



TOUCHLINE

WWW.JOHNSTONSOCCER.ORG

President's Corner

As I wrote in the last column, fall would come sooner than you think. And just like that, summer is over and fall soccer has begun. Wasn't it the just other day that RAGBRAI and the state fair were on everyone's mind? Now it's back to school and kids' activities. Hopefully everyone has settled down with their teams and is enjoying an exciting and competitive season.

The board meets on a regular basis to make sure the operation and administration of the Club runs smoothly. A big part of that operation is the continuous help of volunteer coaches and assistant coaches, so please make sure to thank them for their outstanding effort in providing kids the thrilling game of soccer. Without the drive and determination from volunteers, this Club would not be where it is today. To put this into perspective for the 2006 Fall Season, there are 141 recreational teams and 18 competitive teams in the Johnston Soccer Club.

As always, the board welcomes your feedback and input into *your* club. Have a great season.

Yours truly,
Kevin Moran, JSC President

Rec Uniform Change

Beginning this fall, the Johnston Soccer Club has instituted a change in the recreational program uniforms. In addition to the current reversible jersey, we have added black shorts and socks. The new shorts are black with the Club logo.

These items can be purchased at Soccer Connections and have been priced at a discount. **This change only impacts the U5-U10 age groups.** Ages U11 and above have a full uniform already in place.

We Need Your Help

Volunteers are needed to assist organize and run the Club's biggest fundraiser—the Fall Soccerfest on Sept. 23/24 and Sept. 30/Oct. 1.

Tourney Day Volunteers:

- Field Marshals
- Concession Stand
- Registration Tent

Pre-Tournament Volunteers:

- Registration
- Advertisement
- Awards
- Field Set-Up

This is just a sample of the MANY volunteers we will need on tournament weekends. Contact Jeff Adamiak (515-554-0246) if you can offer your support.

Upcoming Events

August 26	First Weekend of Games ~ U5 - U8 Players
Sept. 2/3	No Games - Labor Day Weekend
Sept. 9/10	First Weekend of Games ~ U9 - U19 Players
Sept. 10	JSC Board Meeting Aldersgate Methodist Church ~ 7:00 PM
Sept. 23/24	Johnston SoccerFest Rec Tournament U5/U6 Games will be held at Lawson
Sept. 30/Oct. 1	Johnston SoccerFest Competitive Tournament U7/U8 Games will be held at Lawson
Oct. 7	Team Picture Day ~ Wallace Elementary
Oct. 8	JSC Board Meeting Aldersgate Methodist Church ~ 7:00 PM
Nov. 12	JSC Board Meeting Aldersgate Methodist Church ~ 7:00 PM

Matty's Corner



Recreational Programs

The Johnston Soccer Club will be offering a series of developmental programs for our younger rec players. You will receive information in the mail, and it will be posted on the Club's web site. The programs are staffed by the JSC full-time and part-time professional coaching staff. I would encourage all players with a real love for the game and a desire to get better to sign up for our programs. If you have any questions about the Academy program, please contact one of our full-time staff.

Academy Program

Senior Academy (Under 9 – Under 12 age group)
Mondays starting Sept 11th ~ 6:30 – 7:45 PM

This program is open to all interested players in the recreational program who love the game and want to improve their individual technique. Players who perform well in this program will have the opportunity to attend the Pegasus program.

Junior Academy (Under 6 and Under 8 age group)
Mondays starting Sept 11th ~ 5:00 – 6:15 PM

This program is open to all players in the Under 6 - Under 8 age groups. Players are taught the fundamentals of the game through a series of fun games and activities.

Pegasus Program (Under 9/10 age group)
Mondays starting Sept 11th ~ 6:30 – 7:45pm.

This is an *invitation only* program for players in the Under 9 and Under 10 age group. This program is designed to improve the young soccer players in our club who have a real talent and love for the game. Players can be identified through attending REC PLUS, camps, clinics or by attending the Academy program.



Remember for the cleanliness of our fields and safety of the kids playing soccer, please leave your pets at home.

Understanding Team Placement

If you have children in the U11 and above recreation program, you might often wonder why your team is playing a different age level or a town that you didn't know had a soccer team. Part of the reason is the Johnston Soccer Club's affiliation with Greater Des Moines Junior Soccer League (GDMJSL). At U11 and above age groups, GDMJSL coordinates the schedule of games for over 30 clubs. This is because at the older ages, the number of teams and players for each club specific age group is significantly less than the U10 and below age groups due to player involvement in other sport or academic programs or joining the competitive program of a club.

In order to make sure the scheduling of a game between two teams is competitive, GDMJSL uses a method of divisional team placement. Individual players are given a rating. That rating is based on a previous season's team record, plus rank points of which division the team played, plus the percentage of total goal difference. The new team rating is the average of the sum of individual ratings divided by the number of players assigned to that team.

Recommendations for divisional placement are determined by listing all teams in descending order by new team rating and splitting into groups. If a player did not play the previous season, but did play two seasons ago, 75% of the team rating from the last active season becomes the players rating. For a list of coed and girls fall 2006 team placement, go to www.gdmsoccer.org.

Because U10 and under teams do not report scores of games to GDMJSL, all U11 team players enter the divisional placement with zero individual rating. The scheduling of U11 games is random. GDMJSL holds a meeting prior to the final division placement in which a representative of a club can argue reasons why their team should move up or down a division. Then every member of GDMJSL votes to accept or deny that request. Since the computer software JSC uses for registering players is tied directly to GDMJSL, the team rating is usually pretty accurate and most requests to move down to an easier division are voted down by the members. If you have further questions in regards to team placement for U11 and above recreation teams, please don't hesitate to contact Kevin Moran, JSC President.

The Ref's Corner

Jim Elmer, Director of Referees

The Fall season is upon us. For referees, it is also time to renew our registrations for 2007. This year, all registrations will be handled electronically through the Iowa Referee web site www.iowareferees.org. Also new this year is the four hour continuing education requirement. Unless you became a new referee in 2006, you will need to complete your CE before you can register for 2007. The Iowa Referee web site talks about the variety of ways you can fulfill that requirement. Just a reminder for those who may be interested in becoming a referee, either for extra money, or to better understand the game, clinics are generally held in the winter and summer, outside of the normal playing seasons. It's probably a bit late to get signed up for Fall, but not too early to think about Spring. The Clinic link of the Iowa Referee web site is updated weekly with all the available classes.

One final note to those on both sidelines. The referee, and any assistant referees, are there for the safety of the players and to enforce the laws and spirit of the game. They, and I, are giving each game the best we can. We're not perfect, and don't see everything. Watching the World Cup this summer proved that true even at the highest levels. But, a referee's decision regarding facts of the games are final. You're free to disagree with any call a referee makes. However, you are not allowed to voice or display that disagreement. Most of what I hear during the game is incorrect, and only serves to make matters worse. If, after the game, you still feel a call was incorrect, I would encourage you to e-mail or call me, so we can discuss the issue calmly, and take whatever action is necessary to see the issue doesn't happen again.

See you on the fields!

Volunteers

The Club could not survive without its volunteers. Volunteers make up the Board of Directors, coach teams, mark fields, work concessions, assist with traffic, perform general clean-up, work tournaments, assist with registration and many other important duties. Everything that a volunteer does – makes this club what it is today! For the Fall 2006 season, we will need and use over 400 volunteers.

Communication will be sent in regards to assignments of shifts and duties. It is important when you are assigned a duty – that you meet your commitment – please be on time and remember to sign-in so that you get credit for your time worked. Unless you have paid the \$20.00 per player or \$50.00 per family Volunteer Fee, you are required to perform two hours of volunteer service per player.

If you have questions in regards to your volunteer assignment – please contact Catherine Remakel, Director of Volunteers at volunteers@johnstonsoccer.org.

Thank You!

A huge thank you to all
volunteers that participated in the
work day at the fields on
Saturday, August 19. We couldn't
have done it without you!

Johnston Soccer Club Announces Sponsorship Opportunities

Calling all businesses! The Johnston Soccer Club has an opportunity for you.

The Club is excited to announce sponsorship opportunities for area businesses and business owners. Each weekend, over 2,000 local and metro residents come to our soccer fields. The club is inviting you to benefit from our growth. Each spectator is a potential customer and we are currently offering sponsorship opportunities to area businesses that include visibility at the fields, our web site, on printed materials produced by the Club, tournament recognition, and T-shirts.

Costs vary by level of support, but we are especially excited about our field sponsorships, which allow you to sponsor of one of 10 fields. If you would like more information about the sponsorship program, contact Ryan Halterman at 253-9059.

2006 Board of Directors

<u>Position</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
President	Kevin Moran	331-0913	president@johnstonsoccer.org
Vice President	Jeff Smaha	986-5050	vp@johnstonsoccer.org
Secretary	Peg Ongna	270-9319	secretary@johnstonsoccer.org
Treasurer	Julie LaFollette	244-4933	treasurer@johnstonsoccer.org
Registrar - U11 and above	Laura Beebe	999-9089	l_k_beebe@msn.com
Registrar - U5-U10	Mikki Kinning	254-0583	k1nn1ng@msn.com
Director of Communications	Karen Coaldrake	251-8545	coald@mchsi.com
Director of Operations	Ryan Halterman	253-9059	fields@johnstonsoccer.org
Referee Assignor	Jim Elmer	278-8311	referees@johnstonsoccer.org
Director of Referees	Jim Elmer	278-8311	referees@johnstonsoccer.org
Director of Coaching & Development	Matty Smith	457-8874	doc@johnstonsoccer.org
Director of Scores	Brent Handel	276-0187	scores@johnstonsoccer.org
Director of Volunteers	Catherine Remakel	986-5553	volunteers@johnstonsoccer.org
Girls' Director of Coaching	Jeff Adamiak	554-0246	dirgirlsprog@johnstonsoccer.org
Boys' Director of Coaching	Paul O'Connor	TBA	dirboysprog@johnstonsoccer.org
Competitive Program Coordinator	Jeff Kane	276-7049	compprogcoord@johnstonsoccer.org
Recreational Program Coordinator	Jim Wanninger	986-0990	recprogcoord@johnstonsoccer.org
At Large Director	Robb Leming	252-6121	rleming6121@msn.com
At Large Director	Jeff Kimrey	251-5858	kimreys@msn.com
At Large Director	Vassilios Vardaxis	334-5572	vassilios.vardaxis@dmu.edu
Club Administrator	Jennifer Gardner	253-9059	info@johnstonsoccer.org
		279-0111 (Fax)	

Board Meetings are held the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 PM at Aldersgate Methodist Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Our upcoming meetings are Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12.

Johnston Soccer Club
PO Box 118
Johnston, IA 50131

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