

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Players and Parents:

Welcome to our 1997 Fall Season. I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are eagerly awaiting an exciting season. Special welcome to our new members. I am sure you will be happy that you have joined the Pinelanders family. We are heading for record enrollment this season and hope that you all enjoy the many exciting games that are ahead of us.

If you want to get the most out of the season for yourself and your family, you need to get involved! For your child to have the most successful experience, there are three main figures that need to work together: the player, the coach and the parents.

All of our coaches and board members are volunteers and give many hours of their time to ensure that our players learn and enjoy the game. I cannot stress enough how important volunteerism is to guarantee a successful program and fun for all.

When you are asked to work the snack bar, please do your fair share. If you would like to become more involved, please let us know. It takes a lot of people-power to run an organization this size. Board members are at the field at all times – please approach them and ask how you can help!

A new youth sports organization has been formed in Howell: the Howell Sports Federation. The Pinelanders Youth Soccer Club is one of the founding members of this organization that was formed to better all the sports programs in Howell and to act as a united voice for the enhancement of the various sports facilities in the town. As a fund-raiser, the Federation will be sponsoring an Affinity credit card at a very attractive rate. Applications for this card will be available at Howell Day in late September – I hope you all support this worthy endeavor, as all clubs will benefit.

Enjoy the season and remember: let the players play, the coaches coach, the refs ref and, most of all, let's all enjoy the games!

Sincerely, **Ken Kinelski** President

COMMISSIONER'S CORNER

As the end of the summer rapidly approaches, planning and preparing for the Fall season is in full swing.

First, I would like to congratulate our newest F-Licensed coaches. At present, approximately 65% of our coaching staff is licensed. This is good, but we hope to see more and more of our coaches taking the course to become licensed. We will continue to keep you posted about upcoming classes.

Just a quick thought for coaches and parents alike. The kids follow our lead. If we show them good sportsmanship, the chances are better they will follow our example. Remember always that the game should be fun for the kids – so let's try and keep it that way!

Have a great season!!

Tom Brandli Commissioner

PINELANDERS ON THE WEB

Don't forget to watch our web page for news and information this season – we have schedule information, standings, and lots more. Please encourage the players to e-mail game reports to us – we'll put them on the page for all their friends and relatives around the world to see.

It's www.monmouth.com/~pinelanders.

Jem Treadwell Secretary

Joe Parato Sportsmanship Award

As we go through the season, please keep in mind the *Joe Parato Memorial Sportsmanship Award*, and let us know if you want to nominate someone for the award.

Nominations are not restricted to coaches, and we don't have a precise definition of "sportsmanship." If you take note during the season of anyone – coach, player, parent or referee – who makes a particularly sporting gesture, or who continually displays the sporting attitude that our program is intended to encourage, as Joe did, please let us know.

Please write a short paragraph explaining who you're nominating, and why, and leave it in the wooden Game Report box in the front of the trailer. Or you can e-mail it to pinelanders@monmouth.com.

Parents' Seminar

A number of parents expressed interest in a parents' seminar, so we will be holding one in the week following the start of the season. We'll contact the parents who checked the box on the registration form directly, but if you didn't check the box and you're interested, watch for the announcement at the field.

Interested In Playing Adult Soccer?

If you're interested in playing an informal game of adult soccer after the Saturday games, contact **Adnan Abu-Hala** on **303-1971**.

This new program is open only to bona fide members of Pinelanders who are 18 or older. You must register for the program *before* you can play.

Shootout Competition

Watch for information about the Shootout Competition this Fall, sponsored by the Howell Elks. This competition was great fun for the kids who participated last year – this year we hope the weather will cooperate and allow us to hold it on a Saturday! Details later...

EDUCATION

The Club just sponsored an entry level coaches' licensing course. 43 people attended and qualified for their "F" Licenses. That's the good news. The bad news is that only ten were from our own club!

As you know, it is now Club policy to assign teams to coaches who've obtained their licenses. It's also Club policy that all coaches must be licensed by the time they've coached for two seasons. The State organization offers classes all year long. You can get a listing of upcoming courses from the State's hotline: **1-800-8NJSYSA**. Or keep an eye on our web page.

Bob Hoenic, Lynn Hoenic, Joe Moscato
Education Coordinators

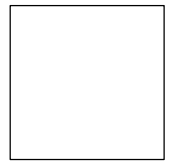
TEAMS & COACHES

We were delighted with the number of volunteer coaches we had this season – out of almost 500 families, we had over 100 people register to coach. That's over 20% of the families in the Club, which is an extraordinarily high percentage! We assigned most volunteers – we had too many in a couple of divisions, and were stretched a little thin in a couple of others, but (as always) things worked out! Thanks to all our volunteers; you make this job so much easier!

We're often asked why we re-draft the teams in the upper divisions each season, rather than allowing teams to stay together at least for two seasons. The reason is that we try to balance teams, so that no team or coach has a competitive advantage. From season to season, the number of teams in a division changes, players...



Pinelanders Youth Soccer Club
P.O. Box 455, Howell, NJ 07731



First Class

To:

Your Team Assignment Information Is Enclosed!

Check out our web page...

www.monmouth.com/~pinelanders
e-mail: pinelanders@monmouth.com

...change divisions, leave and join, and coaches move on. If we didn't re-draft the balance would change, as some teams stayed stable and others didn't, and new coaches and teams would be at a disadvantage. We've found that re-drafting has led to much better and calmer seasons, so, while it does require some adjustment for coaches and players, we believe (and our coaches and many of our parents have agreed) that overall it is the best approach.

Jem Treadwell, Tom Brandli

REFEREES

As we begin our new season, let me remind you that our referees are mostly teenagers, and most are still learning. Mistakes will happen. If you have a question about a referee's call, please wait until **after** the game, and then talk to him/her quietly on the sidelines. Referees' decisions are final, but they will be glad to explain their calls to you.

If you still have questions, please see me or any other Board member at the field. And as usual, please remember that we will not tolerate any abuse of our game officials. Thanks!

Bob Hoenig Referee Coordinator

FUNDRAISING

Mark October 1st and 2nd on your calendar. Those are the dates for Fall team pictures. The location isn't finalized yet.

As usual, a portion of what you spend on these pictures comes back to the Club. Last season, the packages you bought raised \$1,200 for the Club. Even if you don't plan to purchase pictures, please show up anyway, so that your child can be in his or her team's photo.

We'll be selling Entertainment Books at the snack bar this Fall. We've been experimenting with different fundraisers over the past few seasons. Many of you are already familiar with the Entertainment book, and know the excellent values it contains. Please pick up a copy for yourself and a few more as gifts for friends.

Thanks for your support!

Lynn Hoenig Fundraising Coordinator