. We went to the tournament and had some key injuries but competed well against some top ranked teams, having a lot of fun in the process.”