



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As we wind down our Spring '96 season, I would like to express my thanks to all those folks who have honored their volunteer commitment over the past season. We cannot do it alone, and we depend heavily on you all for your assistance. Special thanks to all our coaches and their assistants for the many hours they spend with our children in teaching them the game of soccer. Their positive encouragement, sportsmanship and general kindness in times of need is what truly makes the Pinelanders a family, and not just a sports organization.

In a new tradition this spring, we will be honoring one coach and one referee for outstanding effort during the season. Those who are chosen exemplify the best in coaching and refereeing, and will be honored at our annual Trophy Day on June 22nd.

Our annual College Game, this year featuring Rutgers and Monmouth Universities, was a great success – we saw two very good teams battle to a tie in front of a dedicated crowd of soccer fans. Although it wasn't a financial success, we accomplished our mission of bringing two top-rated schools for our youth to see in action on the field, and fun was had by all who attended.

We're starting to experience a major parking problem in the main lot west of the Board of Education building. Many people are becoming inconsiderate, triple parking and blocking both normal and **emergency** access to the fields. This will not be tolerated, and offenders will be towed at their own expense. Should the main lot become full, there is overflow parking across the street at the Howell Social Services Building – but please be careful crossing the road, and don't allow children to cross unsupervised!

Also, people continue to block the field entrance at the east end of the fields, just to the left of the Pinelanders sign. This entrance **cannot** be blocked, as it is reserved for **emergency** use. Recently we needed to get an ambulance on the field and we couldn't, because of inconsiderate parking. Please keep the coned area clear, or **you will be towed!**

Thanks for a great season – we hope you had a very pleasurable experience, and we hope to see you for Trophy Day on June 22nd, and back with us again in the fall!

Sincerely,
Ken Kinelski President

TRAVELING TEAM NEWS – HOWELL UNITED!

At the end of our first year, Howell United, the Traveling program we operate jointly with Howell Soccer Club, has proved to be an outstanding success.

We have 26 teams playing in the Monmouth Ocean Soccer Association (MOSA) league each weekend, and all our teams are playing well and competing with the best.

As you may have read in the local press, our winter indoor tournament was well attended – 84 teams from as far away as Sayreville and Lacey Township turned out each weekend for some hard-fought competition.

We were pleased with the turnout for our recent tryouts – we'll be forming three new teams in the fall. We're still looking for some new players, though, particularly in the Girls Under 9 and Boys Under 12 age-groups. If your children are interested in playing, please mail details, including your name, address and phone number to:

Howell United Soccer Club
4057 Highway 9 North
Box 232
Howell, NJ 07731

To people who enjoy coming to watch our games, my apologies for not posting the schedules this season – they've been changing week by week, and with just a few weeks to play they're *still* changing!

Anyway, enjoy the summer...

Chuck Hoyt

GROUNDS

Field maintenance has generally been running smoothly this season.

You may have noticed, though, that we've had some scheduling problems with the town in getting the grass cut prior to weekend games. We're scheduled for Thursday afternoon cutting, which allows for the lines to be painted on Thursday evening. Unfortunately, because of rain on several Thursdays, the fields were either not cut or were cut on Friday after the

lines had been painted. I'm sure you can appreciate the situation, and will help the referees when the lines are hard to see.

As several people have pointed out, the new D6 field is uneven – because there simply wasn't enough time in March

Trophy Day!

Saturday June 22nd, 1996

We're holding Trophy Day at our fields again this summer. We're planning a similar program to last summer, including a coaches' pickup game, and a series of exhibition games throughout the day.

Details will be available soon, but to help you plan your weekend, we expect the day to start at 8:30 a.m. with the Coaches' game, and for the younger divisions to play and receive awards early in the day. The final awards and games should finish mid-afternoon.

You can also register for our soccer camp and for the Fall season at Trophy Day, so don't forget to bring your check book!

Summer Soccer Camp!

July 29th – August 2nd

If you haven't already done it, don't forget to sign up for this year's summer soccer camp.

Once again this year it will be run by Monmouth University's coaching staff, headed by Wayne Ramsey. This camp is a great opportunity for your children to consolidate and improve their skills and learn new techniques under professional guidance.

*Make a note now, and sign up soon: it will be held at the Pinelanders fields each weekday evening **July 29th to August 2nd**. The fee is **\$85** for the first child in each family, **\$75** for other children, and includes a Reebok camp T-shirt. The camp is open to players in all divisions, and is not restricted to members of our club. Sign-up forms are available at the snack bar.*

Please call me on 364-7377 if you need more information.

Rick Amsterdam

to level it. We're planning to try to get a work crew together after the season to spread topsoil and seed for the fall. It would be nice to have some D6 parents help in that project – please call me.

With only a few weeks left in this season, we're already planning for next fall. The fields will need initial lining on either August 17th or 24th. A team of eight people will be needed for 4–5 hours. Please mark those dates and call me to volunteer your help.

I'll also be looking for a field maintenance assistant this fall to work with me on a regular basis. We'll also be looking for twelve dedicated volunteers to give two nights (2 hours each) during the season. In the last newsletter I asked for spring volunteers and got a grand total of two calls! My goal is to be able to have set crew schedules for specific dates to assure the fields are painted for your children to play. Please think about your commitment for the fall.

Thanks, *Gary Edinger*

SNACK BAR

Many, many thanks to **Patty Brandli** and **Sue Messina** for joining the Snack Bar Committee this season. With their ideas and time, the snack bar ran without a hitch. Their help is greatly appreciated!

Thanks also go out to the snack bar supervisors – the people who volunteered to spend one or more two-hour shifts working the snack bar.

The teams all seemed to cover their scheduled times – those who forgot managed to cover their goofs well! Thanks to coaches and team parents for scheduling times in advance.

We're still looking for a few happy people to join the Snack Bar Committee. The responsibilities are flexible – for example, buying on a weekly basis, opening or closing, or scheduling. No one is expected to run the snack bar by themselves. The more people, the more fun and the less work for everyone!

Thanks again to everyone who helped! See you at Trophy Day. *Melissa Rocks*

AROUND THE FIELDS

I'm pleased to say that this season is going very well. For the most part, our spectators, players and coaches have exhibited good sportsmanship.

For the few who did get carried away with the "win at all costs" attitude, please remember that we are a *recreational* soccer club: winning is low on our priority list. We're here to teach our kids to play soccer, show good sportsmanship, and hopefully have fun doing it. For those who want a higher level of competition, I suggest taking a look at our Traveling program, where winning is a key objective of the program.

I'd like to compliment our referees on the fine job they're doing, especially our younger refs, who are working well with our young players in Divisions 5 & 6. Please remember that these referees are following our guidelines when they instruct as well as referee these young players. Be patient with them – they're helping your children to get a better understanding of the game!

I hope to see as many of you as possible at this year's summer soccer camp – take a look at the front of this newsletter for details. Please call me at home (364-7377) if you have any questions.

In closing, let me remind all parents that if you have any problems, you should use a game report form to let us know about it – leave it in the wooden report box, and I promise we'll get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you, *Rick Amsterdam* Commissioner

REGISTERING FOR THE FALL

Most parents will receive this newsletter in the mail, along with registration material for the Fall.

As for all recent seasons, we're following a strict policy for priority registrations, and if you don't get your form in at the right time **you will receive a priority number, and may very well be on the waiting list next season** – so be sure to read the accompanying letter carefully, and get your stuff in on time.

The reasons for taking such a strict line about the process are for fairness to the other kids in Howell who want to play soccer, and to allow us to plan the number of teams, coaches and fields we need next season. With 700 players in the program (the size of many schools!), you can imagine that it takes a lot of planning and organization for us part-time amateurs to get the season under way.

Thanks to all who've helped with folding and sticking this season – we're mailing around 600 registration packages, and many hands certainly make the work lighter!

Jem Treadwell

THANKS FOR NOT SMOKING!

By now, everyone should have seen the new signs doing sentry duty at the three entrances to our fields. Among other things, they ask you **not to smoke, and not to bring dogs or glass onto the fields.**

All of these rules have been club policy for several seasons, but it's been hard to communicate them to spectators except by pointing them out when we see infractions. Now that we have the signs, we ask you please to observe these rules without being asked – one of the least pleasant tasks for Board members is to have to enforce rules. These rules are in place out of consideration for the health and safety of our children, and we ask you to set an example.

Many thanks to **John Rodriguez**, one of our long-time coaches, for making and donating these great-quality signs!

SOCCER ON THE SUPERHIGHWAY

If you have access to the web, you may be interested in these soccer pages:

- <http://www.nj.com/sports/soccer>
- <http://www2.best.com/~olivert/soccer/tv.html> (Soccer on TV)
- <http://www.metrostars.com>
- <http://www.soccernet.com> (English soccer)

One day we'll have a Pinelanders page...