

## BoardTalk

Well, this season seems to have gone by very quickly. It has been, once again, remarkably successful, with a record number of kids enjoying playing with us, a new format for the Intramural program, a spectacularly successful Traveling season, and a wonderful evening of exhibition soccer from the players of Monmouth College and Delaware University. Unfortunately, it's also had some less pleasing moments, which we hope we can avoid next season.

**Sportsmanship:** In common with other sports, every season on the soccer field sees incidents of spectators reacting inappropriately to events on the field. The incidents we have to deal with detract from the objectives of the club and its volunteers, set a bad example to the young players, and reflect badly on the adults involved. We ask *everyone* watching or participating in a soccer game to remember some important points about youth sports, at Pinelanders and anywhere else:

- The purpose of our Intramural program is to **teach the kids to understand the skills and techniques** which are key to playing soccer. **Competition is secondary.** When competition is over-emphasized, by coaches or spectators, these objectives are diminished and the kids suffer.
- All our referees are State-certified, and know the Laws of the Game. They make decisions on the basis of their knowledge and training, and while mistakes may occur, they cannot and will not change a decision once made.
- The vast majority of misplaced tackles are accidental – our coaches do not teach their players to trip opponents, or to indulge in other forms of bad sportsmanship.
- **All our referees are empowered to eject players, coaches or spectators who abuse them, either verbally or physically,** and this action is encouraged and supported by the club. Spectators are expected to exercise self-control.
- **Soccer is a game,** meant to be enjoyed by those who watch, those who play and even those who referee. Feel free to cheer and shout encouragement, and when discussing the game accentuate the positive aspects. Sport is part of a child's education, and he or she will benefit more from support than from misplaced criticism or pressure. Similarly, please don't react negatively when the opposition team gains an advantage – it sets a poor example of sportsmanship.

**Thanks to our Referees** – young, not so young, and not at all young, who have done an exceptional job for us once again this season, sometimes refereeing several consecutive games in punishingly hot weather. Look for the hot new "McMullan Red" in Crayola boxes starting this fall.

Your refs have been: **Mike Bellingham, Gary Baumgartner, Tom Poznanski, Tom Amsterdam, Joe Brycki, Steve Young, Pat Donnelly and Rob McMullan.** Our adult refs are **Bill Young, Jim McMullan, Joe Moscato and Mike Varnof.** Thanks to **Tom Connors** for organizing the refs.

Please remember to show your appreciation when our referees have done a good job for the kids.

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## Traveling Team Tryouts

Tryouts for places on new and existing traveling teams will be held on Friday, June 24th at 7 p.m., and on Saturday, June 25th at 10 a.m. Contact Lou Napolitano (☎ 458-5199) for further information.

## Trophy Day

Trophies will be awarded on Championship Day, **Saturday June 18th**, following the final games for each division. Game times are as follows:

- **8:30 - 9:25 a.m.**      **Division 1 Seniors**
- **11:00 - 11:55 a.m.**      **Division 2 First Place Playoff**
- **1:30 - 2:25 p.m.**      **Division 3 First Place Playoff**
- **4:00 - 5:05 p.m.**      **Division 4 First Place Playoff**

Award ceremonies will last for about an hour after each game – see your coach for further details.

We encourage **all** teams to come and cheer their Division's final game, and help bring the season to an exciting end.

There's plenty of room for team picnics in the playground and surrounding areas – bring tables, chairs etc., and feel free to organize your own refreshments. The snack stand will be open as usual. **Don't forget your checkbook** for Summer Camp sign-up and Fall season registration!

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## Register Now For Fall '94

It's time to sign up for the Fall '94 season – registration forms will be available on Trophy Day. Don't forget to **BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK!** Forms are also available, as usual, through schools.

The fee is unchanged once again, at \$20 per child with a limit of \$50 per family – excellent value, particularly when compared with the fees charged for other sports.

Each season many parents submit their registrations late, and ask us to try to squeeze their children in anyway – and we usually manage to oblige. Although we hate to do it, the club has now reached a size at which **we must refuse late requests**, because our teams are stretched to the point at which it becomes unfair to kids and coaches. **The cutoff date of July 22nd will be enforced,** so sign up early to avoid disappointment.

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## Summer Soccer Camp

This year's summer soccer camp will be held at our fields during the first week in August, with sessions **each evening from Monday, August 1st to Friday, August 5th.** It is open to **all players in the club**, and will again be run by Coach Wayne Ramsey, head soccer coach at Monmouth College, and his team.

The cost is **\$75** per child; a family discount will be available for two or more players attending from the same family. The price includes a Soccer School T-shirt.

The camp is limited to 150 players. Last year we had 120 kids sign up in only two weeks, and we're already well over half full for this year, so get in soon to make sure of a place. It's a lot of fun, and the kids *and* the parents get an education!

Camp sign-up forms are available at the snack stand. Contact Rick Amsterdam (☎ 364-7377) for further details.

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## Wanted - New Coaching Blood

The club continues to expand each season, and, as you may have noticed, our intramural teams have more players than we would like. The primary reason is that **we are short of coaches.** If you'd like to coach a team in any Intramural division, or to help out as an assistant coach, please contact Rick Amsterdam (☎ 364-7377). It's not necessary to have prior experience – just an interest in the game and in kids.

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The **Traveling program** is also in need of new coaches. If you're interested in coaching a traveling team (any age group, but particularly '85/'86) starting this Fall, please contact Lou Napolitano (☎ 458-5199) or Chuck Hoyt (☎ 905-0292).

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## Our Traveling Teams Excel

We have eight Traveling teams competing in the Monmouth and Ocean Counties region, playing divisional games primarily on Sundays. They are also very active in entering tournaments around the state. Congratulations to all our Traveling teams on a brilliant season:

- **U19 Boys:** Eddie Blackford & Jason Geist's *Panthers* are at 7-2, with one game remaining to play for first place.
- **U14 Boys:** Joe Moscato & Vinny Romero's *Green Machine* had a 1-8-1 record in their first season in the Premier Division.
- **U11 Boys:** Rick Amsterdam & Lou Napolitano's *Gladiators* took top honors with an undefeated 6-0-2 record.
- **U11 Boys:** Joe Papola & Don Deakyne coached the *Bombers* to a 7-1-2 record, and will finish either top or tied for top.
- **U10 Boys:** *The Gators*, coached by Larry Respoli, Jim Baillie & Keith Gilde, were also undefeated, with a top-place 7-0-1 record.
- **U10 Girls:** Gary Strucke's *Mighty Ducks* gathered steam this season to finish at 4-4-2, including some very close losses.
- **U9 Boys:** Tom Connors & Jack Reilly's *Blast* jumped up two divisions this season, and finished in fourth place at 3-4-3.
- **U9 Boys:** Chuck Hoyt & Mario Cely took the *Sharks* to third place in their division with a 3-4-1 record.

**Good luck** to the *Panthers* as their players move on to College, and to all the other teams as they seek to build on this season's successes through the summer and next season.

**See the front page for Traveling Team tryout information** for all age-groups. We'll have **two new teams** in the fall, for '85/'86 boys and '85/'86 girls.

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## Refereeing & Coaching Courses

We plan to run a **refereeing course for adults and youngsters** this summer. Courses will be scheduled conveniently for attendees, and will be spread over evenings or weekends as appropriate. We need a minimum of eight adults to sign up before we can begin to organize the course.

We also plan to run **F- and E-class coaches' license courses** over the summer. For this we need commitments from a minimum of 20 people. F-class courses typically take one Friday evening and one Saturday, while E-class courses take two Friday evenings and two Saturdays. All coaches and assistants are strongly encouraged to take these courses, and become certified.

If you're interested in attending any of these courses please contact Lou Napolitano (☎ 458-5199).

## Car Parking

Having had to call the First Aid squad to the field three times this season, we'd like to underscore the importance of proper parking, to ensure that emergency vehicles have proper access to the field. **In an emergency, the time taken to move a thoughtlessly parked car could prove critical.**

If necessary, additional parking is available behind the old court house across the road.

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## BoardTalk (continued)

**...and to our 89 coaches and assistants** – who are the backbone of the club, giving up a lot of their valuable time for practices, games and telephone calls, all on behalf of our kids – and remember that many of them coach more than one team.

**...and to our field staff** – **Don Deakyne** and **Bill Young**, who did their usual fine job of preparing the fields each week – a job which requires them to spend time at the field each Friday when the rest of us are having fun earning a living.

**...and to our Snack Stand Volunteers** – for your time in manning the snack stand each game. The revenue generated by the stand is very important to the club, paying referee fees and for much of our essential equipment, such as the new Division 1 goals – and we just couldn't do it without your help.

**We're looking for** a small number of volunteers to serve as supervisors for the snack bar next season. No experience necessary. Please contact Jim McMullan (☎ 363-2746) if you'd like to volunteer for this important and prestigious role. ☺

**...and to our team mothers** – who every season selflessly do all those things that team moms always end up doing...

**...and (most of all) to our players** – who play hard, listen unfaithfully to their coaches, almost never bunch up, and give their parents something to fill their weekends. Well done to all of you, and congratulations on a great season!

**The Raffle: Joe Papola** will be running our annual fund-raiser again early in the fall season. When the time comes, please give your full support to this event – it's our only fund-raiser of the year, and it supports many of the club's activities, and enables us to keep our registration fees low.

**And Finally:** From our President, Jim McMullan, and all of the Board, thanks for making this a great season at Pinelanders!

We have a couple of weeks of soccer left, then it's beach time. Before you go on vacation, make sure you've signed up for our soccer camp, registered all your kids for the fall season, and locked your front door.

And make sure your home-team players watch the World Cup. No tickets? Don't worry, all the games will be on TV. Of course, it won't be the same without England... But have a great summer anyway!

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## Pinelanders Hosts College Soccer Game

HOWELL: About 600 spectators turned out at Howell's Pinelanders Youth Soccer Club on the evening of Saturday, April 16th, and were treated to a closely fought game between the Monmouth College Hawks and University of Delaware.

The two teams, playing their closing exhibition game of the pre-season, went all out for victory, and played some spectacular soccer – but Monmouth survived Delaware's early pressure, and went on to score in each half, taking the game 2-0.

Both goalkeepers were forced to pull off numerous saves, with goals coming from the Hawks' P.J. Farrell, converting a corner kick in

the first half, and Jozeff Grecezk, who scored from the penalty spot.

But aside from the great soccer exhibited by both teams, it was Delaware who really had the crowd buzzing, with some acrobatic throws that had a player doing forward flips before making a powerful throw!

The game was ably refereed by Harry Ziskroit of Manalapan, with Freddie Baptista and Jim McMullan Jr. running the sidelines.

Despite rain early in the day which caused cancellation of many local sports events, the weather cleared to produce great conditions for the flood-lit game. The event drew spectators from clubs all over the region, including Toms

River, Millstone, Jackson, Sayreville, Brick and Bayville.

This is the second successive year that Pinelanders has hosted a college-level game – last year featuring Monmouth coach Wayne Ramsey's Hawks against William Paterson College – and the event has been so successful that it looks set to become a permanent fixture in the club's calendar.

The Pinelanders Youth Soccer Club runs an active intramural and traveling program in the Howell area each spring and fall. For more information contact Rick Amsterdam, 364-7377, or Jim McMullan, 363-2746.

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