

# LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

## 1992 FALL NEWSLETTER

Lower Merion Soccer Club, Box 469, Gladwyne, PA 19035

With the 1992 fall season now in full swing, we'd like to take some time to let everyone know what is happening with our intramural program and our travel team program.

This season we have a record 780 youngsters ages 5-11 playing in the intramural program. Our fall travel team program has 14 boys teams (ages U-9 thru U-14) and eight girls travel teams (ages U-9 thru U-19). This winter, after the high school seasons have ended, our older boys travel teams (up thru U-19) will begin Delco League play.

### INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

This year's intramural program is off and running with all age divisions having started play on September 12. The season will continue until November 14.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER** - All players in our LMSC intramural program received the phone number and specific team number for our new team hotline. With our first (and hopefully last) rainout of the season occurring recently, many of you found out that it is next to impossible to get through during busy times such as a rainout.

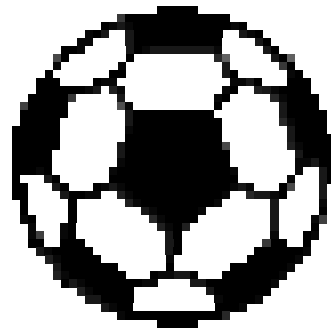
We have therefore suspended use of the team hotline number for intramural players. Please do NOT use this number, we will not be leaving rainout messages. What we will instead be doing for intramural players is this: At about 8:00 AM, the LMSC Directors will make a decision as to whether or not games should be played (based on both weather forecasts and the condition of the fields). If games are to be cancelled, the specific division commissioners will be called. They in turn will call the coaches in their division who will in turn call the players.

Commissioners and coaches are asked to make these calls as FAST as possible. If you do not receive a call by 9:00 AM, assume the games are on. Do NOT call the LMSC Directors, they will NOT accept your calls.

**ATOMS, BANTAMS and NEUTRONS:** Since players in these divisions are not on set teams, it will be very difficult to make calls to the players. We need several people to volunteer with the division commissioners to make phone calls. PLEASE volunteer with them if you can help make calls. We'll supply them with a list of phone numbers. Again, we need YOUR help with this, please volunteer with them at your next practice. Thanks.

**LATE REGISTRANTS** - This summer, many people missed the intramural registration deadline of August 20. We tried to fit late registrants into the program where possible but unfortunately we had to turn away 47 players due to several age divisions filling to capacity.

We must strongly ask ALL of you for next year to get your registrations in ON TIME so that we do not have to turn away your son or daughter. I'm sure you would not want to be one of the 47 people who had to turn be turned away.



In the three youngest divisions (Atoms, Bantams and Neutrons), we do not close out registrations since the players are not placed on permanent teams. We can still take new players in those divisions during the fall.

In all the other divisions, the teams are filled to capacity and we have no more openings. Again, we strongly ask you to PLEASE get your registration in by August 20 next fall so that we do not have to turn away your child.

**REFEREES FOR INTRAMURALS** - This fall season, we are having a shortage of referees. If you know of someone between the ages of 12 and 18 who would like to serve as a referee, have them write to us immediately. We always need referees for our games. Referees under the age of 18 are paid for their efforts.

**DIVISION COMMISSIONERS** - A special thanks to the following people who are serving as the intramural division commissioners for the program this fall:

Atoms:	Ray Hurtado	Seniors:	Craig Stretch
Bantams:	Glenn Brooks	Neutrons:	Susan Reynolds
Juniors:	Greg Bancroft	Protons:	Rich Lawson
Intermediates:	Bob Chew	Electrons:	Ace Hoyt

These eight people, along with the LMSC Board Of Directors are all volunteers. The time and effort of the eight commissioners is greatly appreciated. Their work is largely responsible for the success of the program so far this season.

Like our directors and commissioners, all of our coaches are volunteers, Each fall we have a shortage of people who volunteer to be coaches. This is another reason we were not able to add latecomers to our program this fall. PLEASE try to help

us out in future seasons by serving as a coach for your child's team.

LMSC provides its coaches with written coaching material and video material geared for youth soccer coaches. We are glad to help out those who volunteer to coach, but we need you to volunteer. Please give this some serious thought for the 1993 season, thanks a lot.

## **INTRAMURAL PROGRAM FORMAT**

Some of you new to our soccer program probably want to know a little bit about how the intramural program is set up. Hopefully this section of our newsletter will give you an overview of the intramural program.

Our intramural program runs from ages 5-11 for both boys and girls. It's purpose is to give youngsters a fun filled soccer experience and at the same time provide a stepping stone for the more talented and competitive youngsters to move up to the travel team program (ages 8-18).

Our intramural program has eight different age divisions:

**Atoms Division:** For 5 year old boys (currently 1987 births). They play games of 5 versus 5 or 6 versus 6 to keep the boys more 'involved' with the play. The smaller size 3 soccer ball is used. Players are NOT put on permanent teams in order to keep the overly enthusiastic parents from making the games too competitive. Play is once a week, on Saturdays.

**Bantams Division:** For 6 year old boys (currently the 1986 birth). Same format as the Atoms Division described above.

**Junior Division:** For less athletic and less experienced 7 and 8 year old boys (1985 and 1984 births). Players are put on set teams for the season . Games are played 7 versus 7 with a size 4 ball. Each team plays a nine game schedule and has one practice a week, either on a weeknight or on Sunday.

**Intermediate Division:** For advanced 7 and 8 year old boys (1985 and 1984 births), same format as the Junior Division. This division is geared for the more athletic boys and more competitive boys. Youngsters who wish to someday play in the travel team program should choose this division over the less competitive Junior division.

**Senior Division:** For 9, 10 and 11 year old boys who are not playing in the travel team program (currently born in 1983, 82 and 81). Players play in regulation 11 versus 11 games. At this division, standings are kept and playoffs are held to determine a champion for the season.

**Neutrons Division:** For 5 and 6 year old girls (currently 1987 and 1986 births). Same format as the boys Atoms Division described above.

**Protons Division:** For 7 and 8 year old girls (currently 1985 and 84 births). Same format as the boys Juniors division described above.

**Electrons Division:** For girls 9-11 years old (currently 1983, 82 and 81 births) not in the travel team program. Same format as the boys Juniors division described above.

## **DEVELOPMENTAL UNDER 8 TRAVEL TEAMS**

Later this fall (in late October and early November), LMSC will hold tryouts for our Developmental U-8 boys travel team and our developmental U-8 girls travel team.

Both teams will practice several times during the winter at local gyms. The boys will participate in several indoor tournaments during the winter months.

The Developmental teams will be open to any youngster born between August 1, 1984 and July 31, 1985. We will send out information about the tryouts to all eligible players on our mailing list.

## **SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM**

Starting in late April, LMSC will once again run its spring intramural program for our youngest players (the 5 and 6 year olds). The program will again be held at Greenfield Avenue Field in Ardmore (down the road from the old Kiddie City).

All people on our mailing list who are of the proper age will receive information about this in March. Players currently in the Atoms, Bantams or Neutrons will be able to use their current red LMSC jersey and thus reduce their registration cost for the spring program. If you know of someone not in our program who would like to participate, have them write to us.

## TRAVEL TEAM PROGRAM

Our LMSC travel team program is among the very best in Eastern Pennsylvania. Our teams have won three State Championships in the past four years and almost won a fourth last year when our U-11 boys were finalists in the Indoor State Cup.

The travel team program offers the more competitive boys and girls ages eight and up a much more extensive soccer experience and a much higher level of coaching. The travel team program is recommended for those boys and girls who hope to someday play school soccer.

In the fall, our boys program fields two or three teams for each of the six age divisions from Under 9 thru Under 14. All boys teams play in the Delco Soccer League against other clubs such as Downingtown, West Chester, Nether Providence and many others. Delco League has three divisions of play. Our top team in each division plays in the 'A' division while the others play in the 'B' or 'C'.

The girls teams play in the Tri-County League. We currently have teams in the following age groups: Under 9, Under 10A, Under 10B, U-11, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-19.

Our girls program is RAPIDLY expanding as more and more girls are playing the sport. This growth in girls soccer is due to three factors: a) most all of the local high schools now offer the sport on the varsity level, b) more and more colleges are offering girls soccer players scholarship money and c) the USA Women's National Team won the World Championship in 1991 defeating Germany 5-2 in the semi-finals and Norway 2-1 in the finals, held in China.

Many of our travel teams have had tremendous success in recent spring and fall tournaments. The Under 10 'A' girls teams, known as the Firebirds and coached by Lance Laver, won the Neptune, New Jersey tournament as well as the Warminster Tournament. The team is led by the awesome play of Elizabeth Pillion, Katie Heuisler, Claire Laver and Livia Barton. The team has its sights set on the Tri-County League championship this fall.

Our Under 12 boys team, coached by Bill Payne got to the State Championship game of the Indoor State Cup back in February, losing only to Neshaminy in the championship game. The team is led by goalie Tripper Heckscher, Aaron Brill, Tim Lord and Jonathan Payne. They are already in fine form this fall, going 2-0-1 in their first three games of Delco League play.

Our U-9 boys team (the Maniacs), placed third in the U-10 Bethlehem Tournament and second in the Marlboro, NJ tournament this fall. Star players include Trevor Lord, Mike Greenspoon, Josh Rosenfeldt and Clay Stabert.

Our Under 10 boys team, (the Lunatics), won the Redlands Tournament in Harrisburg, outscoring the opposition 31-0 in four games. The team was also finalists in the Kirkwood Delaware tournament, losing only the championship game in overtime to the Delaware State champions. In the Valley Tournament last spring, the Lunatics took 3rd place against teams a year older. Captain Bernard Horshaw was voted MVP of the tournament and received a very nice equipment bag for his efforts. The team went 12-0-0 last fall in Delco League regular season, led by Richard Zeller's 15 goals, before falling in the league championship to Downingtown.

The Under 14 boys team, known as the LMSC Dragons won the Deep Run Soccer Tournament

and were finalists in the Delco League last year, losing the championship game in overtime. The Dragons were State Champions three years ago and are a strong contender to regain the title this coming spring. Leading the team are goalie Duke Keating and midfielders Mike Tiedeman and Richard Kinderman.

Our Under 16 boys team, the Danes won the Valley Tournament this past spring led by the strong play of local high school standouts Jon Hanks (L.M. High School), Eric Hopkins (Episcopal), Nick Harmelin (Harriton) and Chris Cox (Haverford High).

### **STATE SELECT HONORS**

Congratulations to two LMSC players on making one of the State Select teams. Goalie Dan Pangrazio (of the LMSC U-13 team) and Trevor Walker (of the U-14 LMSC Dragons) both represented our State this summer. Longtime LMSC players Jobey Hollinger and Adrian Cox also made State Select this summer. Cox was also selected for the USA Region I National Under 16 team composed of the top players from Maine to Virginia.

### **TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUTS**

Tryouts for the LMSC travel teams are held each spring. All eligible boys and girls in the program will be sent notices in March about the tryouts. Each age group will have two or more tryout dates. Players wishing to tryout are expected to be at all tryout dates.

Next years teams will start at Under 9 (players born between August 1, 1984 and July 30, 1985). While tryouts are in the spring, the actual season does not start until August.

## **SOCCER COACHING COURSE GRADUATES**

In early September, LMSC sponsored a nine hour EPYSA 'F' level coaching course which was attended by 30 of our coaches (intramural and travel). We'd like to thank the following coaches for their time in attending the course and wish them the best of luck with their teams this fall:

Douglas Allan	Jane Bassman	Bruce Berg
Jerry Berlin	Bob Bernstock	Louis Broad
Ram Cnaan	Tim Colestock	Mirta Diaz
Fenton Edler	Edward Fleeegler	Greg Gibson
Fred Greenspoon	Ace Hoyt	Jim Jakobowski
Ken Kay	Larry Korff	Frank Leto
Max Mason	Bill McLaughlin	Michael Merabi
Don Peterson	Barry Pritchard	Alan Robinson
Louis Rossman	Mike Scott	Craig Sheffler-Collins
Les Simpson	Rick Skerrett	Michael Straus

### **LMSC SUMMER SOCCER CAMP**

This past summer, LMSC ran its first ever Summer Soccer Camp. The program was run by Mr. Bob Davidson, head coach for the Lower Merion High School boys varsity team. The camp was well attended by boys and girls ages 9-11. The majority of the players were from the travel team program although a large number of players from our intramural program also attended.

Mr. Davidson put together a top notch staff of coaches for the program including both local high school coaches and some of the top high school players in the area.

In addition to Mr. Davidson, the staff included Tom Farr, head coach at Upper Darby High School, David Urban, assistant coach at Lower Merion and Ron Braverman, the J.V. coach at

Lower Merion. Both Urban and Braverman are former LM players who later starred at the collegiate level.

Also on the staff was Will Kohler, a high school All American player from Lower Merion High, Richard Wilmot, a high school All State player and league MVP from Harriton High School and Danny Schultz, a two time all Central League Star at Haverford High School.

Due to the tremendous success of the camp, it will be expanding for the summer of 1993. A larger number of age groups will be taken (both boys and girls) and a second week will be added. The camp will again be held at Welsh Valley Middle School. Brochures will be sent out to all LMSC players. The camp will be run:

First Week:        June 28    - July 2, 1993  
Second Week:     July 5        - July 9, 1993

### **LMSC CATALOG**

Enclosed with this letter is the LMSC catalog for those of you who wish to purchase any of the various soccer items that we carry. Many of you have seen the soccer balls that we are selling. Since we are able to get these balls at a HUGE quantity discount directly from the manufacturer, we are able to pass along these balls at a price MUCH lower than any you would find at a store for an equal value ball.

We must receive your order by November 15 in order for us to get your items in before Christmas. Orders received after November 15 will be put on our spring order.