

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Dear Players and Parents:*

I certainly hope that everyone has had a great season so far! The weather has been cooperating for the most part, we have been lucky! Let's hope our remaining few weeks are OK!

I believe we have had another good season with our continuing soccer education program run by **Mario Guarino, Vinnie Cafiero and Tim O'Brien** ...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. Since last year's Spring Trophy Day was such a success at the fields, we will be doing that again assuming we have good weather. See the newsletter article on Trophy Day and watch

for the flyers around the fields and on the web over the next few weeks with the times for each game. **In the event of bad weather** we will hold the 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 and 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 and it is a condition of your child playing. We will take corrective action on those folks who did not volunteer this season!

We are also looking for members who would like to serve on our Board of Directors to help manage the club... we would like to get more members involved! Please contact any Board member for information.

Please review the other important messages in this newsletter!! See you all at Trophy Day!

Sincerely,

— *Ken Kinelski, President*

## SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

It's not too late to sign up for our summer soccer 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 23 to Friday July 27 from 5:30 to 8:00 pm**. It is open to players ages 4 – 14. Teams are also invited to participate as a group. Each camper will receive an official training shirt and a written evaluation.

Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a member of Pinelanders—feel free to invite friends from other soccer clubs to join you. Pick up a registration form at the snack bar, or download it from our website, [www.pinelanders.com](http://www.pinelanders.com). If you have any questions, please contact **Kim.Brown@pinelanders.com** or leave a message at 732-919-2111, mailbox #6.

## GOOD LUCK TO OUR TOURNAMENT TEAMS!

We are sponsoring U7 boys' and girls' teams, and two U11 girls' teams for local tournaments this Spring. The players have been training weekly with their new teammates.

Thank you to **Vinny Marrone & Jim McCombs, Frank Pipas & Mario Guarino, and Tim O'Brien, Dave Truglia, Bill Bennett & Charlie**

**Loguidice** for coaching the teams this Spring. They have all taken the extra time to make sure the teams are ready to compete.

It's been many years since Pinelanders has been represented in recreation tournaments. I hope to see more teams take part in the Fall!

— *Kim Brown*  
Tournament Coordinator

## VOLUNTEER REPORT

Now that our new volunteer system has been up-and-running for almost a whole season, here's a look at how we've been doing.

First, thanks to everyone who has helped with any aspect of our club this season! As Ken has said repeatedly, running an organization this size—1016 players and over 700 families—takes a lot of work, and everything is voluntary. So we need everyone to pitch in, and, by and large, we all do.

In the closing few weeks we have 702 active families. Of those, 543 have "green" or "yellow" status, meaning they have completed an activity or have signed up for one, and 159 have "red" status, meaning the opposite. At this point we've only just posted the Trophy Day schedule, and there are still two regular weekends left, so I do hope and expect that the number of "red" families will drop.

The system has helped with our operation in that (I hope) it's been easier for members to find and sign up for a suitable activity, it's allowed us to get help with activities such as field preparation, setup and cleanup, and it's made it easier to organize admin work such as registration, mail-outs and distribution of flyers to schools. And, long overdue, we finally are able to recognize the role of Team Mom or Dad!

The color-coded schedule has also enabled us to watch for issues, and adjust as needed. For example, it became clear in mid-season that we had run out of people willing to take on the two-hour snack bar

supervisor slot, so we replaced that slot with two one-hour slots, which we hope will be filled by "veterans" – meaning simply people who have some experience of working in there so that they can help with any questions from those with less experience.

The big question, of course, was how many of the slots would be filled by willing volunteers. The answer will not be completely clear until the end of the season, but so far it's been great for non-game-day activities, but often disappointing for the weekends – lots of red flashes showing up in the schedule, an under-staffed snack bar, and Board members having to (once again) clear up the fields without help. As we've said many times over the season, our policy is to suspend players whose families don't participate, and we do expect to do this. As I write, the Board is working on an announcement of how the Club's policies will be enforced, so please watch for details, and if you haven't signed up for an activity you'll be receiving individual notification in the mail before the end of the season.

Once again, we are a volunteer club, and our new procedures are helping us to make sure that *all* our families participate—our experience over the years has been that our members appreciate it when we say what we mean and mean what we say. This season has been a first attempt at getting this right, and it will take a couple more before we have it all running smoothly. As always, we thank you for your support!

— *Jem Treadwell*

## PLEASE KEEP YOUR INFO CURRENT

If you've moved or changed your phone number, or if you aren't getting e-mail from us, please check your information on your My Pinelanders "My Family" page. Please use the Change buttons to let me know of any changes or errors.

— *Jem Treadwell*

## **Trophy Day June 16<sup>th</sup> at our fields**

The game schedule has been published on the Makeup Games schedule web page, and more information will be available at the fields.

We'll get started at noon, and we'll have games, awards, BBQ food for the family, and entertainment for the younger kids.

Bring picnic tables and chairs, and celebrate another great season with your team!