



Crystal Lake Soccer Federation

Korner Kick

Spring 2012 Edition

Vol. XXXV No. 3

www.clsf.org

815/477-clsf(2573)

CLSF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 14	Rec League Opening Day U5-U14
April 15	Boys Rec HSSL Season Opens
May 1	Registration begins for 2012-13 season
June 15	Last Day to Register for 2012-13 Season



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Schofield – President

As the mild winter quickly gives way to spring, the CLSF turns its attention to the start of our new season on Saturday, April 14. We're excited to welcome many new players who are joining us for the spring season. At the youth recreational levels there are 80 new players and we're adding 6 new teams as a result. This growth reflects the strength and value of our overall program, which is based on the high quality level of our offerings (recreational, academy, competitive) that we are able to deliver at a relatively low cost.

We are also busy planning for the next soccer year in 2012-2013. Registration begins on May 1st. Tryouts for the CLSF **Force** competitive program are coming up in May and June. More details are provided in the related articles in this edition and also on our www.clsf.org website.

At our Annual Meeting in February we held elections for our Board of Directors. Please join me in welcoming new Board member Dave Besterfeldt, and also in welcoming back Board members Steve Scarfe and Dan Quinn to new three-year terms.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our departing Board member Paul Kramer for his dedication and service to the CLSF. As Director of Competitive Teams for the past two years, Paul worked hard to ensure that the perspectives of the Force players and parents were well represented in the Competitive program decisions and overall direction. We wish Paul well as he turns his focus to his new hobby as the front man for a rock and roll band.

Thanks as well to all of you for your continued support of our soccer program, we truly appreciate it. I wish you good luck in the upcoming spring season.

Introducing your Crystal Lake Soccer Federation Board of Directors and Staff:

Steve Schofield - President
Tracy Dayton -Vice President / Secretary
Eric Bertalon - Treasurer
Donna Bertalon – Assistant Treasurer
Dave Besterfeldt – Fields
Jack Bragg – At Large
Greg Cole – Newsletter Editor
Derek Gablenz - Safety
Bernadine Hansen – Concessions
Bob Hansen – Recreational Teams
Dan Quinn – Website
Steve Scarfe – Competitive Teams

Staff

Greg Cole – Administrator
Dan Quinn – Director of Coaching and Player Development
Bob Hansen – Referee Development

BOB HANSEN NAMED IYSA ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to CLSF Board Member Bob Hansen who was chosen as the Illinois Youth Soccer Association's Administrator of the year.

CLSF SATISFACTION SURVEY

Steve Schofield - CLSF president

At our annual meeting in February we published the overall results of the CLSF satisfaction survey. The first table below shows the level of satisfaction with the various aspects of the CLSF. In each category a majority of respondents indicated they are either satisfied or very satisfied with the programs we offer.

How satisfied are you with these aspects of CLSF?	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Not Satisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Quality of coaching your player received?	42.9%	41.8%	8.2%	6.3%	0.7%
Quality of the uniforms?	38.7%	48.7%	7.1%	3.7%	1.9%
Quality of the game fields?	32.2%	55.7%	6.8%	3.8%	1.5%
Level of competition in the games?	28.7%	57.0%	11.3%	2.3%	0.8%
Communication you receive from the coach for your team?	41.6%	39.7%	9.0%	7.9%	1.9%
Professional training from paid trainers?	33.3%	45.3%	16.1%	4.5%	0.7%
Professionalism and courtesy of CLSF representatives?	32.6%	46.4%	15.0%	4.5%	1.5%
Quality of the practice fields/facilities?	29.9%	50.0%	12.3%	6.7%	1.1%
Customer service provided by the organization?	23.9%	49.3%	19.8%	4.9%	2.2%
Camps and other special training?	22.2%	45.1%	27.1%	4.9%	0.8%
Quality of referees?	15.2%	49.6%	27.3%	6.4%	1.5%
Cost of the program?	13.8%	56.3%	18.7%	8.6%	2.6%
Indoor league play? (Force only)	14.0%	42.6%	36.0%	7.4%	0.0%
Tryouts? (Force only)	15.5%	43.9%	23.0%	12.2%	5.4%
Indoor training? (Force only)	14.0%	27.9%	41.9%	13.2%	2.9%

While we are very encouraged by this feedback, we also have a goal of continuously improving the programs we offer. To that end we are taking action on the areas for improvement mentioned most often in the written responses. The second table below highlights the top 5 areas, the number of times they were mentioned, a summary description of the issue, and the next action we plan to take to address each concern.

Most Mentioned Areas for Improvement (# times mentioned)
<i>Description of issue / concern</i> Next Action to address the concern
1. Provide Fall Season Option for Recreational Program (29) <i>Requirement to register for both fall and spring limits flexibility for other spring sports</i> Action: Board to investigate feasibility of Fall-only option, potential pilot in 2012
2. Force Tryout Process (24) <i>Player evaluation process; pushing players up a level; adding players post-tryouts</i> Action: further develop tryout procedures and adhere to them; enhance communication

3. Lippold Parking Issues (22) <i>Insufficient parking availability on Saturdays; Issues with gravel lot</i> Action: Form committee to collaborate with CL Park District on parking improvement ideas
4. Poor conditions / drainage on some game fields (19) <i>Most comments directed toward U7/U8 fields on the hill; muddy / poor drainage</i> Action: Assign board member or committee, consider contracting for professional services
5. Recreational Program Cost (18) <i>Some comments that Rec program cost is not in line with other organized activities</i> Action: improve communication of CLSF value as compared with costs for other activities

Thank you again for taking the time to give us your valuable feedback. We will keep you posted on our progress in these areas and we appreciate your continued support.

REGISTRATION FOR THE FALL 2012 – SPRING 2013 SEASON

Greg Cole – Registrar

Registration for the Fall 2012-Spring 2013 Season begins May 1. Register online at www.clsf.org and follow the instructions which will be posted on the Home page. If you encounter difficulties registering online you may stop by Soccerhouse on Saturdays from 9AM to 3 PM, beginning April 14 and continuing through June 2. Thereafter, online registration continues through June 15.

At this time the Board is working on our budget for the upcoming season. The Board is making every attempt to hold the line on expenditures in an attempt to keep the fee structure the same as last season. CLSF has not raised rec fees in 5 years, however rising costs may make it necessary for us to increase the base fee slightly. There will be an increase in the base fee for those players not registered by June 15.

During the latter part of the Spring 2012 Season, recreational League coaches will receive a list of current players rostered on their team who have not registered. Coaches will be asked to remind those players to register by the **deadline June 15, 2011**. Players who do not register by June 15 and desire to participate will be placed on a waiting list. CLSF cannot guaranty anyone on the waiting list a roster spot for the 2012-13 Season. Those players will be subject to the increased base fee rate.

GIRLS REC HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER LEAGUE REGISTRATION (Ages U15-U19, Grades 9-12)

Ken Hopp – Girls Rec H.S.S.L. Coordinator

Registration for the Fall 2012 season of the Girls Rec High School Soccer League (H.S.S.L.) begins May 1. Registration is via our website www.clsf.org.

Teams play in the Northern Illinois High School Recreational Soccer League (NIHSRSL) also known as the BLACKMORE LEAGUE in honor of the league's founder. The league is made up of approximately 16 teams from local communities which participate in scheduling matches. League matches are played on Sundays. Home matches are played at Lippold Park. CLSF teams will travel to play some games in opposing teams' communities. The season begins the end of August and runs through the last weekend in October.

Girls NIHSRSL teams may also participate in League sponsored tournaments. The scheduling and location of such tournaments is by the NIHSRSL and not under the control of CLSF. Participation in tournaments is determined by each CLSF team's coach. Traditionally three tournaments are offered throughout the season. Some additional costs may be incurred by players depending on tournament participation and selection of uniforms.

BE SAFE THIS SPRING

Derek Gablenz, Director of Safety

As the soccer season approaches we want to direct your attention at a few important safety items. First, make sure your player eats properly and has plenty of water before attending soccer practice. Keep them dressed appropriately, especially early in the season as the temperature drops quickly in the evening. Secondly, take all complaints from your player seriously especially when it concerns head injuries. Concussions can occur rather easily especially at the younger ages. Be aware if your player complains of the following: being confused, blurry vision, headache and nausea. If your son or daughter has had a concussion in the past it is a good idea to remind their coach so that if something happens they can be more sensitive to a potential incident. Have a great spring season!

APRIL IS NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Robin Jacobs, IOLS Blue Ribbon Campaign Coordinator

Each year in April, the president of the United States issues a proclamation to announce National Child Abuse Prevention Month. This month and throughout the year, **It's Our Little Secret** (IOLS; a registered 501

(C) (3) Charity) encourages all individuals and our community to play a role in making Crystal Lake and other cities across the nation a better place for all children and families. By ensuring that parents have the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to care for their children, we can help promote children's social and emotional well being and prevent child abuse and neglect within families and communities. Please join our **2012 Blue Ribbon Campaign** to celebrate our children and learn ways to keep them safe and our families strong! You can get your own Blue Ribbon or Blue wristband in person on **April 21st** starting at 9:00 am in front of the Crystal Lake Soccerhouse at Lippold Park. Then, on **April 29th** bring your family and friends to join us in our annual "**Race for Change**" Run/Walk event at Deicke Park, Huntley.

For other locations to get Blue Ribbons, wristbands, and community packets, register for the race, or find out how you can get more involved, visit our website at: www.itsourlittlesecret.org

Together we can all make a difference!

DONATE USED SOCCER GEAR TO "LACES"

One of our CLSF families will be heading to Monrovia, Liberia to work with the LACES organization (www.lacesport.com). LACES is a group that has formed youth soccer leagues to teach the sport while also teaching youth good morals and values. As you get ready for the spring season to begin and clean out your old, too small soccer gear, consider donating your equipment (soccer shoes, shin guards, and balls) to children who are in need. Donated items may be dropped off at Soccerhouse beginning opening day April 14. Thanks for your help!

ASK REF BOB

Bob Hansen, Referee Development

There are only 17 laws in the game of soccer, but there are infinite situations that can occur which can cause a lot of confusion. This section of the Corner Kick hopefully will be used to reduce the confusion. In order for ASK REF BOB to be successful I need your help. I need you to send me questions. The questions can be anything you want as long as they are related to soccer. I will answer all questions, but I will choose the ones that I think will benefit the most people to print here in the Corner Kick. To send me your questions email them to refbob@sbcglobal.net and put ASK REF BOB in the subject area. I am also considering holding a couple of ASK REF BOB nights at Soccerhouse during the season. Is this something

you would be interested in? Please email me with your opinion on having such nights. To begin I am answering three questions that seem to come up at the beginning of every season.

1.Can players tape over jewelry, or do they have to remove it altogether?

Jewelry **CANNOT** be worn at all. Every year I hear, "I just got my ears pierced, I can't take them out." "I thought I could play if I taped them." The answer is no you cannot play, so please don't get your ears pierced before the season starts. The referees feel bad when they tell young players that they cannot play. There are two exceptions to "no jewelry allowed." They are medical alert and religious jewelry. These can be worn if they are taped to the body. In the case of medical alert jewelry the medical information must be left visible.

2.Can players play with a cast if it's well wrapped in foam and padding?

The answer to this question is different for competitive teams and CLSF recreational teams. For CLSF rec teams a player can play with a cast under two conditions. First, the referee must consider the cast to be properly padded. This means the cast must be well wrapped with foam and no metal fasteners. The second condition is there must be a note from a doctor stating that the player has permission to play. This note must be present at all games. For competitive teams, each league has its own rules. The IWSL rule is Plaster of Paris or similar material casts are not allowed - no exceptions. Braces and other casts are at the referee's discretion. The NISL does not specify any special conditions regarding casts, therefore the FIFA rule would apply. The FIFA rule is that nothing that is dangerous to any player is allowed. Therefore, it would be up to the referee to decide if the player could play.

3.What age groups enforce offside?

This also has a different answer for competitive and rec. CLSF rec teams enforce offside at all age levels except U5 (pre-school) and U-6 (kindergarten); the IWSL at all levels except the U-8 pugg level; and the NISL at U-10 and older.

I hope you found this column beneficial and will send in your questions.

CLSF CELL PHONE RECYCLING FUNDRAISER

Money will be earned for each recycled phone. Please drop off your old cell phones at:
Soccerhouse
Or
BOB HANSEN – 4605 DANIEL DRIVE, CRYSTAL LAKE

If you know of a business that will serve as a drop off location, contact Bob Hansen at refbob@sbcglobal.net

SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE/REMOTE PARKING PICKUP Greg Cole - Administrator

If a family member or friend is handicapped and needs assistance accessing the fields, golf car rides may be obtained at Soccerhouse. This service is also available to families with small children who may have to park in outlying parking lots at Lippold. If you find yourself in this situation, please use your cell phone to contact us at Soccerhouse 459-2573, and we will send someone out to pick you up.

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS CLSF SHOPPING DAY

As a Proud Partner of the Crystal Lake Soccer Association, Dick's Sporting Goods wants to recognize your dedication by extending an exclusive invitation to a one-day league shopping event at the Algonquin, IL Dick's Sporting Goods store location on **Saturday, March 24, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Every CLSF member attending this event will receive a Soccer team packet with discount coupons for soccer equipment. In addition to the team packet discounts, you will receive a coupon giving you an additional 15% off your entire purchase on that day. Please bring the enclosed flier with you to the event. You will need it to pick up your packets and discount coupon at the store. We hope that you will take advantage of this shopping event, and show support for our sponsor and receive great products at a great savings!

PATRONIZE OUR SPONSORS

DICK'S SPORTING GOODS

and

SPORTS AUTHORITY