



# Crystal Lake Soccer Federation

# Korner Kick

Summer 2005 Edition

## CLSF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 8-12	Coaches Meetings
August 15, 17 & 19	Rec Coaching Clinics U6-U14
August 15	CLSF Monthly Board Meeting
September 10	Rec League Opening Day U6-U14
September 17	Picture Day/Raffle Tickets Distributed
September 19	CLSF Monthly Board Meeting
October 1	Raffle Drawing & Cookout
October 17	CLSF Monthly Board Meeting
October 29	Fall Season Ends Season



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Margie Johansson – President

As I sit writing this in the comfort of air conditioning, knowing that the intense summer heat exists on the other side of the door, I find myself hoping that the current weather trend takes a cooler turn before teams begin to meet for practice and pre season camp. It seems a bit ironic because I seem to remember waking up every weekend during the spring soccer season hoping this would be the weekend the weather was finally *warm* enough! In spite of the heat and dry conditions, I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. We have been busy making plans for the fall. Soon the coaches will meet, rosters, schedules & uniforms will be passed out; teams will meet, and again, rosters, schedules and uniforms will be passed out ... before you know it we will be in the midst of another season of soccer.

We did have a couple of new things take place this summer. The First Ever Round Robin Recreational

Tournament took place in June. Twenty teams participated on what turned out to be the nicest game day of the spring season. It was a very fun day and everyone went home a winner with a trophy to prove it. We also held our first summer soccer camp this past week. Thirty six kids participated and we're told had a great experience.

We will be hosting a Crestline 3v3 tournament the weekend of August 12-14. Volunteers are needed – please lend a hand if you have a couple of hours to spare.

The Board of Directors welcomes two new members; Joanne Magnuson who will be in charge of Concessions, and Bernadine Hansen a self-proclaimed Fund Raising guru will take over the Fundraising position. Thank you both for volunteering and we look forward to seeing what you can add to this already great program.

Always on the move, we have new and exciting things in the works. Look forward to seeing improvements in the areas of our Website (both CLSF & CL Force), Safety & First Aid, Coaches Education & Training, Player & Team Training, Fundraising and everyone's favorite Concessions. The Directors in each of these areas could use a few good volunteers to share the load. You can volunteer through the website at CLSF.org, or by calling 815-477-2573. Please join us & help out in some capacity– you'll be glad you did.

## **COACHES' MEETINGS & DRAFTS**

Greg Cole – Administrator

Following is the schedule for the Rec League Coaches Meetings to be held at Soccerhouse located in the Lippold Park Soccer Complex. All meetings will begin at 7 PM:

Mon., August 8: U9 and U10 Coaches Meeting

Tues., August 9: U12 and U14 Coaches Meeting, followed by U14 draft.  
Wed., August 10: U8 Coaches Meeting  
Thurs., August 11: U7 Coaches Meeting  
Fri., August 12: U6 Coaches Meeting

With the exception of the U14 age group, players will be assigned to teams by the Draft Committee, taking into consideration such factors as player's desire to return to the previous year's coach/team; neighborhood in which the player resides; school attended; car pooling; and teammate or coaching preference. While the Draft Committee cannot guaranty that all requests will be honored, it will make every effort to honor those requests.

**IT IS MANDATORY THAT ALL COACHES ATTEND COACHES MEETINGS.** If a coach is unable to attend, an assistant coach or team representative must attend. Information regarding the Fall 2005 season will be announced and coaches manuals, uniforms, balls, picture order packets and other materials will be distributed. Coaches will also be able to sign up for their team session with CLSF's professional trainers. This will be the **only opportunity** for coaches to submit special requests for game scheduling.

Parents will receive notification of the name and phone number of their coach by the end of the third week in August.

Rec League game schedules will be posted approximately August 23, on the website [www.clsf.org](http://www.clsf.org). The link to "Game Schedules" may be found on the "League Info" page.

### **PICTURE DAY/RAFFLE**

Diane Van Goethem – Director of Special Events

Picture Day will be Saturday, September 17, 2005. This year pictures will taken at Lippold Park next to the sand volleyball courts located immediately east of the first parking lot off the entryway to the Park. Teams will report for pictures 45 minutes before their scheduled game time. Competitive teams who wish to have their pictures taken may report between 3:30 and 5 pm. Team picture packets will be distributed at the coaches meetings. Tents will be set up in case of inclement weather.

Raffle tickets will be distributed at the time pictures are taken. Each family must pick up their own tickets. Identification is required. Raffle tickets will not be mailed this year. If you are unable to pick up your tickets on picture day, you may make an appointment to pick them up at Soccerhouse.

The raffle drawing will be held on October 1, at noon at Soccerhouse. You need not be present to win.

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Joe Kerstiens – Director of Education and Training

Thanks to the active involvement of the members of the Training Committee, the Spring Season saw several areas of growth in the Training and Education Programs of CLSF and there is more to come in the Fall ...

Recreational Team Training Program: Introduced during the Spring Season, the goal of this program is to increase the knowledge, skill level and love of the game for all CLSF Rec League players and coaches. Through this program, each Rec League team was given the opportunity to schedule a practice with one of the professional trainers on the CLSF Trainer Staff. The coaches of nearly 80 out of the 130+ Rec League teams took advantage of this opportunity and the feedback was extremely positive. We plan to continue this program in the Fall Season with a few modifications at the U6 level.

U7-U14 Age Groups: Coaches will be able to choose from a list of dates/times that are prior to or within the first few weeks of the season for their team(s) to participate in a Trainer conducted practice. Sign-up for these sessions will be at the August coaches meetings. The typical session will involve 2 teams/coaching staffs from similar age groups and one trainer for a period of 1:15 minutes. We intend to conduct the Recreational Team Training sessions during the afternoons on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, so as not to conflict with the Competitive Team Training schedule.

U6 Program: Training sessions will be part of an expanded season. The first 2 Saturdays of each U6 season will be hard scheduled, in the same way that games are, so that pairs of teams and their coaching staffs can be lead through trainer conducted practices of approximately 40 minutes. The goal of these sessions is to acclimate our newest players to the concepts of the game, as well as provide some ideas and guidance to the U6 head and assistant coaches on conducting efficient, productive and fun practices.

Saturday Individual and Team Training Sessions: Over the past 2 seasons we have scheduled members of our Professional Trainer Staff to be available for a period of 5-6 hours during several Saturdays of the season. The Trainers have been available to work with any CLSF players desiring extra training opportunities. The players may attend as individuals or small groups before or after their regularly

scheduled games to work on whatever skill sets they might feel the need to improve.

A few weeks into the Spring Season, we realigned the fields slightly so that the field "formerly known as field 5" would be designated a "Training Field." It was hoped that its more central location would boost attendance. Unfortunately, there continued to be poor attendance during the Saturday sessions.

*This Fall*, we plan to schedule a trainer at the training field from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm for the first 2 weeks of the season. If attendance continues to be poor we will, in all likelihood, suspend the sessions and redirect the money budgeted for them into the more effective parts of our program.

Summer Soccer Camp: This Summer, for the first time ever, CLSF conducted a Summer Soccer Camp. Almost 40 players came out to work with our professional training staff on their passing, dribbling, ball control and tackling skills. In addition, goal keeper training was provided to interested players. We expect increased participation in the coming years as we open the Camp to non-CLSF participants and improve the organization and marketing of the Camp. Expect to hear more about the 2006 Summer Camp in the Spring 2006 Korner Kick, as well as, the Spring/Summer 2006 Crystal Lake Park District Program Guide.

Coaches Training and Certification Policy: At the June 2005 Meeting of the CLSF Board of Directors, the Board unanimously approved a new Coaches Training and Certification Policy and Program. The goal of the Policy is to increase the knowledge and experience level of all CLSF coaches, thereby improving the education, training and overall experience of all CLSF players. The Policy is based on a "ground up" philosophy designed to target and benefit the coaches of the youngest players first, but will apply to all Rec League head and/or assistant coaches (and, therefore, all players) at all levels by the end of the 4-year introduction period.

To implement the Training Certification Policy the Training Committee developed a Program which will be presented in detail at the August Coaches Meeting. Here are the "meat and potatoes" of the Program. Beginning in the Fall 2005 Season with the U6/U7 coaches (and working up to the higher age groups by the Fall 2008 Season), all Rec League head coaches will be required to attend some form of coaches training on no less than a bi-annual basis. This training requirement can be fulfilled by attending a CLSF Rec League Coaches Clinic; by attending an IYSA sponsored Youth Module/Certification Course; or by sending an assistant coach to either form of

training. The idea is to have at least one "trained" coach for every Rec League team.

For all head and assistant coaches involved in the Competitive Program, beginning with the Fall 2005 Season, a minimum of an "E" Certificate will be required.

Rec League Coaches Clinics: The pre-Fall Season CLSF Rec League Coaches Clinics will be held at the Lippold Park Soccer Complex as follows:

U6-U7:	Monday, August 15, 6:30-8 PM
U8-U10:	Wednesday, August 17, 6:30-8 PM
U12-U14:	Friday, August 19, 6:30-8PM.

These sessions are free of charge to all CLSF coaches and their assistants. It would be better to attend a clinic for another age group than to not attend one at all. Each clinic will have ample learning opportunities for all coaches regardless of any age group specifics to be covered. Attendance at one of these sessions will fulfill a coach's training obligation under the new Training and Certification Policy.

"E" Certificate Course: The CLSF will be hosting an Illinois Youth Soccer Association sponsored "E" Certificate Course at the Regional Sports Center on July 30-31 from 8:00 am-6:00 pm. To register for the Course, please go to [www.IYSA.org](http://www.IYSA.org) and click on "Coaching" and "Coaching Course Listing." Attendance would also fulfill a coach's training obligation under the new Training and Certification Policy.

Winter Soccer Camp: The Training Committee is evaluating the interest among the membership in participating in CLSF sponsored/organized winter (indoor) soccer activities. These activities could take the form of a Winter Soccer Camp, Player Clinics or an indoor Recreational Tournament. If you think you or your team would be interested in any of these programs, or if you have some ideas of your own, please email [info@clsf.org](mailto:info@clsf.org) and put in the subject line "ATTN: Director of Education and Training."

### **DO YOU WANT TO BE A REFEREE?**

By Bob Hansen –CLSF Head Referee & President - McHenry County Soccer Referee Association,

If you or someone you know have thought about being a referee, but didn't know how to go about it, or didn't know if you would enjoy it, then continue reading this article. You will learn the requirements, the process, and the benefits of being a referee for CLSF.

First let's start by defining what is meant by "referee". There are two main categories of being a

referee: Assistant Referee and Center Referee. The Assistant Referee category is broken down into U-12 (New Referee) and U-14 (Advanced Assistant Referee). The Center Referee is broken down into four groups: U7-U8 Center Referee, U9-U10 Center Referee, U11-U12 Center Referee, and Advanced Center Referee. As you can see, the program is broken down into a natural progression of advancement. Each level is built upon the previous level. By providing the training and advancement in this manner, every referee will be able to advance at his or her own pace.

So what are the requirements? The first basic requirement is that the referee must be at least 12 years old before the start of the season in which they will be refereeing. That means to referee during this fall season, you must be 12 years old before September 10, 2005. If you want to referee in the spring season, you must be 12 years old by April 22, 2006. The other requirement is training. The McHenry County Soccer Referee Association (MCSRA) handles the training of all CLSF referees. It offers training classes for all levels before both the fall and spring seasons. In addition, referees may choose to become US Soccer certified. MCSRA also hosts USSF referee certification clinics in February or March. A referee does not have to be USSF certified to referee for CLSF, but it is highly recommended at the U11-U12 and Advanced Center Referee levels. Information about classes for the upcoming season can be found at the end of this article.

So how do you start the process? It is very simple. Fill out the enclosed training class registration form and send it to MCSRA, 4605 Daniel Drive, Crystal Lake, IL 60014. Attend the class and register to be a referee. Some levels also require participation in a practice game. The next question is, how do you advance? During your season members of the training staff as well as other referees will observe you. Those observations along with your commitment will determine how quickly you advance. It has been found that advancing referees too quickly leads to them quitting, so it is important that every referee feels confident at his/her current level before they are allowed to advance. The process has worked well, as our referee program has grown from 30 referees to over 100, with very little turnover.

Finally, is being a referee right for you? Not everyone likes being a referee. You have to handle many conflicts and make on-the-spot decisions. It sounds overwhelming at first, but training and dedication will eliminate those problems. There are many benefits to being a referee. The first is financial. Yes, you get paid. As an assistant referee you get paid \$10.00 per game. The pay increases as you advance to center referee where you can get paid

as much as \$40.00 per game. The second benefit is that being a referee will improve your playing. Learning all of the laws of the game and how they are applied will increase your on-field tactical thinking. Finally, as you advance you will get great enjoyment out of helping younger players and referees.

Now that most of your questions and concerns have been answered you are ready to be a referee. Read the class information below and send in your registration form ASAP as classes have been known to fill up. If you still have more questions, please email me at [refbob@sbcglobal.net](mailto:refbob@sbcglobal.net)

#### Referee Training Classes

The McHenry County Soccer Referee Association will hold 5 levels of training classes for referees this fall. The classes will be New Referee, Advanced Assistant Referee, U7-U8 Center Referee, U9-U10 Center Referee, and U11-U12 Center Referee. The schedule for the classes is as follows:

New Referee - Saturday, August 13, 2005, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, at Hannah Beardsley Middle School, 515 E. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake. This class is open to anyone 12 years of age or older. It is not just for those who wish to referee in the Soccer Federation, but for any coach or parent who would like to know more about the laws of the game and how they are applied. There will be a **\$20.00** fee for this class.

Advanced Assistant Referee - Saturday, August 20, 2005, 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 P.M., at Hannah Beardsley Middle School, 515 E. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake. This class is for referees who have attended the New Referee class and have refereed at least 6 games as an assistant referee. There will be a **\$15.00** fee for this class.

U7-U8 Center Referee - Saturday, August 20, 2005, 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. at Hannah Beardsley Middle School, 515 E. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake. This class is for referees who have attended the Advanced Assistant Referee class and have refereed at least 12 games as an assistant referee. There will be a **\$15.00** fee for this class.

U9-U10 Center Referee - Saturday, August 27, 2005, 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. at Hannah Beardsley Middle School, 515 E. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake. This class is for referees who have attended the U7-U8 Center Referee class and have refereed at least 12 games as a U7-U8 center referee. There will be a \$15.00 fee for this class.

U11-U12 Center Referee – Saturday, August 27, 2005, 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. at Hannah Beardsley Middle School, 515 E. Crystal Lake Ave., in Crystal Lake. This class is for referees who have attended the U9-U10 Center Referee class and have refereed at least 12 games as a U9-U10 center referee. There will be a \$15.00 fee for this class.

Anyone attending any of the above classes must bring pen and paper. Those attending the New Referee, Advanced Assistant Referee, or the U7-U8 Center Referee should wear gym shoes and appropriate clothing for running in the gym. Those attending the New Referee course should also bring a lunch or make arrangements to go out for lunch, as lunch is NOT included.

### **PORTABLE SOCCER GOAL SAFETY**

Scott McCabe - Director of Safety

Most of you are by now aware of several soccer-related fatalities resulting from portable soccer goals falling on young players during practice. The cause in each instance was directly related to the fact that the goals were not anchored. CLSF has always taken great care to insure that all of goals at Lippold Park are properly anchored at all times. Staff performs regular checks at least weekly to insure that the goals are anchored. Our coaches and referees are also instructed to perform a check before each game and are instructed not to begin a game unless the goals are properly anchored. In addition, warning labels are affixed to each goal.

We ask your assistance as well. Please make sure that your children do not climb on the nets or hang from the cross bars. CLSF cannot guaranty that all soccer goals located on practice fields in the various parks are properly anchored. Vandals and teams holding practices sometimes move the goals (although this is strictly against Park District and CLSF policy) without re-anchoring them. If you notice a goal at one of the parks that is not properly anchored, contact the Crystal Lake Park District at 459-0680 or CLSF at 477-CLSF.

### **LIGHTNING PREDICTION SYSTEM**

Scott McCabe – Director of Safety

The Crystal Lake Park District has purchased a THOR GUARD Lightning Prediction System. This system predicts when conditions indicate the potential for a lightning strike. It will give a warning 8 to 20 minutes in advance of a potential strike so that players, coaches and spectators can take shelter. The base unit has been placed at Soccerhouse. The antennae, warning siren and strobe light have been affixed to the roof. Satellite units have been placed

at the Family Golf Center at Lippold Park, Main Beach and West Beach. The THOR GUARD system operates 7 days a week from 8 am to 10 pm.

In a developing storm the THOR GUARD unit evaluates the electrical energy within the atmosphere. When it senses the potential for a lightning strike, it will sound a 15 second warning siren and the strobe light will activate. When this happens, **clear the fields immediately and seek proper shelter (building or non-convertible automobile), even if the weather appears not to be threatening.** The strobe light stays on as long as there is the danger of a lightning strike. When the potential for lightning has passed, the THOR GUARD siren sounds 3 blasts. This may occur as soon as 15 minutes after the initial warning has been given.

If thunder is heard or lightning is spotted, and the THOR GUARD siren does not go off, everyone must still clear the fields and take appropriate shelter immediately. No one should go out again until 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder is heard or lightning seen.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE**

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. If we are aware in advance of this type of special needs situation, CLSF can also arrange to have the game played on a field closer to a parking area.

### **MEDICAL EMERGENCY PROCEDURE**

Scott McCabe – Director of Safety

In the event of a medical or other emergency situation, seek out the assistance of a board member or field marshal patrolling the fields, or go to Soccerhouse and seek out a board member. The board member or field marshal will contact emergency personnel. You should not attempt to contact emergency personnel unless you are first unable to locate a board member or field marshal. Multiple phone calls or phone calls containing incorrect dispatching information can create response time delays.

The following procedures have been posted in Soccerhouse:

In case of a medical emergency, dial **911**. State that you are with the CRYSTAL LAKE SOCCER FEDERATION;

that you need paramedics dispatched to SOCCERHOUSE located in LIPPOLD PARK, at 951 WEST ROUTE 176, CRYSTAL LAKE;

Advise the dispatcher to instruct the paramedics to COME DIRECTLY TO SOCCERHOUSE which is the gray block building located at the end drive of the first entry to the Park that is west of Route 14; and that someone will meet them there and guide them to the correct field.

The dispatcher will ask you to describe the nature of the emergency.

Have a Board Member or field marshal meet the paramedics at the end of the driveway to Soccerhouse.

### **ACCESSING YOUR FAMILY INFORMATION PAGE ON THE WEBSITE**

Bob Hansen – Director of Technology

Families can access their CLSF Family Page by going to the website at [www.clsf.org](http://www.clsf.org). Click the Member Login button. You will be asked for your PIN and the birth date of one of your children who has been registered with CLSF. If you have forgotten your PIN, there is a link on the Member Login page that will automatically email it to you. However, if your email address has changed and you have not updated it in our system, you will not receive the email. Your PIN is the 4-digit number on the address label of this newsletter. You may also obtain your PIN by contacting us at 477-CLSF (2573) or by sending an email to [info@clsf.org](mailto:info@clsf.org).

Your Family Page contains your current family contact and biographical information as well as information regarding your child's team. The Page also contains important messages and other CLSF information. Please take the time to regularly check your Family Page.

### **CLSF PETS AND SMOKING POLICIES**

Greg Cole - Administrator

To insure the health and safety of participants and spectators, CLSF will continue its standing policies regarding smoking and the presence of pets at the soccer fields on game days.

ON GAME DAYS pets are restricted to designated areas of the sidelines. Access routes to those areas are also restricted. Maps designating those areas and routes are posted in the kiosks (message boards) and at Soccerhouse. The restriction of pets to designated areas was reached as a compromise measure, at the

suggestion of the Park District Staff. This measure recognizes those who wish to enjoy watching their children play soccer while being accompanied by their pet, while also assuring the safety and comfort of players and other spectators.

Smoking is prohibited in the vicinity of the soccer fields and the area in and around Soccerhouse. Both of these policies were adopted by the Crystal Lake Soccer Federation with the advice and consent of the Crystal Lake Park District Board and Staff. Neither policy was adopted by the Crystal Lake Park District Board as one of its rules, regulations or ordinances.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support of these CLSF policies.

### **Register To Win a Free Clinic with Olympic Champion Julie Foudy**

It is every child's dream to learn his sport from the stars they admire most. Uniroyal Tire is again presenting today's youth with that opportunity through the second annual "Uniroyal Tire Julie Foudy Clinic Sweepstakes." Uniroyal Tire will award one Grand Prize to the lucky winner's child and his/her youth soccer team consisting of a free three-hour clinic to be coached by three-time Olympic Medalist and two-time World Cup Champion, Julie Foudy. Foudy is past captain of Team U.S.A. that won the Gold Medal at last year's Summer Olympics. The clinic will offer the winner and his/her team a chance to learn directly from one of the top stars in U.S. professional soccer. Parents can register at [www.uniroyal.com/sweeps](http://www.uniroyal.com/sweeps) until October 31, 2005.

### **CLSF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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