

LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

1995 SPRING NEWSLETTER

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

1995 SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

Enclosed with this newsletter is information about our 1995 Spring Intramural Program which will be held for boys and girls born between August 1, 1987 and December 31, 1990. The program starts on April 23rd and runs every Sunday through June 25, except for Memorial Day Weekend.

Players do NOT need to have prior soccer experience to play in the Spring Intramural Program. Players do NOT have to live in Lower Merion Township to participate.

TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUTS

Also enclosed in this newsletter is the schedule for our 1995 / 1996 Travel Team tryouts, including names of people to contact if you require additional information. The tryouts are for the 1995 / 1996 season which will start in late August.

Participants in the Travel Team Program must be at least 8 years of age as of August 1st, 1995. We plan to field three boys teams in each age group from Under 9 through Under 14. We plan to have two girls teams in age groups Under 9 through Under 14 and one team at U-16, U-17 and U-19.

Players do NOT have to live in Lower Merion Township to play in the Travel Team Program, nor do they need to have played for LMSC before.

Anyone born in 1982 or later who does not make a travel team will be eligible to play in the Fall Intramural Program. Registrations will be sent out in late June.

LMSC PHONE HOTLINE

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.

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INDOOR STATE CUPS RESULTS

So far this winter, two of our Premier Travel Teams have reached the semifinals of their Indoor State Cups.

Our U-13 boys team, the Sharks, had their best success ever, reaching the semifinals by defeating Hulmeville Soccer Club in the semifinals 4-0. Hulmeville won the Indoor State Cup two years ago. The standout players for the Sharks were Josh Hollinger, Tag Boyle and Ted Hart whose creativity on offense gave the Sharks victories over West Chester and Nether Providence in preliminary games.

Goalkeeper Brooks Ching anchored the defense, coming up with many key saves throughout the tournament. His shutout play against Hulmeville in the quarterfinals advanced the Sharks to the semifinals against Danubia from Philadelphia.

The two teams battled it out through regulation and into overtime where Danubia scored. Danubia wound up winning the tournament, but their toughest game was clearly the one against Lower Merion.

Also reaching the semifinals were the Under 12 boys, the Lunatics. The Lunatics opened against St. Bedes and were up 1-0 on a goal by Adam Chesbrough. St. Bedes came back with two goals to take the lead in the last minute of play. The Lunatics pressed for the equalizer and got it with only 29 seconds left on a 15 yard rocket shot by Erik Blindenbacher.

The Lunatics then destroyed York United 5-0 on goals by Ryan Gutzler, Richard Zeller and Adam Chesbrough and shutout goaltending by David Hanlon. After tying Yardley Morrisville 2-2, the Lunatics advanced to the semifinals against Super Nova from Harrisburg.

Super Nova put in two goals but Zeller responded with one for the Lunatics who pressed hard to tie it up. Zeller hit the goal post on a shot and Chesbrough missed by an inch. Time ran out for the Lunatics and Super Nova advanced to the finals where they defeated Mayfair 2-1 to earn the state championship crown.

Super Nova is a new high level premier club whose players each pay their coach \$100 a month to play for a paid, full time professional coach.

During the winter season, the Lunatics won 4 of their 6 tournaments at Woodhaven, giving them 22 total indoor championships in their team history, to go along with their 11 outdoor tournament championships.

Our U-16 and U-19 teams have their Indoor State Cups scheduled after this newsletter went to publishing.

LMSC EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORM SUPPLIER

As most of you know, Sneaky Pete's Discount Sneakers (49 West Lancaster Avenue in Ardmore, 642-4470) carries our full line of our intramural and travel team game shorts and game socks.

In addition, they handle all our catalog items, including LMSC sweat suits, polo shirts, jackets, equipment bags, soccer balls and our LMSC hat (made by Game).

While Travel Team players can purchase game jerseys at Sneaky Pete's, they must still coordinate their uniform numbers with their 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.

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. In 1994, our U-12 boys team, the LMSC Lunatics won the U-11 Outdoor State Championship, giving LMSC its fifth State Championship since 1989.

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

In the past six seasons, LMSC has had 16 teams make it to the semifinals of State Cups, including the five State Champions:

Year	Age group	Birth year	Team	Result
1995	U-12 boys	(82/83s)	Lunatics	indoor semifinals
1995	U-13 boys	(81/82s)	Sharks	indoor semifinals
1994	U-11 boys	(82/83s)	Lunatics	outdoor Champions
1994	U-11 girls	(82/83s)	Firebirds	outdoor finalists
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

UNDER 8 BOYS TRAVEL TEAM

Congratulations to our newly formed Under 8 boys Developmental Travel Team on winning two indoor tournaments this winter and placing second out of 16 teams in an outdoor tournament sponsored by the Hulmeville Soccer Club. Members of this awesome team include:

Adler, Alex	Grauman, Zach	Panidis, Panos
Calvello, Stefano	Hayward, C.J.	Rubin, Mike
Day, Tim	Heuisler, Tim	Schildhorn, Brett
Fairman, Alex	Kahn, Alex	Shaw, John
Frank, Morgan	Mayernick, Steve	Switkay, Tyler
Goldberg, Michael	Munabi, Tunji	Weiss, Danny
Goldmann, Jon	O'Rourke, Corey	Westman, Max

Coaches: Biff Sturla, Richard Dahl

LMSC 1995 / 1996 TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT INFORMATION

Each year, LMSC holds tryouts in the spring for their fall season travel teams. The 1995 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 three teams in each boys age group and a minimum of one girls team in each age group. We will field two girls teams in age groups where there is a sufficient turnout of players. The formation of all teams is conditional upon a qualified coach being identified.

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, 1986 - July 31, 1987	Biff Sturla	964-9024	May 15, 22	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 10	Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986	Josh Krotec	525-8860	April 25, 27	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 11	Aug. 1, 1984 - July 31, 1985	Joe Hopkins	525-0700	April 17, 20	5:00	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 12	Aug. 1, 1983 - July 31, 1984	Kip Lord	667-6533	May 4, 8	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 13	Aug. 1, 1982 - July 31, 1983	Chris Scott	642-3244	May 17, 24	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 14	Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982	Bob Rock	525-4681	May 19	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 9	Aug. 1, 1986 - July 31, 1987	Julie Kessel	232-6424	May 10	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 10	Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986	John Carson	664-2571	April 25, May 1	5:30	So. Ardmore
Girls Under 11	Aug. 1, 1984 - July 31, 1985	Chris Campbell	664-0979	May 1, 3	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 12	Aug. 1, 1983 - July 31, 1984	Tony Greaves	642-2325	April 18, 20	5:30	So. Ardmore
Girls Under 13	Aug. 1, 1982 - July 31, 1983	Lance Laver	668-9844	April 22	3:00	Haverford Coll.
Girls Under 14	Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982	Matt Siembeda	664-1183	April 22	1:30	Haverford Coll.
Girls Under 16	Aug. 1, 1979 - July 31, 1981	Jim Jakobowski	527-0414	April 24	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 19	Aug. 1, 1976 - July 31, 1979	John Maley	664-0113	April 24	5:30	Welsh Valley

Welsh Valley Middle School: Hagys 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.

Haverford College - On Lancaster Avenue in Haverford, drive around to back of the school.

WINTER LEAGUE UPDATE

Our two oldest boys teams are both enjoying a lot of success as they finish up the Delco League's winter

seasons (for teams U-15 through U-19). The Under 16 team, coached by Joe Hopkins, is currently 6-0-1, having scored 39 goals while only allowing 5. The U-19 Gorillas, coached by Biff Sturla have clinched first place in the regular season with a 6-1-0 record. They have outscored their opponents 37-8.

Both teams will be starting the league playoffs when the fields once again become playable. Our winter league teams are comprised of the top area high school players, many of whom earned all league honors during the scholastic season this past fall.

UPDATING OUR FALL SEASON FIELD SITUATION

In our winter newsletter, we talked about how a lack of field space has severely limited our ability to provide adequate practice space for all of our travel and intramural teams. In that newsletter we mentioned that we were going to try and avoid cutting back or eliminating the various programs that we offer to our 2000 plus soccer players.

We are very pleased to announce that, thanks to the efforts of Township Commissioners Alan Kessler (Chairman Of the Public Works Committee) and Brian Rosenthal (Chairman of the Recreation Committee), along with the relentless work of Recreation Manager Mike English, we have secured an additional field for the 1995 fall season. The new acquisition is Bala Cynwyd Park.

Obviously, the search is still in full throttle regarding securing another year round field which is desperately needed. Additionally, private institutions such as Haverford College, run by athletic director Greg Kannerstein have offered us fields for our usage on an as needed basis.

The ongoing public meetings regarding athletic facilities are always attended by the LMSC Directors and other service providers on the one hand, and a roomful of our outspoken opponents on the other. Why do we have opponents? Talk to your Civic Association and check out their position. Does it agree with your position? It may surprise you. Get the facts and get involved. We need your support at upcoming athletic fields public meetings.

Thanks again to Alan, Brian and Mike. Because of their efforts, we do not anticipate having to cut back on any of our planned programs for the 1995 fall season.

EXPANSION OF OUR FALL INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

Since we have been able to acquire more fields for the 1995 fall season, we will be expanding our oldest divisions (boys Majors Division and girls Cosmos Division) to include 13 year olds in 1995. The Majors Division will be open to boys born in 1984, 83 and 82. The Cosmos Division will be open to girls of the same birth years.

We hope that the more talented 8-13 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.

Fall Intramural Program registrations will be sent out to all players born in 1982 or later in late 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. Due to the size of the program and the headaches involved in administering it, we will most likely be **NOT** be accepting late registrations in the older divisions.

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.

We will be offering a United States Soccer Federation 'E' level coaching course, geared for those people coaching teams of players ages 7 years of age and older. The tentative dates for the course are April 5, 10, 12, 17, 19 and 26 all from 6:30 - 9:30 PM at Gladwyne Elementary School.

We will be also be offering the U.S.S.F.'s 'F' level coaching course in the fall.

Each course covers the following topics: Technique, Tactics, Team Management, Care and Prevention Of Injuries, Coaching Methodologies and Soccer Laws.

LMSC will cover the entire cost of the course for those people who coach in the club. If you would like to take the course, call our hotline to request a registration form.

ANNOUNCING A REFEREE CERTIFICATION COURSE

We will be sponsoring an 18 hour EPSARC referee course this spring leading to certification to referee travel team games. No experience is required, the only requirement is that you must be at least 14 years old.

The course will be held over six nights, each night running three hours. There is a 100 question exam that must be passed to gain certification.

The course will run from 6:30 - 9:30 PM at Lower Merion High School on:

Wed. April 5	Thurs. April 20
Thurs. April 6	Wed. April 26
Wed. April 19	Thurs. April 27

The cost for the course is \$50, payable to EPSARC. This is a non-reimbursable fee although the moneys earned through reffing will quickly pay for the course.

Anyone interested in this course should send their check before March 27 to Dan Sutton, 401 Kent Road, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004. For more information about the course, call Dan at 610-664-4890.

OUR TWO SUMMER CAMPS: ADVANCED AND NOVICE

This spring, LMSC will be running two soccer camps. For the first time, LMSC will be sponsoring a camp for advanced players, the Pennsylvania Freedom / LMSC soccer camp. This camp will ONLY be open to 'A' and 'B' level travel team players and will be run by the Pennsylvania Freedom professional soccer team. The coaching staff will include many of Freedom players.

For the fourth straight year, Bob Davidson, head coach of the boys varsity team at Lower Merion High School will be running a camp for boys and girls ages 7-12 who play at the intramural level and lower travel team level. This camp will be held from June 26th through June 29th. The camp staff will include many local high school coaches as well as local high school and college players.

Both camps will be held at Welsh Valley Middle School in Penn Valley. Mailings for the two camps 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 either of the camps should call our hotline.

OTHER SUMMER SOCCER CAMPS 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 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.

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 several inner city soccer programs in South Philadelphia involving several hundred boys and girls.

As these 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 **Wednesday, June 7th** 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 once again 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 the equipment recycling program, call our collection drive chairperson, Marilynne Rose, 664-5260.