



Crystal Lake Soccer Federation

Korner Kick

Summer 2013 Edition

www.clsf.org

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CLSF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 5-8	Rec Coaches Meetings
August 26	Rec Schedules Posted
September 7	Rec League Opening Day U5-U14
September 14	Picture Day/Raffle Tickets Distributed
October 5	Raffle Drawing
October 26	Fall Rec Season Ends



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Schofield - CLSF president

I'm kicking off this edition of the summer CLSF Korner Kick with some extraordinary news. Our **FORCE U14 Elite Boys** are the winners and champions of the **US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup!!** This is a phenomenal accomplishment and we could not be more proud of the team and what they accomplished both on and off the field in this progressive national tournament format. Congratulations to the boys and to coach Kristian Rockall on this outstanding result! To the parents and families of these boys, a very special thank you for your strong support, for the great sportsmanship you displayed, and for how well you represented our club. Thank you as well for your willingness to trek across the country to support your team, from Illinois to Kansas to Florida, and in some cases even rearranging your summer vacation plans. Check out Kristian's article later in the newsletter for more details.

Switching gears over to the Recreational program, this year the CLSF will continue our strong

commitment to providing high value professional training opportunities at no additional cost to our recreational players and coaches. In addition to the skills training sessions for individual players, we are making goalie training sessions available to recreational players on a weekly basis due to the popularity of the pilot sessions last spring. We are also expanding our coach / assistant coach education by adding pre-season sessions with coaches, teams, and CLSF staff trainers to provide input on various game situations and tactics. Finally, we are exploring a potential opportunity to offer our coaches an Illinois Youth Soccer Association (IYSA) youth module course taught by IYSA instructors.

Some of our recreational players will see some changes on the field when they return this fall. In an effort to continuously improve our program the CLSF Recreational Committee has recommended some modifications based on the established US Youth Soccer guidelines for player development. This includes changes to the number of players on the field and the size of team rosters. The goal is to give players more opportunities for touches on the ball and to improve overall player development. More teams per group will also give a wider variety of competition to make the games more enjoyable. We're hopeful that players, parents, and coaches will see positive results during the upcoming season.

The Tournament Committee is busy with the final preparations for the CRYSTAL LAKE FORCE - KICKS 4 KIDS CLASSIC TOURNAMENT on August 17-18, 2013 at Lippold Park. This is a great opportunity for CLSF to establish an annual tournament tradition, which has the potential to benefit our organization as well as the Crystal Lake community for years to come. Please join us at Lippold that weekend to support the tournament as a player, as a fan, as a volunteer, or even just to experience a competitive soccer

tournament close to home. Refer to the Tournaments page on the CLSF website for more details (<http://www.clsf.org/TOURNAMENTS.php>).

In closing, good luck to all of our players, coaches, and fans this season and I look forward to seeing you at Lippold. As always, if there's anything we can do to make your experience better please drop us a note at info@clsf.org or stop by and see us at the soccer house.

CLSF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Greg Cole – Administrator
Dan Quinn – Director of Coaching
Bob Hansen – Head Referee, Trainer and Assignor

REC LEAGUE SCHEDULES & TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

Bob Hansen – Rec League Director

Fall 2013 U5-U14 Rec League schedules will be posted on the website approximately August 26. Scroll over RECREATIONAL on the menu bar and then click REC SCHEDULES. There you will find a pull down list of the teams listed by age group and coach's name.

Rec Coaches pre-season meetings will be held during the week of August 5-8. Coaches will be given their rosters at that time, and will be asked to contact their players immediately. You will be able to view your player's team assignment from your family account page.

YOUR CLSF WEBSITE FAMILY ACCOUNT PAGE

Greg Cole – Administrator

By logging in to your family account page you can view your player's team roster and coach's contact info. Your coach's name will appear in **Bold** print next to your player's name. Click the coach's name to arrive at your Team Wall. The team wall displays the coach's name and the names of the players. Click View Roster to find contact info.

PICTURE DAY

Greg Cole - Administrator

Picture Day will be Saturday, September 14, 2013 at Lippold Park. Pictures will be taken in the training area which is located just west of Soccerhouse. Teams will report for check-in 45 minutes before their scheduled game time. Picture order forms were distributed to the Recreational League Coaches at the August coaches meetings. Additional forms are available at Soccerhouse and will be available on picture day. Players should bring their order forms to picture day with payment. Coaches will then collect the forms and hand them off to the photographer. Team and individual pictures will be distributed to the coaches prior to the end of the fall season.

RAFFLE

Greg Cole – Raffle Director

The raffle drawing will be held on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at noon at Soccerhouse. You need not be present to win. Families who chose the Raffle option at the time their children were registered may pick up their raffle tickets on Picture Day - September 14. Each family must pick up its own tickets. Identification is required. If you are unable to pick up your tickets on picture day, you may pick them up at Soccerhouse any time before the drawing. Raffle ticket stubs may be dropped off at Soccerhouse. On Saturdays ticket stubs may be left in the blue plastic bucket inside Soccerhouse. Otherwise, ticket stubs may be left in the locked mailbox outside the front door of the building. Ticket stubs should be dropped off no later than 9 AM on October 5.

REC LEAGUE AGE GROUP RE-CLASSIFICATIONS

Rec League Committee

Declining enrollment in our Rec Program made it necessary to combine the U9 and U10 age groups for both the coed and all-girls age groups. We will still offer separate coed and all-girls divisions. What had previously been single grade age groups of 3rd graders (U9) and 4th graders (U10) will be combined to form dual grade age groups for the coed and all-girls divisions. Where possible we will assign team rosters with both 3rd and 4th graders in order to create a better competitive environment.

As was the case last season the U7 and U8 all-girls will be competing in a combined age group consisting of both 1st and 2nd graders.

CRYSTAL LAKE FORCE - KICKS 4 KIDS CLASSIC TOURNAMENT UPDATE

Kristian Rockall - Co-Tournament Director & CLSF U13-U14
Coordinator

We are still in need of volunteers and sponsors for our tournament which will be held August 17 and 18 at Lippold Park.

To sign-up to volunteer please click the TOURNAMENT menu bar item on the website and then click the Volunteer Signup link at the bottom of the page.

For all other inquiries please contact Co-Tournament Director Kristian Rockall at: tournament@clsf.org

CRYSTAL LAKE FORCE UPDATE

Kristian Rockall - U13-16 Coordinator

U14 Elite Boys USYS National Champions

The Crystal Lake FORCE U14 Boys engraved themselves into soccer history by winning the US Youth Soccer President's Cup National Championship. This is a team that tried so hard to win a tournament over the last few years, always falling just short. The goal for this season was to win the Illinois President's Cup. Achieving this in itself was a great accomplishment but it was only just the beginning of an incredible journey.

The team followed up the State title by winning the Regional title in Overland Park, KS to qualify for the National title! Statistically the boys went into the National tournament as the underdogs, but it soon became very apparent from the opening game that the FORCE weren't going to play with an inferior mindset. Our commitment to solid team defense & good team work was evident right away. This proved to be one of the team's biggest keys to success throughout the tournament.

Another major key to success was the teams' exemplary behavior and discipline off the field: 9:30PM curfews; minimum 8 hours sleep requirement; team breakfast every morning; very strict diet & nutrition guidelines; 60 minute team tactics meeting every night at the hotel; resting up during the day instead of playing in the sun; and regular hydration throughout the day. These were just some of the small things which when added together gave the team an edge over its opponents.

One other significant key to success was the players' ability to remain calm and focused in any situation. This helped make possible a dramatic comeback win

in game 1 of the finals, the team rallied from 1-0 down to score twice in the final minutes of the match. It also helped the boys immediately bounce back from a goal down in game 3. But most of all it helped to get over the finish line in the championship match. 3-0 up at half-time the FORCE stayed focused, and despite conceding a couple of goals, the boys held it together and earned the title they so richly deserved.

The team deserves a lot of credit for winning the title, but they deserve more credit for the manner in which they did it. The players and the parents showed true class throughout the tournament, respecting every opponent and tournament official along the way, and displaying great sportsmanship on the field and on the sidelines. This is more important than winning and says a lot about the strength of character of our team and our club. Go FORCE.

GIRLS U14 ELITE – ILLINOIS STATE CUP SEMI-FINALIST

The FORCE U14 Girls Elite team put together an impressive run in the Illinois State Cup this year, achieving their goal of reaching the final 4. Illinois is stacked with top quality competition at the U14 Girls age level, so to reach the final 4 was a great accomplishment for the team and for the club.

The FORCE got the ball rolling with a 3-0 first round victory over Peak Academy Soccer Club. From there on however the road to the semi-final was not an easy one...

Next up was a very tough game against our closest rivals FCX North Black (Barrington). Although we had never beaten this team the players felt confident going into this tough 2nd round match. The FORCE played a great game from start to finish, moving the ball well, battling hard, and creating lots of good opportunities which resulted in a convincing 4-1 victory.

The quarter final vs Chicago Fire Juniors was just as difficult of a match. Both teams played fantastic defense throughout, but a great goal from the FORCE just before half-time was enough to provide the edge in a 1-0 victory.

If the road to the final 4 had been difficult, the path to the championship was bordering on impossible! To claim the trophy the FORCE would have to beat the two best teams in the entire Midwest. Although the FORCE fell short in the semi-final, losing 3-0 to a quality GLSA team, the team gained a ton of experience in this year's State Cup and will use the semi-final defeat as a great benchmark for what is

needed to improve and advance one step further next year. Great job girls. Go FORCE!

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Greg Cole - Administrator

PORTABLE SOCCER GOAL SAFETY

With the safety of your child in mind, CLSF continues to take great care to insure that all 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 477-2573.

LIGHTNING PREDICTION SYSTEM

The Crystal Lake Park District has installed a THOR GUARD Lightning Prediction System at Soccerhouse. 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.

When THOR GUARD 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.

If the Thor Guard sounds, if lightning is observed, or if thunder heard, players and parents should go to their

cars and await word from their coach. Coaches should report to Soccerhouse.

SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE

If a family member or friend is handicapped and needs assistance accessing the fields, golf car rides may be obtained at Soccerhouse.

SPECTATOR AREA

Spectators are reminded to remain within the spectator areas as delineated by the dashed lines which are approximately 10 feet from the touchlines. There should be **NO ONE** behind or in the vicinity of the goals. All spectators shall observe the game on the opposite side of the field from the players and coaches (except for U5 and U6 age groups).

PETS

To insure the health and safety of participants and players, CLSF prefers that pets be left at home. If spectators must bring pets, they must sit with their pets away from other spectators and teams, at least 10 yards off the corner of the field. This measure recognizes those who wish to enjoy watching their children play soccer while being accompanied by their pet, and also assures the safety and comfort of players and other spectators.

NO SMOKING

Smoking is prohibited in the vicinity of the soccer fields and the area in and around Soccerhouse.

PARKING

The small parking area immediately adjacent to Soccerhouse is reserved for vehicles with handicapped permits, CLSF Board Members and Staff. **Please do not park in this area or enter to drop off or pick up players.** Please do not park in any grassy areas at Lippold Park. You may be ticketed. We ask your cooperation by not parking at the end of any of the North Shore streets which are adjacent to Lippold Park while attending soccer games or practices at Lippold. Let's be considerate and good neighbors.

PLEASE! PATRONIZE OUR SPONSOR

SPORTS AUTHORITY