

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Players and Parents:

Welcome to our spring 2006 season! For those of you who are new, we welcome you to the Pinelanders family. This is our 35th year providing top quality soccer instructional programs here in Howell. We have served thousands of children during our 35 year existence and we hope you have a very enjoyable experience. To those returning players and families, welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable snowy winter and are ready for another exciting season of warm weather and fun!

Our numbers keep on growing, especially in our 4 year-old program (Division D7) and our 5 and 6 year-old (D6) program, and we're especially delighted to see new growth in D2G, which will have three teams this season. Our division alignments and sizes are dictated by the enrollment we receive, so they do fluctuate at times.

We have another exciting season planned and your Board has been hard at work over the winter. Key dates and events are mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter and on our web site. There are two mandatory coach meetings during the season so coaches please plan to attend. Our picture sessions are mentioned in the Team Pictures article. Trophy day is **Saturday, June 17th** at the fields where we will repeat last year's tremendously successful club picnic and recognize all of our players. The backup plan, in case of inclement weather, is still on **June 17th** but it would be moved to the old team party format at **Howell Middle School North**. Please mark these important dates on your calendar.

As always, we are in need of volunteers in all categories. Your Board members are all volunteers and we can't run an organization this large without your help. When you get the call to volunteer please do so cheerfully in support of **YOUR** club. We are in special need of people to act as snack bar supervisors and grounds helpers, specifically to line fields. The field lining is easy and not too time-consuming...if we have two people each Friday for a 10 week season that would be fantastic. If you can help with the fields (please!!!!) contact Simon Smit at the fields or via email at Simon.Smit@Pinelanders.com. He will be more than happy to train you for this important task. If you would like to be a snack bar supervisor, please contact BobbiSue.Bowers@Pinelanders.com. Or, if you prefer, please see me or any Board member at the fields on any weekend...**WE NEED YOU!**

At the end of last season the members voted on bylaw changes to help make the club run more efficiently and to encourage more people to get directly involved in the running of the club. This season we will hold elections for a new Board consisting of 12 elected Board members and up to 8 more appointed members. The

terms of all will be significantly reduced and we hope to attract more people to serve in that fashion. As the details of this unfold we will insure that you are all notified. I would ask if you would like to get more involved in your club, please seriously consider an elected or Board appointed position...it is very personally rewarding to help out in the community!

Also, last season we mentioned that we were re-evaluating Division D6 (5 and 6 year olds) and whether to split that division in two. After much Board discussion and analysis we have decided not to make any changes this season, but see the separate article on this topic.

I hope you all have a very enjoyable season but please remember our main goal, to teach the game of soccer through skills development, with sportsmanship being paramount; **not** winning games by overwhelming scores. We all need to be fair, let the children play, and encourage them with **positive** comments. Too often we hear comments from parents and coaches that are extremely negative. We will not tolerate it! Let the coach's coach and the refs referee and ensure the safety of your child and enforce the laws of the game. And remember, if you can't say something nice, don't say it at all...we are all here to have fun and provide for the best positive experience for our children.

See you all at the fields!

Sincerely, Ken Kinelski, President

BOARD ELECTIONS

Three new members have been elected to our Board of Directors. Jackie Guarino, Tim O'Brien and Maria Stenborg were elected at the annual meeting on Fall Trophy Day, and took office on January 1st. Jackie and Tim also serve as coaches, while Maria is a long-time club member whose children have played here. Lon Zonis, who was appointed to fill an open seat two years ago and is the club's Snack Bar Manager, has now been elected to a full term. Bryan Epstein, Lou Hagggar, Chris Hunt, and Ken Kinelski were re-elected to the Board.

At its reorganization meeting in January, the Board re-elected the following members of its Executive Committee: President Ken Kinelski, VP Lynn Hoenig, Secretary Bob Hoenig, Treasurer Tony Valenziano, Assistant Treasurer Bryan Epstein, Commissioner Mario Guarino, and Assistant Commissioner Chris Hunt.

The Board is in the process of implementing a restructuring plan that will streamline the governance of the club and give more members an opportunity to serve. That process began when members at November's meeting approved changes to the club's bylaws. Once the restructuring plans are finalized the current Board will be disbanded and new elections will be held — see the notice on this page for details.

The Board will keep you updated on the progress of the restructuring.

-Bob Hoenig, Board Secretary

DATES

Picture Night
April 3rd & 4th at
Land O'Pines School
Trophy Day
June 17th
At the fields
Soccer Camp
July 24th-28th

Mark your calendar!

====!! IMPORTANT !!=====

Notice of Special Election for the Pinelanders Board of Directors

As part of the announced restructuring of the Board, a special election for the Pinelanders Board of Directors will be held the weekends of **May 12th & 13th** and **May 19th & 20th, 2006** during the club's scheduled playing hours.

If you would like to run for a position on the Board please contact **Bob Hoenig**, Board Secretary, or **Ken Kinelski**, President.

Further details of the elections and the planned restructuring will be announced by notice at our fields at least two weeks prior to the election.

DIVISION D6 STRUCTURE

At its February meeting the Board voted to make **no changes** to the current structure of our 5 and 6 year-old age group (D6). At the same time, members voted to establish a committee to review D6 and make a recommendation in April as to what, if any, changes are needed. The Board will consider the recommendations at its May meeting and implement any changes for the Fall season.

Some families and coaches have expressed concern with the current makeup of D6. Primary suggestions are to set up separate divisions for the two ages, to create a sub-division to accommodate players with higher skills, and to leave the current structure in place.

Your input is welcome. If you have any ideas or concerns about the structure of D6 please email them to me, and I'll make sure the committee sees them.

-Bob Hoenig, Board Secretary

REFEREE REPORT

Pinelanders is happy to welcome more than a dozen new referees to its ranks. Most of these new game officials "graduated" from the USSF referee school we hosted in February. Many of them are teenagers, but we also have a few new adult referees. They'll work with more experienced referees as they learn Pinelanders' club rules and become comfortable officiating games.

You can help during this process by showing understanding as our new referees learn their jobs. Remember: **Pinelanders will not tolerate abuse of referees by players, coaches or spectators!**

By the way, FIFA, the international governing body of soccer, has instituted some rule changes, including modifications of the offside rule and the procedures for a throw-in. Our refs will be enforcing these changes this coming season. If you have any questions about them, please ask any Board member at the fields.

Lou Haggar has taken over the position of Referee Assignor for the club, and is directing the operation of our referee program. Lou is a certified referee and a USSF licensed referee assignor.

-Referee Committee

TEAM PICTURES

Team pictures have been scheduled for **Monday, April 3rd and Tuesday, April 4th** at **Land o' Pines School**, Windler Road. Each team will be given a specific team picture appointment. *Coaches who need a specific time for their team's appointment let me know.*

Those who've been with us for a while know the high quality of the pictures and products our photographer, All Sport Photos, provides. ASP offers a wide range of photo packages and novelties that make for wonderful keepsakes and great gifts for grandparents, aunts and uncles. Prices are very reasonable.

We'll have more information for you as we get closer to picture nights. Your coach will let you know when your team's pictures will be taken, and will give you an order form that includes a price list and description of packages.

I hope you'll take part in our team picture program.

-Lynn Hoenig, Vice President

COACHING AND REFEREE SCHOOLS HELD

Over the winter, our Education Committee hosted an NJ Youth Soccer "F" Coaching License Clinic and a USSF referee school.

43 recreation and travel soccer coaches from around New Jersey took part in our "F" License class, taught by Krissy Turner, Head Women's Soccer Coach at Monmouth University. More than a third of these coaches were from our club. They received instruction in drills, rules, first aid, liability issues, and team management. We hold these classes at least once a year. If you're

interested in coaching, or you need to comply with our coaching license policy, watch for announcements about our next class.

36 teens and adults took part in our referee school. All attained their USSF Grade 8 referee licenses, and 12 of them will be joining Pinelanders staff of referees in the spring. We host ref schools from time to time, usually over the winter months.

For more information on coaching and referee classes, email Bob Hoenig at Bob.Hoenig@pinelanders.com or check our website.

-Lynn & Bob Hoenig, Education Committee co-chairs

SNACK BAR

Welcome to the 2006 spring season. Thank you for volunteering to be a Snack Bar Server or Supervisor! We ask that each family who has signed up to be either of these positions volunteers for **at least one** time slot during the season. The Snack Bar schedule is on the Pinelanders web site. Experienced Servers, please consider switching your volunteer activity from Server to Supervisor. Contact me if you have any questions about the difference and I will send you a list of Supervisor responsibilities.

Please schedule your time in one of the following ways:

- On www.pinelanders.com, click on Snack Bar Schedule
- By e-mail: BobbiSue.Bowers@pinelanders.com
- Leave a message: 732-919-2111, #4

Thanks, and enjoy the season!

-Bobbi Sue Bowers, Snack Bar Coordinator

SOCCER CLINICS

Coach Mike Palladino and our Head Goalkeeper, Vinnie Cafiero, will once again be holding their popular skills clinics this season. These clinics offer a great opportunity for your child to improve his or her skills with two of our most experienced teachers, and there is no cost to you, so do plan to take advantage of them. The clinics will be held at 12:30pm each Saturday – watch for announcements, and expect something a little different this time!

SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

The winter thaw is here and the spring soccer season is about to start. What a great time, each weekend watching your kids learning and playing soccer, each week their skills improving.

Before you know it the ten weeks will be over and summer will be here. Your child has graduated and will be getting ready to go to Middle School or High School. "Hey Mom I want to go out for the school team" they'll say. That's great, but how will they get their skills ready for that big next step?

Sign up for the **Pinelanders** soccer camp run by Wayne Ramsey and his Jersey Select trainers. The camp will be held at **Hoffman Field** in the evenings on **July 24 thru July 28, 2006**. Watch for details and registration info coming soon, on-line at www.pinelanders.com and at the snack stand.

Any questions please e-mail Bryan.Epstein@pinelanders.com or call me at 732-919-2111, mailbox #2.

-Bryan Epstein

THE WEB & MY PINELANDERS

Now entering its second year of use, **My Pinelanders** has become the premier information vehicle for our parents and coaches, and it's the best way we have to give **and** to collect information. We've already exceeded last season's record of 911 players, and as we grow the web and e-mail are becoming the **only** way we can manage communication. Register for "MyPi" on our web page.

Watch for new facilities to be announced over the next few weeks – and, as always, keep a close eye on your e-mail! *-Jem Treadwell*