

LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

1993 FALL SEASON NEWSLETTER

Lower Merion Soccer Club, Box 469, Gladwyne, PA 19035, phone 215-953-8060

Now that the 1993 fall season is in full swing, we at LMSC would like to touch base with everyone regarding various newsworthy items. We would greatly appreciate it if parents of LMSC players would read our newsletter. We have many new programs this year that people should be aware of, as well as upcoming events and deadlines that people should know about.

Included in this Fall season newsletter is information on:

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|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Fall Intramural Program | Intramural All Star Games |
| The Travel Team Program | 1994 Spring Intramurals |
| Rainout Procedures | Equipment Recycling Program |
| Our Summer Soccer Camp | Indoor and Outdoor State Cups |
| | Developmental U-8 Travel Team Tryouts |

INTRAMURAL SEASON OVERVIEW

The 1993 season has seen an unprecedented increase in participants. Last year we had a record high 790 players, this year we have 1040 players ages 5-11 in the intramural program. The extra 250 players has caused us some huge growing pains, hopefully we have everything under control.

One of the biggest problems that we had was that we received numerous registration forms after the guaranteed acceptance deadline of August 15. This does not pose a problem for our 5-6 year old divisions but does cause major problems for the 7-11 year old divisions where we have to assign players to teams of 12 or 18 players with a coach.

The bottom line is that we had to turn away 40 players because we filled up all team rosters. We were lucky to be able to get 30 other players off of the waiting lists. Please understand that we do NOT guarantee acceptance in the program if your registration form is received late, no matter what excuse you have for sending it in late (believe me, we have heard all sorts of excuses).

If you plan to play in 1994 in one of the 7-11 year old divisions, GET YOUR REGISTRATION FORM IN ON TIME, otherwise we cannot guarantee that you will be able to participate.

RAINOUT PROCEDURES

Most of you know our rainout procedure. Atoms, Bantams and Neutrons Division players should call our club hotline (953-8060) approximately one hour before their kickoff. Our prerecorded message will tell you if games are on or not.

Older intramural division players and travel team players will receive a call from their coach in the event of a rainout. Your coach will call you if and when the LMSC Directors call him/her to cancel the games. If you do not receive a call, assume the games are on. Do not call the LMSC hotline. Do NOT call the LMSC Directors, they will NOT tell you if games are called off or not.

Soccer is played in light rain. Games are only canceled if there is heavy rain, lightning, a hurricane or there is a significant amount of snow on the ground.

COACHES AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Our club is made up of volunteers. The coaches, Division Commissioners and LMSC Directors are all volunteers. They do not get paid for their efforts. LMSC is always dependent on interested adults to coach and help administrate.

This year for the first time, our intramural program had a shortage of coaches in one of our divisions. We had to send out a letter telling people that we were going to cancel that division if people did not step up to coach. Fortunately, we had enough people respond to the letter so we did not have to turn people away (although we were not able to expand the division and take people off the waiting list).

A special thank you to all the people who volunteered to coach, especially those who responded to our help letter. We need to stress that we always need people to volunteer to coach. Next year parents, PLEASE consider volunteering to coach. We spend a significant portion of our budget distributing coaching materials to coaches so that they can do a good job. You do not have to be a soccer expert, just someone who enjoys working with youngsters.

Finally, a special thank you to the Division Commissioners who have put in many hours making their programs succeed:

Atoms Division: Frank Leto
Bantams Division: Justin Ceccarelli
Juniors Division: Glenn Brooks
Intermediates Division: Steve Luongo
Seniors Division: Craig Stretch
Neutrons Division: Susan Reynolds, Bob Overshiser
Protons Division: John Carson
Electrons Division: Dan Sutton

INTRAMURAL PROGRAM SETUP

Our intramural program is divided into three different formats. The youngest divisions (the Atoms, Bantams and Neutrons) for our 5-6 year olds, play games of 5 versus 5. This format allows each player to handle the ball many more times than they would in a regular 11v11 game. This small sided structure, as recommended by the United States Soccer Federation, allows for faster skill development and makes it more fun for each and every child.

Many people ask us why we don't put the players on set teams for the season at these ages. Believe it or not, we do this to minimize the competitiveness of the adults. We found in previous years that the adults on the sidelines got way too carried away, taking the fun out of it for the children.

Our 7 and 8 year old divisions (Intermediates, Protons and Juniors) play 7v7 games to again maximize the number of touches on the ball each player gets. We do not keep team records and do not have championships in these divisions. Again, this is done so that the players can concentrate on skill development and having fun.

The only division that plays full sided 11v11 soccer is the Seniors Division (9-11 year old boys). The Seniors play a full league schedule with playoffs to determine the league champion. Hopefully the players, coaches and parents are all able to keep the competitive level of the program in the proper perspective.

LMSC

COACHING COURSE GRADUATES

In order to make our program as successful as possible, LMSC pays the full cost for any coach who successfully completes any of the various United States Soccer Federation coaching courses. This past spring, 16 of our coaches successfully took the 18 hour USSF 'E' level coaching course:

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|-------|------------|-------|----------|
| Jerry | Berlin | Jack | Meyerson |
| Art | Corrado | Butch | Payne |
| Greg | Gibson | Les | Simpson |
| Fred | Greenspoon | Rick | Skerrett |
| Ray | Hurtado | Art | Smith |
| Ken | Kay | Dan | Sutton |
| Rich | Lawson | Don | Younkin |
| Frank | Leto | Ted | Zollo |

This fall, 20 of our coaches are working for their USSF 'F' level coaching license (9 hour course):

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|------------|
| Jeff | Barker | Alan | Lieblisch |
| Bruce | Berg | Andrew | Morse |
| Steven | Bloom | Chris | Reed |
| Philip | Boxell | Harry | Sokoloff |
| Jane | Broderson | Mark | Solden |
| Holly | Brown | Rebecca | Taub |
| Steve | Cochrane | Richard | Turner |
| Mark | Curtis | Don | Wenger |
| Connie | Dauval | Nancy | Worby |
| Mary Beth | Gehret | Bryan | Richardson |

Our thanks to the above coaches for their efforts in making themselves better coaches as well as all the other coaches who have completed these courses in previous years.

SIDELINE CONDUCT

It is very important for youngsters to have their parents attend as many games as possible during the season. It means a lot for them to have their mom and dad cheer for them and support their hobbies.

Spectators are encouraged to be cheerful and enthusiastic. We would greatly appreciate it if you would leave the coaching to the coaches. Our intramural coaches are working with the kids in the manner that we outline in our various coaching manuals.

Too often, parents start telling their child what to do when he/she is in the game. Often times, the parents are telling them something that is contradicting what they were told by the coach. This presents a dilemma for the child, do they listen to their coach or do they listen to their parent and disobey the coach?

PLEASE, leave the coaching to the coaches. Cheer for the players, be positive and enthusiastic, let the players play without having mom and dad barking out instructions. Soccer is a game that develops thinking. When a child gets the ball, he/she must decide what to do with it. Does the player dribble, pass or shoot? Let the children develop the ability to think on an athletic field. Don't yell out to them what to do, you are only inhibiting their ability to make quick decisions. Thanks for your understanding in this matter.

LMSC

THE INTRAMURAL ALL STAR GAMES

On Sunday, October 24th, we will have the annual All Star games for the Intermediates Division, the Protons Division, Electrons Division and the Juniors Division. The LMSC Directors will send out invitations to the players selected to play. Participants will receive an All Star game shirt and an All Star game roster with their name on it. Letters will go out around October 10th. It will be the LMSC Directors, not the coaches who will pick the players for the teams.

One of the purposes of the Intramural All Star games is to try to identify players for the LMSC Travel Team Program which starts at the Under 9 age group for both boys and girls teams. Several coaches from the Travel Team Program will be in attendance at the All Star Games which offer the players a chance to compete in a fun environment while being evaluated in a non-tryout atmosphere.

Sunday October 24 at Gladwyne Elementary School

| | | |
|------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1:00 | Protons Division | (Hillside Field) |
| 2:15 | Electrons Division | (Church Field) |
| 2:15 | Juniors Division | (Hillside Field) |
| 3:30 | Intermediates East | (Church Field) |
| 5:00 | Intermediates West | (Church Field) |

The Seniors Division will have their All Star game in late November. Players selected to play will be notified by mail in early November.

THE DEVELOPMENTAL UNDER 8 TRAVEL TEAMS

One of the primary objectives of our intramural program is to develop the more talented and more competitive players for the highly prestigious Travel Team Program. The Travel Team Program is for players ages 8-18.

LMSC has one of the most successful Travel Team Programs in the state. In the past five years, four LMSC teams have won State Championships, ten have reached the State Cup semifinals. Our club has developed many players for the State Select program, the USA Region I Program and one player for the USA National Team program.

Each winter, we hold tryouts for our Under 8 Developmental Travel Teams. We have one boys team and one girls team who practice indoors during the winter. The boys team plays in several indoor tournaments at a nearby astroturf complex.

The Developmental Travel Team program offers our most talented and enthusiastic players a chance to play in the winter under the supervision of our most experienced coaches. The majority of our players in the travel team program got their start on the Developmental teams.

The boys team will be coached by LMSC Coaching Director Biff Sturla, a 12 year veteran of LMSC and a coach for the Delco League Select Program and the State Select Program. Players trying out for the Developmental Under 8 Travel Teams must be born between August 1, 1985 and July 31, 1986, NO EXCEPTIONS. Players must have shinguards and cleats, no exceptions.

All tryouts for the 1993/94 teams will be held at Gladwyne Elementary School at the following dates and times:

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| Boys U-8 Team: | Saturday October 30 | 4:15 - 6:15 |
| | Sunday October 31 | 1:00 - 2:45 |

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|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Girls U-8 Team: | Sunday October 31 | 3:15 - 4:45 |
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Boys trying out should be at both tryouts.

More information about the U-8 Developmental Travel Team tryouts will be sent to all eligible players on our mailing list. This mailing will go out in mid-October.

END OF SEASON TROPHIES

On the last day of the Intramural season, LMSC gives out a participation trophy to all participants. Please be sure to attend the last day of the season (November 20th) to pick up your trophy. We will not guarantee a trophy for those children who do not show for the last day of the season.

TRAVEL TEAM PROGRAM

Several of our travel teams kicked off the season by playing in a few preseason tournaments this fall. Seven of our teams went up to East Brunswick, NJ for a two day tournament. Two of our teams came home with championship trophies, the boys U-12'A' Sharks (Bob Rock and Rick Whelan, coaches) and the girls U-11'A' Firebirds (Lance Laver, coach). The U-13'B' Storm (Bill Herman, coach) and our boys U-11'A' Lunatics each took second place at Marlboro.

The Sharks finished a great preseason by winning the Ross Haney Labor Day Weekend Tournament the following week. The Sharks were led by standout play from Jordan Parman, Josh Hollinger, Michael Day, Blake Stabert and Jon Payne. The high scorer for both tournaments was Tommy Rock.

The boys U-12'B' Lightning, under new head coach Art Corrado won the Aston Summer Classic Tournament. The Lightning offense was led by Jonathan Abel, Andy Adler, Matt Corrado, Nick Handler and Jeffrey Henretig. The air tight defense was led by Fred Urbach and Rob Woolston. The Lightning got standout goalkeeping from Doug Hitchner and Brooks Ching. The Lightning has continued its winning ways in league play, winning all three league games to date.

As of this writing, five of our 14 boys travel teams are in first place in their respective divisions:

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|---------|-----------|-------|
| U-9'A' | Derelects | 3-0-1 |
| U-10'A' | Maniacs | 3-1-0 |
| U-11'A' | Lunatics | 4-0-0 |
| U-12'B' | Lightning | 3-0-0 |
| U-13'B' | Storm | 2-0-0 |

The club is especially proud of our newest 'A' division team, the U-9'A' Derelects. The team, under the direction of coach Joe Hopkins is led by the standout play of John Sawin, Jared Kahn, Ryan Kelly, Zach Schildhorn, Ryan Westman, Robert Machnicki, Robby Rotfeld and David Moscow.

Our boys U-11'A' Lunatics are again off to a perfect 4-0 start. In three years of Delco play, the team is 25-3-2. Last year, they placed an amazing NINE players on the Delco League Select teams including first team members Bernard Horshaw, Drew Delaney, Ryan Gutzler, Matt Skipper and "Fuzzy" Zeller. Making the second Delco League team were Adam and Noah Chesbrough, Ted Domers and Dan Geraghty.

Our girls U-11'A' Firebirds won the Tri-County 'A' division last season, going undefeated. This year, Coach Laver has moved them up to play in the U-12 division, forcing his team to play against girls a year older. The team is led by Katy Heuisler, Elizabeth Pillion, Livia Barton and Claire Laver.

This spring, both the Lunatics and Firebirds will be strong contenders to win their respective State Cups.

CONGRATULATIONS DAN

Congratulations to Dan Pangrazio of our Under 14'A' Travel team for being identified for the USA Region I team (Region I is composed of all State Associations from Maine down through West Virginia). Dan has been a goalkeeper for the State Select team the past two seasons. This summer at the Region I Tournament at Rider College, Dan was one of 30 players identified for the Region I pool of players.

1994 LMSC SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

Once again, LMSC will be running its spring intramural program for the younger boys and girls. The program is tentatively set to run every **Sunday** afternoon from April 25 thru June 27 (except Memorial Day Weekend). The sight will most likely again be Ardmore Avenue Park, located on Greenfield Avenue in Ardmore, just down the street from the old Kiddy City store on Lancaster Avenue. This is NOT the same field that the Neutrons Division plays. That is South Ardmore Park in Wynnewood.

The program will be structured similar to the Atoms, Bantams and Neutrons Divisions, i.e., they will not be placed on permanent teams for the season. Veteran players who already have a red LMSC jersey from these divisions will not be required to purchase another red jersey for the spring program.

Eligible participants will be boys and girls born between August 1, 1986 and December 31, 1989. Information, including applications, will be sent to all eligible players sometime in February. If you know of someone not on our mailing list who might want to play, have them phone in the players name, address and date of birth.

If your child is planning to play in the spring program, please give some consideration to coaching. Next spring, we will again be offering the United States Soccer Federation's 'F' level coaching course designed to help adults new to soccer or new to coaching.

LMSC will pay the full cost of the 'F' level coaching course for anyone who coaches in our program. The course is three nights long, three hours each night and covers topics such as Team Management, Care and Prevention Of Injuries, Technique, Tactics, Laws Of The Game, etc. Please let us know if you are interested in getting involved in the spring or if you are interested in signing up to take the USSF 'F' level coaching course.

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR STATE CUPS

Each year our travel teams Under 11 and up are eligible to compete in both the Indoor and Outdoor State Cups. Last year, our U-17 boys (the Psychos), coached by Joe Hopkins, won the fourth State Championship trophy for LMSC in the past five seasons.

In the past five seasons, LMSC has had ten teams make it to the semifinals of State Cups, including four champions:

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| 1993 | U-17 boys (75/76s) | Psychos | indoor champions |
| 1993 | U-14 boys (78/79s) | Dragons | indoor finalists |
| 1993 | U-12 boys (80/81s) | Hurricanes | indoor semifinals |
| 1992 | U-11 boys (80/81s) | Hurricanes | indoor finalists |
| 1991 | U-14 boys (77 birth) | Gorillas | outdoor semifinals |
| 1991 | U-12 boys (79 birth) | Dragons | indoor semifinals |
| 1990 | U-13 boys (77 birth) | Gorillas | outdoor champions |
| 1990 | U-13 boys (77 birth) | Gorillas | indoor champions |
| 1989 | U-10 boys (79 birth) | Dragons | outdoor champions |
| 1989 | U-12 boys (77 birth) | Gorillas | indoor semifinals |

SOCCER EQUIPMENT

There are many sporting goods stores in the area that carry the necessary soccer equipment, including soccer shoes, shin guards, game shorts and socks. We are pleased to announce that beginning with our spring intramural program, Sneaky Pete's (49 W. Lancaster Avenue in Ardmore, 642-4470) will carry logoed LMSC navy intramural game shorts and white game socks. Sneaky Pete's carries a full range of soccer shoes, both indoor and outdoor.

Many other local sporting goods stores throughout the local area carry a full line of soccer shoes, shin guards, shorts and soccer socks.

Please remember that 5 and 6 year olds use a size 3 soccer ball, 7-11 year olds use a size 4 ball and players 12 years old and up use a size 5 soccer ball. All players in LMSC are strongly encouraged to have the proper size soccer ball and bring it to both practice and games.

SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM

This fall, for the first time ever, LMSC has established a low key soccer program for youngsters with various forms of physical limitations. Under the direction of Susan Reynolds, the program offers soccer to children who would not be able to compete against the other program. If you know of a child who would like to get involved in this program, please call our hotline (953-8060) and leave your name and number.

LMSC CATALOG

Enclosed is a copy of our LMSC Catalog for those people who wish to purchase sweat shirts, sweat pants, jackets, shirts, soccer balls, etc. Please note that our next order date is November 15th. Orders received by then will be ready in plenty of time for Christmas. We cannot guarantee a Christmas delivery for orders received after the 15th.

SOCCER EQUIPMENT RECYCLING PROGRAM

One of our newest programs this year has been our collection drive of old, used soccer equipment. All equipment that we receive is donated to the Inner City Soccer program for underprivileged youngsters.

Under the direction of Marilynne Rose, the program has met with a lot of success. Please save any old equipment for the program, including used and outgrown shoes, shin guards, soccer balls, jerseys, etc. We generally have two collection drives a year. One will be in December, after the fall season has ended. The second will be in early June, during Travel Team Program registration night.

3RD ANNUAL LMSC SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

In late June, early July, LMSC will run its third annual summer soccer camp. The camp will again be run by Mr. Bob Davidson, head coach of the boys varsity team at Lower Merion High School.

The camp will be open to boys and girls ages 7-11. For 1994, we anticipate having a separate advanced division for travel team players.

The camp staff includes many local high school coaches and local high school and college players. Mailings for the camp will be sent out in late March to all eligible participants.

THANK YOU!!!

The LMSC Directors would like to thank all of you for your participation in the program. Like all our coaches, we are volunteers and do not get paid for our time. We hope that you enjoy the season, and many more seasons to come.

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|--------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bruno Ceccarelli | President, Girls Travel Team Director |
| Joe Hopkins | VP, Boys Travel Team Director |
| Biff Sturla | VP, Intramural Director |
| Brian Kammersgaard | Official Club Mascot |