



Crystal Lake Soccer Federation

Korner Kick

Winter 2005 Edition

CLSF CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 21	CLSF Monthly Board Meeting
February 24	Annual Meeting/Winter Coaches Meeting
March 19	CLSF/MCSRA New Referee Class
March 21	CLSF Monthly Board Meeting
March 22	Asthma Seminar
April 1	Online Registration begins for 2005-06 Season
April 10	Boys HSSL Opening Day
April 16	Rec League Opening Day
May 7	U6 League Opening Day
May 29	Boys HSSL Season Ends
June 4	Rec & U6 League Seasons End
June 5	Last Day to Register for 2005-06 Season



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING & WINTER COACHES MEETING

Greg Cole - Administrator

The 2005 CLSF Annual Meeting and Winter Coaches Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 24, 2005, at 7:30 P.M.. The meeting will be held in the **NEW** Home State Bank Community Room located at 611 S. Main St., just south of the intersection of Route 14 and Main Street in Crystal Lake. The purpose of the Annual Meeting is to elect six (6) new members to the Board of Directors. Anyone interested in running for a Board position or who would like a list of the Board positions and job descriptions should contact CLSF at 815/477-2573 or via email at info@clsf.org.

The purpose of the coaches' portion of the evening is to provide information for the upcoming Spring Season. *The head coach, assistant coach, or other team representative is required to attend this meeting.* This meeting will be the only opportunity for coaches to submit special scheduling requests. No requests will be accepted after this meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

John Savillo – President

A wise man once said, "All good things must come to an end." This resonates loud and clear for me as my tenure as a Board Member and President of CLSF ends this coming February. I stumbled into this position, as I was originally the Vice President in charge of our K-League. Boy, this has been quite a ride for me – to be in a position to help manage an organization that brings fun and joy to soccer players 16 weeks of the year.

Obviously, our primary goal is always to bring Lippold Park to life every soccer Saturday. During these Saturdays, games are held, fields are manicured and are in excellent playing condition, well trained referees abound, a well stocked concession stand feeds the hungry, well trained coaches coach, our children, along with their family and friends, have lots of fun, and of course the playing conditions are safe for everyone. Last season we initiated a professional training program for our competitive and recreational teams.

The league does not run on its own. We have a volunteer Board and a paid administrator who work year round to ensure that every soccer day is spectacular. My thanks to a Board that actually works together to get things done. My thanks also go out to all the volunteers, coaches, and parents who help make this happen for our children. The Board is

comprised of only 14 individuals, but our extended volunteer crew is in the hundreds. This is how we make it happen. To all of you, great work and keep it up. Crystal Lake soccer is strong and is here for everyone. This is your league.

There you go... short and sweet... see you at the fields... Spring soccer is 60 days away.... OLE.....

John Savillo, CLSF President

ATHLETES WITH ASTHMA SEMINAR

Marc Rubin, R.Ph. Respiratory Care Pharmacist, Osco Drug, Inc.,
CLSF past President

On Tuesday, March 22, 7:00 P.M., the third and final seminar on asthma education will offered free to CLSF coaches, their assistants, and referees. The seminar will be held at Soccerhouse. Registration will be at the Annual Coaches Meeting on February 24th.

REFEREE TRAINING

Bob Hansen – Referee Administrator

A training class for new referees for CLSF will done by the McHenry County Soccer Referee Association on Saturday, March 19, 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. This class is not just for those wanting 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. To get the registration form, email Bob Hansen at refbob@sbcglobal.net. Please note that the due date for registration is March 6, 2005.

BOYS' REC HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER LEAGUE REGISTRATION

Bob Hansen – Boys' H.S. Rec Coordinator

Registration is now open for the Spring 2005 season of the boys' rec High School Soccer League (HSSL). Games will be played at Lippold Park on Sundays. The game times range from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM depending on the number of teams. The league will run from April 10 through May 29, 2005, a total of 8 weeks. We do play Memorial Day weekend. The cost is \$100.00 if registration is received by January 31, 2005. Registrations received after January 31 will be \$120.00. All you have to do is fill out the enclosed registration form and mail it with a check payable to CLSF to:

Bob Hansen
4605 Daniel Drive
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

If you have any questions, or know of someone who would like to join the league, please call Bob Hansen at 815-477-3451

MONTHLY CLSF BOARD MEETINGS – NEW SCHEDULE

Greg Cole - Administrator

The CLSF Board of Directors holds regular monthly meetings that are open to all members. Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month, at 7:30 P.M., at Soccerhouse. If you have a concern, suggestion, inquiry, or any other matter that you wish to bring before the Board, please contact us at 815/477-CLSF (2573) or by email info@clsf.org. Your item will then be given priority on the meeting agenda for that evening.

CRYSTAL LAKE FORCE COMPETITIVE TEAM TRYOUTS

Eric Johansson – Director of Competitive Teams

The Crystal Lake Force is the Competitive Team Program with the Crystal Lake Soccer Federation. Currently, our program has 12 teams. The Crystal Lake Force Competitive Team Program is designed to fill the needs of young soccer players looking to bring their soccer experience to a higher level. Force players commit their time and efforts to the game of soccer, by playing tougher competition, concentrating on individual skill training, game strategy and team tactics. Most competitive teams practice and/or play soccer year 'round and attend tournaments as well as weekly games during the outdoor and indoor seasons. Most outdoor league games are played on Sunday. All home games are played at the Lippold Park Soccer Complex.

The Crystal Lake Force will hold its Competitive Team Tryouts for the 2005-06 Soccer Season on the following dates:

- Girls U9-U14 – Tuesday, May 10 and Thursday, May 12.
- Boys U9-U14 – Tuesday, May 17 and Thursday, May 19
- Girls U15-U19 – Sunday, May 22 and Sunday, June 5

Tryouts will be held at the Lippold Park Soccer Complex from 6:00-8:00 pm. Sign In will begin at 5:30pm at the concession windows at Soccerhouse. In case of inclement weather, please check the website www.clsf.org for cancellation and rain date information.

Players currently registered in the CLSF Soccer Program should register online at www.clsf.org, prior to tryouts. Players not currently registered with CLSF will be required to have a parent or guardian present

to provide necessary information and consents. Players selected to a Force team must register with CLSF by June 5, 2005.

All participants should be dressed for a soccer practice and appropriately for weather conditions. All players should bring a soccer ball and plenty of water. Shin guards are mandatory; no one may participate without them.

Should you have any questions or need additional information concerning tryouts or the Competitive Team Program, or are interested in coaching, contact Eric Johansson at 815-477-7150 or via email at eman1230@comcast.net.

Current coaches are reminded to submit their resumes by March 15.

WAITING LIST FOR SPRING 2005 SEASON

Dan Meihls – Registrar

For those players who were unable to register last Spring for our 2004-2005 soccer season, the waiting list for the Spring 2005 season is now open. To place a child on the waiting list, go to our website www.clsf.org and click the "Waiting List" link which will be located in the upper left corner of the home page. We will begin placing children from the Waiting List about mid-March as openings occur.

The Fall 2004 Waiting List has been cleared. In order for your child to be placed on a team this Spring, you must place your child on the Spring 2005 Waiting List.

PLEASE NOTE: If your child was registered and participated in our Fall 2004 season, s/he is already registered for the Spring 2005 Season. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RE-REGISTER FOR THE SPRING 2005 SEASON.

CONDUCT TOWARD REFEREES

Bob Hansen – Referee Administrator

There is a critical shortage of qualified youth soccer referees. Why? Referees cite repeatedly that they quit refereeing because of the abuse they take from parents, coaches and players. Many teenagers quickly discontinue refereeing youth soccer games because it is not worth what they are paid to be yelled at, insulted, belittled and threatened. ***It does not matter whether you are a coach, a parent, a player, or a disinterested fan: don't tolerate a climate that allows yelling at or abusing the referee.***

Some guidelines:

- Support the referee's decisions. Refereeing soccer, like playing soccer, looks easier from

the sidelines than it is on the field. The field is large, there are a number of players moving both with and away from the ball, and the referee cannot see everything from all angles.

- Understand the laws of the game. FIFA rules give soccer referees a great deal of discretion. They are not required to call every single breach of soccer's laws. Reasonable humans often disagree whether conduct resulted in a breach (depending, of course, on whether the breach helps or harms their team). Under FIFA rules only the referee's opinion counts. If the referee didn't call it, it is not a foul.
- Inquire about calls respectfully. If coaches do not understand or disagree with a call they should discuss it one-on-one, quietly and rationally, with the referee at half time or after the game. If parents disagree with a call they should ask the coach to explain it. **Parents should not question referees directly under any circumstances - PERIOD.**
- That referee is your neighbor's child. Quite often youth soccer referees are teenagers. Treat them, whether or not you agree with their calls, as you would want other adults to treat your child should he or she be in the same position. Treat them as you would want to be treated if you were performing a difficult job in a fluid, fast-paced game.
- Look at the big picture. Soccer is a GAME. Most of our youth soccer players will stop playing before high school. Keep the games in perspective. If you cannot watch the game without losing control, stay home.

SHOOT WITH THE WEAKER FOOT

Bob Hansen – Referee Administrator

There were many lopsided scoring games during the fall season. What can players, coaches and organizers do to avoid blowouts? As the scheduler, I will be trying to schedule the games to set up more competitive situations. However, one-sided contests can't be completely eliminated, so, as players and coaches, we must try to minimize their negative effects. The purpose of this article is not to deliver the definitive answer for handling blowout situations, but to generate some constructive strategies for handling games involving mismatched teams. To that end, here are some thoughts.

Most winning coaches dislike blowouts, too, although there are some who seem to revel in running up the score on an under matched team. Many strong teams get into bad playing habits when they face an inferior opponent, and sometimes these patterns may come back to haunt the team when it faces a more evenly matched team. Coaches on the winning side have to confront attitudinal issues as well. Just as losing teams suffer from eroded confidence and low self-esteem, a winning team may find arrogance, laziness, or poor sportsmanship among its players.

Frequently coaches of stronger teams will impose restrictions on their own players in an effort to hold down the score. Although this strategy may succeed in restricting scoring, the psychological effect may be every bit as insulting to the weaker team if the coach and players flout their restrictions in a condescending way.

Ironically, many players and coaches who would describe themselves as "competitive" would really rather win than compete. Coaches need to remind themselves and their players that true competition necessarily involves evenly matched opponents in contests where real uncertainty exists about who will prevail. If we find ourselves enjoying the easy wins more than the hotly contested, hard-fought losses, then we may be fairly typical, but we're probably not "competitive." Too many blowout wins (especially if coaches, parents and fans, excessively glorify them) may dilute an athlete's taste for real competition.

What can the winning team do to keep the score down while still playing good soccer and benefiting from the experience? Here's a list of possible conditions and restrictions that coaches and players can accept to help balance the competitive situation on the field and still play hard:

1. Change positions, including keeper.
2. Shoot only with weaker foot.
3. Score only after successfully executing give-and-go in the offensive third of the field.
4. Make ten consecutive passes before attacking the goal.
5. Only score from shots outside the penalty area.
6. No one may score until a designated player scores.
7. Enforce two-touch passing limitation.
8. Allow two-touch passing in defensive end, one-touch in offensive end.
9. Score by heading only.
10. Following restarts (including throw-ins), all 11 players must touch the ball before attacking the goal.

11. On defense, have players drop back to the halfway line before applying pressure. Remember these acts in and of themselves are not the answer. They must be practiced and done in a manner not to be insulting to the weaker team.



SOCCER – MORE THAN “WINNING AT ALL COSTS”

Bob Hansen – Referee Administrator

Below are excerpts from a poem that I hope every coach and parent will read and think about.

The Soccer Coach
by Mike Berticelli
March 24, 1987

You donate your time for the good of our youth.
But you scream and you yell and are often uncouth.

The ref is just twelve and still learning the game,
But you call him a jerk and say he's not sane.

The parents are screaming and follow your lead,
As you spring up the sideline at uncontrollable speed.

You jump as you yell - "Pass, pass the ball!"
You turn red as you bellow, "Ref, make the damn call!"

"You're the left back now, get in your position.
If you don't, we might lose and ruin our tradition!"

Positions are needed so we look like a team,
'Cause they're miniature pros, or so it does seem.

The fullback is bored, he picks at his nose,
While the others run wild and kick with their toes.

You scream for a goal, no matter how it goes in,
The skill doesn't matter, just as long as you win!

The parents go crazy as the ball nears the goal,
Their advice and instructions will soon take their toll.

You see, "Junior" feels pressure, he's not having much fun,
We tell him when to pass, to shoot, and to run.

He came here to play and to use his own mind,
'Cause soccer's the most creative game that you'll find.

Imagination is needed on the part of each child,
Solving problems on the field is what makes them go wild.

They come to "play" soccer, not to "work" at the game.
Their excitement is something we don't want to tame.

Maradona has moves that are beyond comprehension.
No coach taught those moves while threatening detention!

He learned from his friends, and tried copying others,
While playing games, without coaches and mothers.

They first must learn skill, it's the meat of the game,
If they can't dribble or shoot, then who should we blame?

Skill must be learned through repeated trials.
If motivation is present you will see teams run miles.

"Fun games" are the answer to encourage repetition.
They laugh and they scream and enjoy competition.
Without the skill to dribble past an opponent at will,
Your players may win, but their growth will stand still.

I dream of the day when the parents just cheer,
And losing the game doesn't bring out a tear,

When practice is fun, not dull and so boring,
And playing the game means more than just scoring.

I know you mean well, and you donate your time,
But bury your ego, and try something sublime.

Call all the parents, and ask for their aid,
You're teaching their kids and not getting paid.

Your goal's to develop a youngster with skill,
Not a team that must win, or some fancy new drill!

You see players are not judged by their wins and their

losses,
Instead they are judged by their shots, headers, and crosses!

Scholarships are given to players with great names.
Not to those on youth teams who never lost games.

A pro player gets paid 'cause his skills are real fine,
Not because his team never lost when he was just nine.

It's time to bring soccer to new heights in this nation.
The future's in players, not a coaching citation!

I hope you're concerned, but not really offended,
It's the need for more skill that I have defended.

You're giving your all, from the good of your heart,
Why not make sure the kids get the right start?