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## CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

***Maureen Dalbec, Chairman MYS***

As many of us gathered with family and friends to celebrate Thanksgiving and reflect on all that we have to be thankful for, it seems only appropriate that I take a moment to thank everyone of our members for supporting MYS and all of the incredible volunteers from age group coordinators to coaches and to Board and committee members who make playing soccer in our community possible.

Although it's been a very wet season it has been a great season with several State Cup finalists and champions and a lot of end of season tournament and all star champion teams in our recreation program, too. We are truly blessed with an incredible and talented soccer program in McLean.

It is with great sadness that MYS learned of the tragic death of Kenneth Ray "KJ" Rowe, a player on the MPS Thunder team. MYS sends our sincerest condolences to the Rowe family and to all those who were touched and fortunate to know KJ.

As the year rounds to a close I also want to remind everyone of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which will be held in March 2010. Among other things, the membership will vote on the slate of nominees for the 2010 MYS Board of Directors. MYS is always looking for dedicated volunteers so if you have an interest in serving on the Board or just volunteering with the club please let me know. Look for future announcements about the AGM and open Board positions.

In the meantime, if you have a player at home who is kicking the soccer ball against the wall remember MYS offers the Winter Ball Master training program and it's not too late to sign up. Also, registration for the spring 2010 season will begin in mid-December and we hope you will return for another season of fun and success on the pitch.

Thank you again for your continued support of MYS. I hope your holidays are filled with joy and laughter and may the good things in life be yours in the New Year. And one final plug, if you are looking for a gift for your favorite soccer player or fan, please consider purchasing a raffle ticket and the chance to win some great prizes and help support the Development Academy scholarship fund.

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## TWO MPS TEAMS CAPTURE STATE CUP TITLES!

***Dragons and Strikers Prevail in Championship Games***

Two McLean Premier Soccer (MPS) teams from McLean Youth Soccer won State Cup titles in championship games played on November 8<sup>th</sup>.

The U18 Girls MPS Dragons defeated Loudoun Red by a score of 1-0 in the final held at Chinn Park in Woodbridge. On their way capturing the title, the Dragons recorded 3 shutouts and only allowed one goal against in four games while tallying 11 scores of their own. The Dragons also won the State Cup as a U16 squad.

The U16 Girls MPS Strikers prevailed against top-seeded Chantilly Burn by a score of 2-1 in the final held at Striker Park in Glen Allen. The Strikers, coached by MPS Technical Director Clyde Watson and German Peri, outscored their four opponents by a combined score of 19 to 3. The victory over Chantilly avenged last year's loss to the Burn in the U15 finals. Visit Potomac Soccer Wire website to see video clips of the Strikers' win - <http://www.potomacsoccerwire.com/news/458/8723>

The U18 Boys MPS Premier fell in their final to top-seeded Great Fall in a final that was deadlocked at the end of regulation and was ultimately decided on penalty kicks.

The VYSA State Champion MPS Dragons and MPS Strikers s will play in the Region I Regional Championship Tournament to be held July 1-6, 2010, in Huntington, West Virginia. The Region I winners go on to play the US Youth Soccer National Championships to be held July 19 -25, 2010, in Overland Park, Kansas.

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## US SOCCER DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY RAFFLE

### ***Join the MYS Coaches and Help Support This Effort***

The MYS/MPS coaches will be holding the 1st Annual Coaches Raffle to support the MYS U.S. Soccer Development Academy Scholarship Fund.

All proceeds will go to the MYS U.S. Soccer Development Academy Scholarship Fund in support of players.

The Development Academy is a partnership between U.S. Soccer and the top youth clubs around the country and provides the best youth players in the United States an environment designed to produce the next generation of Men's National Team players.

At this time we welcome your help by donating items to our raffle. Your assistance can take the form of individual or corporate donations. Items already donated for the raffle include:

- 42" Samsung Plasma HDTV
- Washington Freedom season tickets
- Gifts certificates to local restaurants.
- Three, one hour skills training session with MPS trainers/coaches.
- Stained wood vanity & countertop

To make a tax deductible donation or if you have any questions regarding the fund raising raffle, please contact Marcelo Valencia at [marcelo@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:marcelo@mcleansoccer.org) or at 703-309-5621. Please provide your name, mailing address and email contact when submitting your donation to Marcelo.

Thank you for your help and cooperation and please look soon for the sale of raffle tickets by Academy players. Tickets will also be available to download and mail-in on the MYS website.

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## SAD NEWS TO REPORT

### ***MYS Player Killed in Automobile Accident***

We regret to report that tragedy struck the MYS family during the early morning hours of Thanksgiving Day, when Kenneth Ray "K.J." Rowe Jr. of Fredericksburg, who played for the MPS U18/19 Thunder, died of injuries suffered in a single vehicle crash.

K.J. loved soccer and had been playing since he was 5 years old. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kenneth R. Rowe Jr. Memorial Fund, c/o Carter Bank and Trust, 175 Warrenton Road, Falmouth, Va. 22405.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Kenneth's family, friends and teammates at this most difficult time. May your memories of KJ bring you peace and comfort now and in the days ahead.

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## WINTER BALLMASTERS

Registration is still open for MYS' Premier Soccer Academy Ballmasters Winter Training Program. All players in all programs ages U9 thru U19 are eligible to register for either or both of the Winter Sessions.

### **Session 1: November 22 to December 20, 2009 – 5 Weeks - Fee is \$65.00**

All sessions will be held outdoors at Spring Hill, Field #2, which is the all weather turf field directly behind the Recreation Center. Please check the website for schedule changes.

### **Session 2: January 10 to February 28, 2010 – 8 Weeks**

**Fee is \$100 for all outdoor sessions** (ages U12 and older) at Spring Hill, Field #2.

**Fee is \$150 for players U9-U11, which will be held Indoors** at Churchill Elementary School Gym.

MYS PSA Ballmasters will provide the best learning environment, social, and competitive training opportunity for players at every level. The sessions will be conducted by what is widely recognized as the finest professional coaching staff in Northern Virginia.

**Three distinct programs will be offered for all player levels:**

- [Goalkeeper Training](#)
- [U12-U19 Rec, Travel and MPS](#)
- [U9-U11](#) (Field & Keeper Training)\*

*\*Session 2 of Girls and Boys U9 to U11 Ballmasters program will be held indoors. All other sessions of the Ballmasters program will be conducted outdoors at Spring Hill, Field #2.*

Please click below to register.

## Winter 2009-2010 Ballmasters Registration

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# MAKE GOAL SAFETY A TOP PRIORITY

## ***A Message from VYSA and MYS***

All Coaches, Parents and Players are asked to pay close attention to the safety of the goals on the fields you are using and to ensure that all participants practice care and caution around goals.

- Securely anchor or counterweight movable soccer goals at ALL times.
- Check for structural integrity and proper connecting hardware before every use. Replace damaged or missing parts or fasteners immediately.
- NEVER allow anyone to climb on the net or goal framework.
- Always exercise extreme caution when moving goals and allow adequate manpower to move goals of varied sizes and weights.
- Always instruct players on the safe handling of and potential dangers associated with movable soccer goals.
- Movable soccer goals should only be used on LEVEL (flat) fields.

Please remain diligent in your efforts to make sure that goals are secure from falling and that players are protected. Please help make sure our players are safe! If you believe a goal is potentially unsafe, please contact MYS immediately.

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## NEWS & NOTEWORTHY

### **U.S. Soccer Development Academy**

- The MYS Academy U15/16 is currently tied for second place in the South Conference Atlantic Division with 2 wins and 3 losses and 1 tie in division play.
- The MYS Academy U17/U18 team stands atop the South Conference Atlantic Division with 2 wins and 1 loss and 3 ties in division play.

**To keep up with Academy Results visit:**

[http://ussda.demosphere.com/Standings/index\\_E.html](http://ussda.demosphere.com/Standings/index_E.html)

Coaches and Managers please let us know about your team's accomplishments so we can make sure they get the recognition they deserve. Please send news about your team's season successes, tournament triumphs and other noteworthy accomplishments to Mike Slavik at [communications@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:communications@mcleansoccer.org). Thanks!

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# FIELD DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (FDI) UPDATE

## ***Ongoing Efforts Continue***

MYS continues to proactively explore opportunities to improve the field situation throughout McLean by adding turf fields or other facility enhancements that will benefit our players. We remain committed to responsibly developing these opportunities in ways that meet the club's needs for increased, premium field capacity and availability while being cognizant of the concerns of those outside the MYS community. We look forward to being able to share some exciting news on these developments in the near future.

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## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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### **The 2009 Highlander Holiday Bazaar:**

A Community Event sponsored by McLean HS Boosters

Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am-3:00 pm at McLean High School

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### **Spring Season Registration Begins:**

December 15, 2009

Early discount period 12-15 thru 1-15-2010.

If you have questions, please email [admin@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:admin@mcleansoccer.org)

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### **First Deadline for Spring Season Financial Aid:**

January 2, 2010

Send questions to: [financialaid@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:financialaid@mcleansoccer.org)

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### **Second Session of Winter Ballmasters Begins:**

January 10, 2010

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### **Virginia Youth Soccer Convention**

VYSA will hold its annual Soccer Convention (Workshop and Awards Luncheon) on January 22 and 23, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington.

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### **WAGS TSL Training (for more information visit WAGS website)**

January 24, 2010 - 2:00pm-5:00pm, Sheraton Washington North

January 26, 2010 - 7:00pm-9:30pm, Sheraton Washington North

January 30, 2010 - 9:00am-11:30am. Hotel Monaco, Alexandria

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[communications@mcleansoccer.org](mailto:communications@mcleansoccer.org)