

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Players and Parents:

I certainly hope that everyone has had a great season so far! The weather has not cooperated as we would have liked, necessitating many make-ups.... let's hope our remaining few weeks are OK!

I believe we have had another good season with our continuing soccer education program on Saturdays run by **Mario Guarino**, **Mike Palladino** and **Vinnie Cafiero**.... all are excellent coaches and experienced players themselves. Special thanks to them for the extra time they have given to provide additional instruction to our kids and coaches!

The season is just about over, the trophies have been ordered and we are looking forward to another fun Trophy Day. We are going back to an old tradition and will be giving out trophies at the fields this season on **Saturday, June 18th**. This will be a fun-filled day for all, with a free continental breakfast for the early morning players and their families and a BBQ starting later in the morning... **all** are welcome to come and have a team party and bring whatever else you would like. We will also have a series of short games for all divisions so all can show off their new skills... this will be a fun day for all! See the newsletter article from **Lon Zonis** and watch for the flyers around the fields over the next few weeks with the times for each division. **In the event of bad weather** we will hold Trophy Day as usual at Middle School North in the evening. Please plan on attending and have a fun team party!

I would like to thank our coaches, assistant coaches, team parents and our many volunteers who stepped forward to work the fields, man the snack bar, do mail-outs, help with registrations and coach... we cannot run such a large organization without additional volunteers! I ask that those of you who have **not** stepped forward yet please do so as there are still many things that still need doing... remember, this is **your** club for **your** kids, so please get involved!

We are continually looking for ways to improve the club and make this an even better program **but we need you** to get more involved. Have some ideas, don't like something, want to help the community? **Please** get involved! Look for me at the fields, send me an email, call me, or see any other Board member at the fields... we truly need you!

See you all at Trophy Day!

– Ken Kinelski, President

END-OF-SEASON AWARDS

If you'd like to nominate someone for one of our end-of-season awards, please see any Board member at the fields, leave a note in the wooden report box in the green trailer, or send e-mail to Ken.Kinelski@pinelanders.com. Nominations **must** be in by **Saturday June 11th**, and you **must** say why! The awards are:

- **Joe Parato Sportsmanship Award** (player, parent, coach, ref...)
- **Tony Valenzano Coach of the Season** (any coach)
- **Referee of the Season** (did you notice an outstanding ref?)
- **Olivia Zonis Courage Award** (for a member who has shown courage in adversity)

TROPHY DAY B-B-Q

This season's Trophy Day will be held at Hoffman Fields on **June 18th**. This year we will be bringing back an old tradition!!

The Pinelanders Board would like to invite all of our members for a day filled with games showcased in each division, trophy presentations, Continental breakfast and a barbeque lunch provided for free and served by your Board members. You are welcome to bring your own snacks and desserts for your team's party.

So bring your blankets and chairs and spend some time with your friends and family and celebrate the players of Pinelanders!!

The day's events will kick off in the morning and go into the afternoon, depending upon your division.

More information will be coming in the next few weeks regarding the time slots of each of the divisions to be at the fields.

– Lon Zonis, Trophy Day Event Coordinator

SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

It's not too late to sign up for our summer camp. Once again the camp will be run by Coach Wayne Ramsey and the highly-regarded New Jersey Select organization. The camp will run each evening Monday July 25th - Friday July 29th from 5:30 - 8:00 PM. It is open to players aged 4-16.

Everyone is welcome—you don't have to be a member of Pinelanders. Please look for a form in your registration package, pick one up at the snack bar, or see our Documents page at <http://www.pinelanders.com> to download and print one. If you have questions, please contact Bryan.Epstein@pinelanders.com or leave a message at 732-919-2111, voice mailbox 2.

MY PINELANDERS TAKES OFF

In its debut season, almost (but not quite!) 500 of our 661 member families have signed up to use *My Pinelanders*, the feature of our web site that gives you convenient access to your schedule and other personalized details. It is getting significant daily access, so it's clear that it's a feature that is proving to be useful, and we see it very much as a way to improve our communication and offer self-service as the club grows. We're working on adding on-line registration, so watch out for announcements about that, and also for more team-based facilities in the coming season. If there are features or enhancements that you'd like to see, please let me know.

As always, please be sure to keep me informed of any changes to your family information, including your cellphone numbers. And if you've stopped receiving e-mail from us then it's almost certainly because there's a problem with the address we have on file for you, so please send me a message and I'll fix it. And many of the bounced messages we see are a result of mailboxes on free e-mail services being over quota. If this is a problem for you check out *gmail.com*—there's effectively no quota there!

If you have questions or comments please contact me at jem@pinelanders.com. Have a great summer...

– Jem Treadwell, Registration & Web Site

NEW FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM

During the season we took a brief e-mail poll to find out if our members would be interested in establishing a support organization to provide help to parents who need it. The response was a very clear “yes,” and we will look to implement a program in the Fall.

We don't yet know what form this program will take—it very much depends on what support is needed, and what people are willing to offer. One obvious example is organizing rides for children whose parents simply cannot get them to practices or games, but there are likely to be other tough situations that we may be able to ease.

We anticipate that the program will be organized by volunteers from our membership, **not** directly by Board members, so if you would like to be involved, **please be sure to check the box in the Volunteer section of your registration form.**

REFEREE REPORT

It's been another season of learning and improvement for our Pinelanders referees. The new referees, who began their careers with us this spring, are progressing well. There've been some mistakes and blown calls, but this is normal. In most cases, the quality of their officiating has improved as the season has unfolded. Our more experienced teen and adult refs have continued to hone their craft and sharpen their skills.

One thing we've noticed this season is that many coaches and parents still don't quite understand the Laws of the Game, and the way we've adapted them for our program.

For example, we often heard coaches asking referees to award penalty kicks in D6. Our rules say there are **no direct free kicks** in D6. A PK is a direct kick, and that's why we don't award them.

The best way to enjoy the game of soccer is to understand it – and knowing the rules can help you. Coaches and parents are urged to read a copy of the FIFA Laws of the Game manual. You can buy a copy for a few dollars at most sporting goods and soccer specialty stores—or you can download a copy for free from www.njyouthsoccer.com or www.fifa.com. We keep a spare copy in the green trailer for referees' reference. A copy of our club rules is posted in the cabinet outside the trailer, and is available from our website, www.pinelanders.com.

Any Board member can answer any question you have about FIFA and Pinelanders rules—or refer you to a member of the Referee Committee if they aren't sure.

Thanks for your continued support of our referee program this season.

– *PYSC Referee Committee*

TEAM PICTURES

We had a great turnout at our team picture nights earlier this season. The photographs have been delivered, and we'll distribute them at Hoffman Fields for this weekend (June 3rd/4th). Coaches will find their teams' orders either in their mail slot or (in the case of large orders) in a large box in front of the mail slots in the trailer. Please make that somebody from your team picks them up **before your game.**

– *Lynn Hoenig, Vice President/Pictures Coordinator*

GROUNDS

Thank you to the volunteers who came forward to help us set up the fields before opening day. With your help, we had the fields laid out and striped and Hoffman tidied up and ready to go in record

time. Thanks also to the folks who came out to help us keep the lines painted over the course of the spring.

But: The response to our call for volunteers to help us paint the lines each week was a bit disappointing. I hope more of you will come out to help next season!

Thank you, also, to all of you who picked up trash and drink bottles to help keep our fields neat and clean. Please take a moment whenever you're at Hoffman to look around and pick up any garbage you see. It really makes a difference. And please remember to clean up after your practice at the school fields—we've had complaints about that this season.

– *Chris Hoenig, Fields Director*

WE'RE HERE TO HELP!

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, Board members are always available at the fields to answer your game-day questions and listen to your concerns. A lot of you seem to have read that.

During the hours I've spent at Hoffman this season, it seems I've heard from and talked with hundreds of members. And that doesn't count the emails I get from many of you.

This is a good thing! As club Secretary, one of my main jobs is to communicate with you. And communication is a two-way deal. Yes, I send dozens of emails on topics from game cancellations to team pictures to rules explanations. But it's talking with you in person at the fields, listening to how you feel about the way the club runs, how the refs and coaches are doing, how your child is progressing, that helps the Board keep this club focused on its primary mission, to help instill a love of the game while helping our kids learn the world's most popular sport in a fun environment.

So never hesitate to come over and tell me—or any other Board member—what's on your mind. After all, we're here to help.

Thanks for a great season and have a safe and restful summer!

– *Bob Hoenig, Board Secretary*

SNACK BAR VOLUNTEERS

A huge “thank you” to all Snack Bar Servers and Supervisors for your hard work and commitment this season, even when the power was out! Your dedication keeps the snack bar running smoothly, generating the proceeds necessary to pay the referees. Also, thanks for signing up via the Snack Bar Schedule page on the Pinelanders web site or via e-mail. Your support is greatly appreciated.

If you have been a Server for several seasons and are familiar with the running of the Snack Bar, please consider volunteering to be a Supervisor when you register your children again. We really need more Supervisors. If you have questions about being a Supervisor, you can contact me at BobbiSue.Bowers@pinelanders.com.

Thank you again for your dedication and cooperation!

– *Bobbi Sue Bowers, Snack Bar Volunteer Coordinator*

LAPTOP COMPUTER GIVEAWAY

We recently updated the club's laptop computer, and we would like to donate the old one to a **Pinelanders family who needs one for a child to use.** It is a 266 MHz Compaq Presario 1255, 32 Mb memory, 4 Gb disk, running Windows 98. It is **not** fast and it is **not** suitable for running Windows XP, but it has Word '97, it can be used to access the Internet, and it's in excellent condition.

If you are **genuinely** interested, please enter the drawing on Trophy Day. **Please do not enter** if you do not have a genuine need!