

LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

1994 SPRING NEWSLETTER

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

In addition to information about all the recent events going on at LMSC, this 1994 spring newsletter contains information about two very important items:

SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM REGISTRATION.

TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT SCHEDULE FOR 1994/95.

A complete schedule of travel team tryouts is enclosed in this letter, including names of coaches to contact if you require additional information. The tryouts are for the 1994 / 1995 season which will start in late August.

The Spring Intramural Program will be held for boys and girls born between August 1, 1986 and December 31, 1989. The program starts on April 24 and runs every Sunday through June 26, except for Memorial Day Weekend. A new Boys Premier Division has been formed for the Spring Intramural Program, open to the more experienced and competitive older boys.

Information on the Spring Intramural Program, as well as a registration form can be found in this mailing.

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Many of you have been using our LMSC Hotline to get information about the program. Please be aware that our number STILL uses the 215 area code. The LMSC Hotline is still 215-953-8060.

INDOOR STATE CUP RESULTS

Each year our travel teams U-11 and older are eligible to compete in both the Indoor and Outdoor State Cups. Our two youngest teams both placed 2nd in the state in their respective indoor cups, those being the U-11 girls Firebirds and the U-11 boys Lunatics. The second place finish by the Firebirds was the first ever state honor for our girls Travel Team Program.

The Firebirds opened up with a resounding 4-0 win over Radnor, behind Jamie Sundheim's three goals and shutout goaltending by Livia Barton. Katy Heuisler also scored, and Elizabeth Pillion (two assists), Ruth Kelley (one assist) and Rebecca Kornberg (one assist) aided in the win, in which the Firebirds were up 3-0 after only seven minutes of play.

Most observers called the Firebirds next contest the most exciting and well played in the entire tournament. The Firebirds and Council Rock pressured each other for twelve minutes of intense, all-out soccer before the Outlaws broke through with five minutes remaining for the only goal of the game.

Against Deep Run, the Firebirds jumped out to a 3-0 lead on two goals from Katie Block and one by Kelley en route to a 3-2 victory. Emily Moore earned the win in goal. Needing a victory for second place, the Firebirds defeated Hulmeville 4-0 on two goals by Kelley, one by Block and one by Rachael Prowler. Sundheim and Block picked up assists while Barton earned her second shutout of the day.

Sundheim, Block and Kelley each scored three goals on the day to pace the Firebirds' 11 goal attack while the defense allowed only four goals in five games. Colleen Narvaez and Lauren Herman both contributed to the offensive barrage while the stellar defense was paced by Claire Laver, Johanna Gelber, Liz Leonard, Erin Venafr, Angel Schleinkofer, Kornberg and Moore. Goalie Barton allowed only two goals in four games while making over 30 saves.

The Firebirds, coached by Lance Laver, now move on to the outdoor state cups where they hope to top their indoor performance.

The U-11 boys team, the Lunatics, coached by Biff Sturla, took second place out of 16 teams in their indoor state cup. Having won 18 tournaments since the team was put together four years ago, the team had its sites set on a State Championship but came up short by a couple of minutes of play in the championship game.

The Lunatics breezed through their four team bracket, demolishing Palisades 8-0 in their opening game thanks to a hat trick by Ryan Gutzler. In the second game, they defeated Penn Academy 5-2. Forwards Bernard Horshaw, Adam Chesbrough and Richard Zeller, along with midfielder Matt Skipper continued the offensive barrage of the first game.

In their third game, goalie Ted Domers recorded his second shutout of the day with help from defenders Drew Delaney, Noah Chesbrough and Dan Geraghty as the Lunatics defeated West Chester 4-0. Their 3-0 record earned them a spot in the semifinals against Tri-Boro who also won their bracket.

In the semifinals, Bernard Horshaw recorded a hat trick while Erik Blindenbacher and Zeller also scored. Team captains Ben Garber and Matt Skipper dominated the midfield while goalie David Hanlon recorded the team's third shutout en route to a 5-0 win. Defenders Tony Frick and Andrew Brass helped keep the Tri-Boro attack from coming close to breaking the shutout. The win put the Lunatics into the state finals against Kensington who defeated Council Rock 1-0 in the other semifinal.

Zeller opened up the scoring in the finals on a direct kick but Kensington quickly tied the score. Zeller again gave the Lunatics the lead but with two minutes left in the game, Kensington equalized on a fluke goal from midfield that somehow found its way into the net. In the last minute of play, Kensington got a power play and converted with just 40 seconds left to give them the championship 3-2. The Lunatics will begin preparing for the outdoor state cup, if the snow ever melts.

LMSC Lunatics - U-11 Boys Indoor State Finalists

Erik Blindenbacher	Ted Domers	David Hanlon
Andrew Brass	Tony Frick	Bernard Horshaw
Adam Chesbrough	Ben Garber	Jamie Hunt
Noah Chesbrough	Dan Geraghty	Matt Skipper
Drew Delaney	Ryan Gutzler	Richard Zeller

Coaches: Biff Sturla, Chris Hanlon

LMSC Firebirds - U-11 Girls Indoor State Finalists

Livia Barton	Rebecca	Elizabeth Pillion
Katie Block	Kornberg	Rachel Prowler
Johanna Gelber	Claire Laver	Angel Schleinkofer
Lauren Herman	Liz Leonard	Jamie Sundheim
Katy Heuister	Emily Moore	Erin Venafra
Ruth Kelley	Colleen Narvaez	

Coaches: Lance Laver, Rich Gelber

STATE CUP HONOR ROLL

LMSC has won four State Championships since 1989, most recently in 1993 when our U-17 boys, the Psychos, coached by Joe Hopkins, won the Indoor State Cup Championship.

In 1990, the U-13 Gorillas won the Indoor and Outdoor State Cups in the same season. They are one of only five teams in the state to ever accomplish that feat.

In the past six seasons, LMSC has had twelve teams make it to the semifinals of State Cups, including the four State Champions:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Age group</u>	<u>Birth year</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Result</u>
1994	U-11 boys	(82/83s)	Lunatics	indoor finalists
1994	U-11 girls	(82/83s)	Firebirds	indoor finalists
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

OUR NEW LMSC EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORM SUPPLIER

We are pleased to announce a new working agreement with Sneaky Pete's in Ardmore. Sneaky Pete's will carry a full line of our intramural and travel team game shorts and game socks beginning with the Spring Intramural Program.

In addition, they will now handle all of our catalog items, including LMSC sweat suits, polo shirts, jackets, equipment bags, soccer balls and our newly designed LMSC hat (made by Game). In addition to carrying newer and better brands for many of these items, we anticipate that these items will be available to you much faster than before.

Travel team players will also be able to get game jerseys at Sneaky Pete's although uniform numbers will still have to be coordinated with the player's coach.

Sneaky Pete's carries a full line of indoor and outdoor soccer shoes, as well as shin guards for both adult and youth players.

Sneaky Pete's is located on 49 West Lancaster Avenue in Ardmore, about three doors down from Roy Rogers. Their phone number is 642-4470.

LMSC 1994 / 1995 TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT INFORMATION

Each year, LMSC holds tryouts in the spring for their fall season travel teams. The 1994 fall team lineup will include girls teams from Under 9 up through Under 19 as well as boys teams from Under 9 through Under 14.

There will be a minimum of two teams in each boys age group. There will be a minimum of one girls team in each age group. Additional teams will be formed in age groups where there is a sufficient turnout of players and a qualified coach has been identified.

Due to the realignment of the boys Delco League, we are planning on having 'C' division travel teams in as many age groups as possible. This will allow us to accept more boys into the Travel Team Program than in previous years.

Boys U-15 teams and older will play in the winter season. Tryouts for those teams will be held in October.

To be considered for the Travel Team Program, players will be expected to be at the tryouts listed below. Many of the age groups will have additional tryout dates which will be announced at the first tryout.

Players MUST tryout for the age group corresponding to their birthdate, as listed in the tryout schedule. Players may not play "UP" an age group without the express permission of the LMSC Board.

All players will be expected to bring both a white shirt and a red shirt to all tryouts. Shin guards, soccer shoes and an appropriate sized soccer ball are also required. Under 9 through Under 12 players will need a size 4 ball, U-13 and older will need a size 5 ball.

Players do NOT need to live in Lower Merion Township to be considered for a travel team, nor do they need to have played in LMSC before. All youngsters of the proper age are welcome to tryout.

<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>ELIGIBLE BIRTHDATES</u>	<u>AGE GROUP CONTACT</u>		<u>TRYOUT DATES AND FIELDS</u>		
Boys Under 9	Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986	Biff Sturla	964-9024	May 9, 16	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 10	Aug. 1, 1984 - July 31, 1985	Joe Hopkins	525-0700	April 12, 14	5:00	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 11	Aug. 1, 1983 - July 31, 1984	Kip Lord	667-6533	April 21, 25	5:15	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 12	Aug. 1, 1982 - July 31, 1983	Chris Scott	642-3244	April 19, 26	5:15	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 13	Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982	Bob Rock	525-4681	May 2, 4	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 14	Aug. 1, 1980 - July 31, 1981	Andrew Keech	642-7201	April 16	3:30	Bryn Mawr Polo
Girls Under 9	Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986	John Carson	664-2571	May 3, 5	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 10	Aug. 1, 1984 - July 31, 1985	Chris Campbell	664-0979	May 10, 12	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 11	Aug. 1, 1983 - July 31, 1984	Joe Hopkins	525-0700	April 18, 20	5:00	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 12	Aug. 1, 1982 - July 31, 1983	Lance Laver	668-9844	May 1	4:00	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 13	Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982	Matt Siembeda	664-1183	April 16	9:00	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 14	Aug. 1, 1980 - July 31, 1981	Jim Jakobowski	527-0414	May 14	10:00	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 16	Aug. 1, 1978 - July 31, 1980	John Maley	664-0113	May 7	10:00	So. Ardmore
Girls Under 19	Aug. 1, 1975 - July 31, 1978	John Maley	664-0113	May 7	10:00	So. Ardmore

Welsh Valley Middle School: Hagy's Ford Road in Penn Valley, just off of Conshohocken State Road (Route 23).

South Ardmore Park: In Wynnewood, at the intersection of West Wynnewood Avenue and East Spring Avenue.

Bryn Mawr Polo Field - Old Railroad Avenue and County Line Roads in Bryn Mawr, just south of Lancaster Avenue.

EXPANSION OF OUR FALL INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

In recent years, our Fall Intramural Program has been run for boys and girls ages 5-11. Last fall, we had over 70 boys and girls exactly 11 years of age. Since many of these players would have nowhere to play next fall, we have decided to expand the program for the fall of 1994 to include 12 year olds (those born in 1982).

We hope that the more talented 8-12 year olds will try to move on to the Travel Team Program since we are going to have 'C' division boys teams and 'B' division girls teams in as many age groups as possible.

With the large increase in our youngest girls divisions, we will be adding a new division. In 1994, the girls Neutrons Division will be for 1989 births while the new Microns Division will be for 1988 births. Previously, the Neutrons Division was for both 5 and 6 year olds.

Fall Intramural Program registrations will be sent out to all players born in 1982 or later sometime in June. Please remember that we only guarantee acceptance into the program for registrations received by August 20th. Late registrations will only be accepted if there is room in the program. Last year we had to turn away over 40 players due to late registration. PLEASE do yourself a favor and register early.

EQUIPMENT RECYCLING FOR INNER CITY SOCCER

During the past year, LMSC made several major contributions of soccer clothing and equipment to the Philadelphia P.A.L. Our contributions have assisted in the formation of two inner city soccer programs in South Philadelphia. These programs involve 200 youngsters in U-6 and U-8 coed and U-10 and U-13 boys divisions. As their programs grow, so will their need for shoes, clothing and other soccer equipment. Soccer balls are especially needed because they are given to the children to practice with on their own. PLEASE save any and all outgrown soccer items for these programs.

OUR NEXT COLLECTION will be at the Lower Merion High School cafeteria on Thursday, June 2nd from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The collection will coincide with the annual travel team player registration night. It is anticipated that the Phillie Phanatic will be at this event to meet players and raffle off several soccer balls. Intramural players are also welcome to come to this fun filled event, they should show up in their LMSC jersey.

For more information about this program, call our collection drive chairperson, Marilynne Rose, 664-5260.

BEGINNERS SOCCER COACHING COURSE

As mentioned, we are in big need of having MANY more people to coach in the intramural program. You do not need to have a significant background in soccer, some of our coaches have never played the game. We need people with an interest in working with children. Our program is run by volunteers and we need parent volunteers to continue making the program a success.

This 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. The tentative dates for the course are April 4, 11 and 18 from 6:00 - 9:00 PM at Lower Merion High School.

The course will cover the following topics: Technique, Tactics, Team Management, Care and Prevention Of Injuries, Coaching Methodologies and Laws Of The Game. LMSC will cover the entire cost of the course for those people who coach in the club.

Those people who coached in LMSC last year will be sent a registration form for the course. People new to coaching who would like to take the course should call our hotline to request a registration form.

We will also be offering the more advanced 'E' level coaching course in late April and early May. This course is geared for travel team coaches as well as coaches in our oldest intramural divisions. Veteran LMSC coaches will be sent information about the 'E' level course in a separate mailing.

FIELD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

We are honored to announce that, through the help of Lower Merion Township Commissioners Alan Kessler (Chairman Of the Public Works Committee) and Brian Rosenthal (Chairman of the Recreation Committee), we are attempting to reorganize the playing fields in the township with the objective of acquiring a permanent site for our soccer program.

LMSC encompasses all of the youth soccer that takes place in the township except for two small intramural programs. We are hopeful that the meetings that are taking place will result in a permanent set of fields for the club. On behalf of the soccer playing children in LMSC, we want to commend Commissioners Kessler and Rosenthal for their leadership and initiative.

THIRD ANNUAL LMSC SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

LMSC will run its third annual summer soccer camp from June 27th through July 1st. 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 the 1994 camp season, we anticipate adding a separate advanced division for travel team players.

The camp staff will include many local high school coaches as well as local high school and college players. Mailings for the camp will be sent out in April to LMSC travel team players and intramural players of the proper ages. Anyone not in our Travel Team Program or our Intramural Program who would like more information on the camp should call our hotline.

OTHER SUMMER SOCCER PROGRAMS WE ENDORSE

There are plenty of other soccer camps available to youth soccer players in the local area. The two programs that we have found to be liked best by our travel team players are listed below:

National Olympic Soccer Camp, St. Davids, PA

They run four one week sessions, starting July 4th and running through August 4th. The first two sessions are for "Elite" players, i.e. Premier Division travel team players. The staff includes LMSC Director Biff Sturla. The goalkeeper staff is headed by Gordon Banks, keeper for 1966 World Cup Champion England. For information, call them at 215-230-9575.

Haverford Soccer School, Haverford, PA

They run several one week camps for both travel team players and intramural players in July and August, including a "girls only" session. The camp is run by Haverford College head coach Joe Amorim. For information, call Joe at 896-1123 or write to Haverford Soccer School, Inc., Haverford College, Haverford, PA 19041.

For serious older Premier Division travel team players, we also recommend two non-local camps, those being Post To Post (1-800-552-8439) and Star Strikers School (412-741-1074). Both camps rotate to different sites throughout the USA during the summer months.

WORLD CUP 94 UPDATE

Most of you know that the USA will be one of 24 countries competing for the World Cup in June and July. This event, held once every four years, is the largest sporting event in the world. The 1994 World Cup will be in the USA for the first time ever, it will be held in nine cities with Washington D.C., New York and Boston being the closest.

In the preliminary groupings, the USA will be playing Switzerland (June 18 at the Pontiac Silverdome in Michigan), Columbia (June 22 at the Rose Bowl) and Romania (June 26 at the Rose Bowl).

In the last World Cup, held in Italy in 1990, Germany defeated Argentina 1-0 in the finals.

The February 14th rankings of the World Cup qualifiers, according to FIFA, the world's soccer governing body, along with the latest odds from London of winning the World Cup are as follows:

1. Germany 4-1	10. Sweden 40-1	23. Bulgaria 50-1
2. Brazil 4-1	11. Ireland 40-1	26. Belgium 20-1
3. Holland 7-1	13. Russia 25-1	28. Morocco 150-1
5. Norway 40-1	15. Nigeria 80-1	29. Cameroon 100-1
6. Spain 16-1	17. Mexico 40-1	32. Greece 100-1
7. Italy 9-2	18. Romania 50-1	36. Saudi Arabia 250-1
8. Switzerland 33-1	20. Columbia 10-1	42. South Korea 250-1
9. Argentina 8-1	21. USA 50-1	55. Bolivia 33-1

Denmark (4), England (12), France (14), Uruguay (16), Portugal (19) and Egypt (22) were the top ranked teams not to qualify for the World Cup.

Tickets for all 51 games are sold out. Tickets for the final game on July 17 at the Rose Bowl have a face value of \$400. Tickets for the semi-finals on July 13 at Giants Stadium and at the Rose Bowl have a face value of \$200. The cheapest tickets for preliminary games cost \$65, if you were able to find them. There will be live TV coverage for almost every game.

UNDER 8 BOYS TRAVEL TEAM

Congratulations to our newly formed Under 8 boys Developmental Travel Team on winning their last two indoor tournaments and placing second in another. This has been the best showing by a U-8 team in four years. Members of this awesome team include:

Anakwe, Toby	Kendall, Mak	Pearlman, Eric
Block, Kevin	Krotec, Nick	Shilcock-Elliott, K.
Campbell, Chris	Laury, Leland	Stein, Eddie
Cantor, Brad	Leto, F.J.	Walling, Chris
Cooper, Noah	Luongo, Michael	Witte, Ryan
Havens, Robert	Miller, Blake	Zeller, Luke
Howley, Matthew	Partridge, Bryan	
Hurtado, Bryan	Passarelli, Chris	