

Fall 2012

McHenry Soccer

Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Field updates
- Discount cards
- Recreation registration/fee information
- Viper information
- Featured Article: Reasons kids should play soccer.
- Upcoming Events



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Members of McHenry Soccer, Hopefully the first month of soccer season has been enjoyable for everyone. I know our weather has been a little cooler than we expected. From what I am hearing everything seems to be going well. We have had some hic an up here and there, but that tends to happen at the start of a new season, no matter how much we plan. This month I would like to reach out to our members for some thoughts and assistance. Below I have put together a wish list of the things we are looking at doing or what we want:

Field improvements – We want to improve the fields at MMS and Shamrock. To do this, we have a plan but need assistance. We need to core aerate both fields, put down weed killer and fertilize. We also have restrictions because this is school district property. I am asking if anyone has any expertise in this to help.

Shamrock – Is becoming our home for our travel teams and training for skills builders. The school district would like us to take over the maintenance of this property. To do this we would need someone to volunteer to mow this weekly or as needed or we would need to obtain our own mower. Additionally, we would need a shed

on the property to store the mower.

Lights – In the fall every year, we has issues with getting all of our travel training sessions and skills builders session in because of the shorting of the days. Because of this we rent lighting each year. This is not a small cost for the organization. Additionally, there is a lot of work with getting the approval from the city to have the portable lights and at this year’s city council meeting; they asked if we were looking at putting permanent lighting there. I answered yes, but the cost factor is large and more that what we can do right now.

Underground water system – One of the key things to maintaining a good grass playing surface is water. We would love to put an underground water system in at Shamrock. This will help with the constant use that we have out there. I have already talked with a local company who is willing to donate close to 50% of the cost back to the organization, but again we lack the funds for the rest.

Leveling or adding top soil to low areas – This needs to take place at MMS and Shamrock. We have low areas that hold water and cause issues when we play. This problem takes place at both of these locations. Top

soil costs, machines to spread the top soil cost etc.

So what I have done is put a number of improvements we are looking to complete. I am asking anyone who could help to contact me. For example, I am looking for someone who works in the construction industry to volunteer their time to take on the building of a shed for us. We can see what we can do to get donations for the materials etc., but I do not know what permits or plans we need.

I also understand that I am discussing improvements to two of the 4 fields we play at. Melissa has been instrumental in getting some of the teams out of Althoff. There is nothing we can do to improve this facility. In the past, I have had people evaluate the ground and what we could do out there to find out that Army Corps of Engineers has this as a designated wet land and there are no improvements or changes can take place. Also, the Fox Ridge fields are so new and the city is taking care of that area we really do not know what needs to be done other than continue to mow and potentially fertilize.

All of this leads up to a fundraiser that will begin the end of October/early November. McHenry Soccer will be selling discount cards.

Fundraiser starting

October/early

November.

McHenry Soccer will

*be selling **discount***

cards.

These can make a

great Holiday gift

idea!

(continue, page 2) (Message from Present, cont.)

The cards will be sold for \$10 and will have discounts at 16 businesses in the McHenry area. Some will be our local favorites while others will be national chains. We will be receiving 1,100 cards to be sold which should yield us over \$5,000 to put towards these improvements. We choose 1,100 cards because this roughly works out to 2 cards per player to sell. We will also be making this a fun event with some prizes. The actual prizes have not been determined, but

we are looking at some nice prizes for the top 3 sellers. We are working through exactly how we will be working the fundraiser, so more information will be coming on this. We just finalized the list and the card design on October 1st.

I also want to take time to thank everyone for their support of McHenry Soccer. Remember we would be nothing without you. I also want to thank my fellow board members for the time and effort that they put in to make our organization run.

In ending, I would open any and everything to your questions and comments. I also look forward to hearing from you, our members and anyone who can help with our improvements. Please contact me at

president@mchenrysoccer.org.

You can also text or call me at 815-388-3319. I only ask that if you call during the day, that you leave a message as I do have a full time job.

Thank you and we will see you on the fields, or pitch if you are from over the pond.

Jeff Diedrich

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT—RECREATION:

Well, Fall 2012 Soccer season is well underway and the weather has been good to us so far, but be prepared as we complete out the last half of the season - bundle up the kids and remember soccer can be played in all weather, except lightning.

For those of you who have registered for Fall 2012 only, but want your child to continue to spring...PLEASE email me at mgasmann@yahoo.com. If you go another route and register online it will not guarantee the same team and your cost will be \$20 more due to the need of

uniform when you switch teams. If you have not contacted me by Nov 15th, I will be removing your child from the roster and replacing with Spring only participants. At that time registration for Spring 2013 will be open to those players who did not play in the Fall.

Please continue to utilize the Skill builders sessions, they are included in your fees and are a great learning experience for the kids. A great big THANKS to Tim our trainer this year for the skill builders sessions.

Remember Fall 2012 balance is due NOW and players may not be able to play if payment arrangements are not arranged at this time. Also, I will not place a participant on a Spring team if the Fall or Spring balance is not paid in full by March 1st 2013.

I also wanted to Congratulate Eric Halloran for our new recreational logo and for all of those who put in an entry.

Thanks to all of the volunteers who coach, assistant coach and team manage our 31 recreational teams...without you we could not exist.

Melissa Gasmann
VP of Recreation



High School Viper try-outs will be held on Saturday, October 27 and Sunday, October 28, at Shamrock Park at 6:00 pm



MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT—TRAVEL:

Well, another season has begun and I have already seen some great soccer games from our Viper teams. Many of our teams competed in the Schaumburg Soccerfest tournament, in August. All teams played well and represented the organization, with pride. Congratulations to our U10 Boys for taking 1st place, in their flight. Several teams will be competing in Libertyville's Octoberfest, the weekend of October 6th. I want to wish all the Viper teams competing, good luck!

After many positive comments regarding the Fall practices under the lights at Shamrock last year, we have added 2 more light sets and expanded the practice area so everyone has even more space than before. Another

step towards transforming Shamrock Farms Park into the Home of the Vipers!

Calling all high school age players! This year's High School Viper tryouts will be held on Saturday, October 27 and Sunday, October 28, at Shamrock Park. Tryouts start at 6:00PM, each night, but please arrive early to check in.

Please remember to keep your accounts in good standing by keeping up with your installment payments. Accounts, not in good standing, run the risk of having the player passes pulled.

On the Alumni side, congratulations to Molly Machimeta for being named the

Midwest Collegiate Conference Offensive Player of the Week, in September. Molly plays for Viterbo University out of La-Crosse, WI and is leading the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics in goals (24 as of October 1). She is leading the MCC in every offensive category and is just shy of the school's single season record for goals, not to mention she has received offensive nominations for the NAIA player of the week, as well. Way to go, Molly - one of McHenry's (and the Vipers) home grown talents!

Keep up the hard work...GO VIPERS!

Steve Uhl
VP of Travel

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF COACHING:

Firstly, I am delighted to have the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Director of Coaching for the McHenry Soccer and secondly, it's also with great pleasure that I have been given the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of my son Kristian, as Director of Coaching. It is my goal to maintain the success that he has brought to the program.

"teachers and friends"

We are already a third of the way into the Fall 2012 travel & rec. programs and I hope all parents and players are enjoying the experience. The Skills First Soccer travel coaching staff, Doug Shea, Natalie Pashley, Adam Pashley, Billy Klekovic and myself meet every two weeks to discuss the progress of the teams and discuss the content and level of practices. The United States Soccer Federation offer continuing education classes for coaches and all of the travel

coaches will be attending these courses during 2013, to not only improve their knowledge of teaching skills and delivering high level practices, but to be aware that we also need the players to be totally relaxed around the ball and comfortable with their coach. For me, this is a vital ingredient to successful coaching "COACHES CAN BE TEACHERS AND FRIENDS" to the kids.

"what do I do with the ball....next"

At under 10 level, we encourage the players to keep the ball and dribble. Losing possession of the ball while learning IS acceptable!! Once the players are over 11 years old, it is time to encourage passing, leading to combination play (a series of passing moves involving 2 or more players). Space is at a premium on the soccer field but it IS achievable. Encourage your players to watch soccer on TV for the most part the players always receive the ball in effective

areas (space) and usually their 2/3rd touch is a delivery (pass), thus making the sport a joy to watch.

Skills First Soccer is delighted to announce the recent arrival of Coach Tim (Stewart) to the program. Tim has a wealth of soccer experience and displays an exceptional ability with the kids, especially the really young groups. Tim has been making an excellent job of running the skills-builders sessions this Fall and his valuable input should further increase the organizations ability to continue to produce accomplished soccer players that truly enjoy the game.

Finally, I encourage you to contact me at skillsfirstsoccer@hotmail.com with any soccer related questions. Searching for answers to YOUR questions enables ME to become a better coach and teacher!!

Chris Rockall
Director of Coaching



“Soccer helps children develop in myriad ways that benefit their physical and emotional well being”



ARTICLE FROM THE EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Five Great Reasons Why Children Should Play Soccer

Aug 13, 2011 | By Marques Jackson

From the sandy beaches of Barcelona, Spain, to local parks in Kansas, soccer is played by millions of children across the globe. Participating in a soccer league offers a constructive way for kids to have fun and provides a great opportunity for families to spend quality time together. Soccer also helps children develop in myriad ways that benefit their physical and emotional well-being.

Exercise

Learning the importance of daily exercise can help your child lead a healthier life. Soccer is an aerobic sport that requires a high level of fitness for players to keep pace. The required level of fitness will help to regulate and maintain healthy body weight. Playing soccer also gives children the recommended amount of cardiovascular exercise necessary to maintain a healthy heart and lungs. According to Mayo-Clinic.com, regular exercise builds muscle strength and increases energy levels.

Socialization and Personal Development

Soccer is an inclusive sport that offers league play for both boys and girls. Most soccer leagues are open to various age groups

and allow children as young as 5 to compete. The flexible age requirement allows children to be members of a team during critical development stages. During these periods, the child will learn important character building traits such as working hard to develop skills and good sportsmanship. Children also will experience healthy peer-group interactions and learn how to build friendships during practices, games and team activities. Since soccer is fairly easy to learn, it gives children the opportunity to boost their self-esteem.

Broaden Horizons

Soccer's world governing body, the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, or FIFA, has more than 200 national member associations. A high-profile event such as the FIFA World Cup illustrates the diversity of the game's participants and fans, as well as the various places it is played. Exposing children to soccer can stimulate them to think broader about the world in terms of countries, cultures and people. Thinking in broader terms can also spark their interest in traveling, foreign languages and geography.

Constructive Time Management

Playing soccer can teach your child constructive ways to cure boredom. The game's fast pace can be the perfect antidote for children who are easily bored. Instead of wasting time playing video games and watching television, your child will be outdoors, participating in practices and games. Moreover, being members of a soccer team will give them access to positive mentors, such as coaches and other adults who will teach them helpful time-management techniques.

Parental Benefits

Getting your children involved in a soccer league is a great way to get more active in their lives. Taking an interest in something they find important lets children know you care. Furthermore, it increases the amount of quality time you spend with them and gives you the chance to take pride in watching your children compete. The parental support will prove beneficial to your child's self-esteem while creating strong familial bonds. Attending practices and games will provide an opportunity for you to make friendships with

Reminder



It's that time again, please go to

<http://clubs.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?alias=clubs.bluesombrero.com/mchenry>

to make your payment or to check to see if you have an outstanding balance.

Upcoming Event

It's time to trade in your cleats for a day of roller skating fun. Come and enjoy!

Saturday
November 17, 2012
12–2 p.m.
\$10 per person

Includes skate rental, hot dog, chips and a drink.

Just for Fun
McHenry, IL

**JUST FOR FUN
ROLLER RINKS**



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