

## **Soccer Stories by Bipin**

Often in the early days Guru would watch part of the finals competition (of the UN Meditation Flames).

As our years of losing seasons in the United Nations League multiplied, our team captain, like a child crying to his all caring father, verbally, spelled out to Guru the teams multi leveled pathetic capacities and frustrations. Guru is far far superior a football player than any member of the Meditation Flames. One-time Guru even visited our practice and for 30 minutes, literally walked us through the correct way to pass a ball, strike and anticipate the ball. I recall Guru pointing out when defending if the opponent has passed or gone by you, to make yourself heard by them with heavy footsteps. With this fear will enter the opponent even if only a small amount, it will distract them. This struck me as being given a glimpse to valuing the subtle or psychic threshold to the way Guru

physically took part in the game.

Many times he pointed out in great detail what we were doing incorrectly as a team. Then confidently offered exact steps to correct our short comings. He offered boundless and patient encouragement, guidance plus massive amounts of smile infused Prasad!

The final humbling soccer lesson Guru offered us as a team came in South Africa on the Christmas Trip. We played the hotel team we were staying at. We soundly and easily were defeated. Convincingly over powered by the hotel teams controlled power and skill.

But most disappointing as a team we displayed a tit for tat, boarder line careless and reckless, wild behaviors- consciousness that day which saddened Guru very deeply.