

LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

1992 SPRING NEWSLETTER

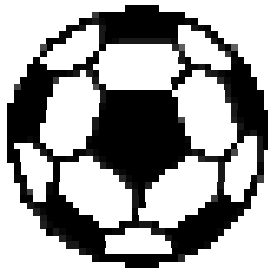
Lower Merion Soccer Club, Box 469, Gladwyne, PA 19035

Now that the 1991 fall season has come to a close, we at the Lower Merion Soccer Club would like to take a few minutes to let you know of upcoming soccer events for the 1992 season.

Tryouts for our 1992 fall season travel teams will be held in April and May, before people go away for the summer. A complete list of tryout dates, time, locations and coaches is enclosed with this newsletter. The annual LMSC travel team registration night for players making one of the travel teams will be held in the first week of June.

Once again, we will have our spring intramural program for 5 and 6 year old boys and girls, beginning in late April. The program is open to all youngsters born on or after August 1, 1984. Applications for the program have been sent out to youngsters of those ages who are on our mailing list. If you have not received an application, and would like one, please write to us at our address listed above.

In an effort to better educate coaches and parents about youth soccer, LMSC will be running two different coaching clinics and will also be sponsoring a three night United States Soccer Federation coaching course. Details are found later in this newsletter.



SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

Once again, LMSC will run their spring intramural program for boys and girls born on or after August 1, 1984, including children born in 1985, 1986 and mature 1987 births. The program is open to all players who participated in the fall season, as well as any newcomers who might be interested.

Games will be played on Sunday afternoons at Greenfield Avenue Field in Ardmore (off of Lancaster Avenue, near the old Kiddie City). The program will run each Sunday from April 26 to June 30, except for Memorial Day Weekend.

TRYOUTS FOR TRAVEL TEAMS

Tryouts for the 1992/93 fall season LMSC travel teams will be held in April and May. A complete schedule for the teams is enclosed.

LMSC will field two boys teams for ages Under 9 (August 1, 1983 to July 31, 1984 birth) through Under 14 (August 1, 1978 to July 31, 1979 birth) which will compete in the Delco Soccer League. LMSC will field girls teams at Under 9 through Under 14 plus Under 16 and Under 19, which will compete in the Tri-County Soccer League. The 1992/1993 season will start in mid-August.

The travel team program offers the more competitive youth soccer player a chance to participate at a higher level of play than the intramural program. All teams play a full league schedule in the fall. In addition, several teams compete in indoor tournaments in the winter as well as outdoor spring soccer tournaments.

In the boys travel team program, players making the 'A' division team in each age group are expected to make a greater commitment than players on teams in the lower divisions. The 'A' division teams play from mid-August through to the end of May. In the winter time they play in numerous indoor tournaments and in the spring, the 'A' division teams compete in the State Cups, spring league and a few outdoor tournaments.

Travel team soccer is designed for boys and girls who wish to develop to a point where they will be able to successfully compete at the high school level and college level. In general, the travel team coaches have a much greater soccer background than the intramural soccer coaches.

A list of travel team coaches is enclosed, along with the dates, times and fields of the tryouts. Most age groups will have more than one tryout date, players are expected to be at ALL tryout dates. Players trying out for travel teams are to bring both a white tee shirt and a blue tee shirt. Players who are currently in the travel team program are NOT to wear their uniforms to travel team tryouts.

1991/92 TRAVEL TEAM SEASON IN REVIEW

The current season is proving to be another very successful one for LMSC. Our boys Under 11 'A' team finished 2nd in the Indoor State Cup recently. Coached by Bill Payne, the boys won their three preliminary games as well as their semi-final game before losing to Langhorne Soccer Club in the State Championship game.

In the opening game, LMSC defeated the Montgomery Mustangs 3-1 on goals by Todd Zamzow, Billy Kornberg and Luke Coyle. The next two games saw back to back shutouts by goalie Tripper Heckscher as the team defeated Hatboro 1-0 on another goal by Coyle and then defeated Vogt 1-0 on a goal by Jonathan Payne.

The three wins in the preliminary rounds put the team into the semi-finals against a very physical team from the Fishtowns Soccer Club. LMSC again prevailed, winning 2-1 on goals by Payne and Tim Lord.

Due to a strange way of scheduling games, LMSC was forced to play back to back games and they were given no rest before the championship game. The team was unable to run with the well rested Langhorne team in the championship game and lost 4-1 with Coyle getting his third goal of the day.

Helping goalie Heckscher was a standout defense consisting of Zamzow, Ben Levit, Aaron Brill, Mike Bickell and Sean Keech. Also playing well for LMSC was Josh Hollinger, Billy Rock, Luke Ogelsby and Fran Sutter.

Our boys Under 13 team, coached by Joe Hopkins, reached the quarterfinals of the Indoor State Cup before losing 2-0 to eventual champion Greater Chester Valley. In the fall, the Dragons won the 20 team Deep Run Thanksgiving Tournament, finishing with a perfect 6-0 record.

In league play, the Dragons defeated Downingtown in the semi-finals 2-1. Trailing 1-0, goaltender Mike Keating started an impressive comeback when he ventured up to the other end of the field to score on a 30 yard direct free kick. The Dragons narrowly lost the league championship, 2-1 in overtime to defending state champion Nether Providence.

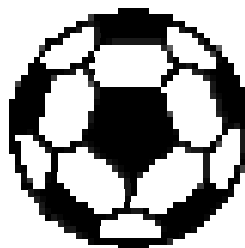
Our boys U-9 team (the Lunatics) finished the regular fall season 12-0-0, outscoring their opponents 41-3 before losing in the championship game.

Also reaching the Delco League finals were Bob Rock's U-10 'B' team, while our U-10 'C' team and U-12 'C' team both made their division semi-finals.

Our girls travel team program had their best season ever as five of the seven teams advanced to the Tri-County playoffs. The Under 11 Red Fox team, coached by Jo Grech, reached the Tri-County League semi-finals, as did the U-14 team (Nick Tascione, coach) and the U-16 girls (Chick Ceccarelli, coach).

Our two youngest girls teams, the U-9 team (Lance Laver, coach) and the U-10 team (Matt Siembeda, coach) both made impressive showings in Tri-County, reaching the semi-finals.

Hopefully 1992 will see continued growth in girls soccer, especially with the U.S.A. Women's team having just won the World Championships, held in China.



SOCCER COACHING CLINICS

In an effort to better educate our coaches, LMSC will be running two indoor coaching clinics this winter. The first one was held earlier in the season and was geared towards coaches of 5 to 8 year old players.

The second coaching clinic will be geared for coaches of players ages 8-14 years old. Travel team coaches as well as older intramural division coaches are encouraged to attend. The clinic will concentrate on advanced soccer tactics. This clinic will be held on Monday, March 23 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at Lower Merion High School Gym. You do not need to pre-register.

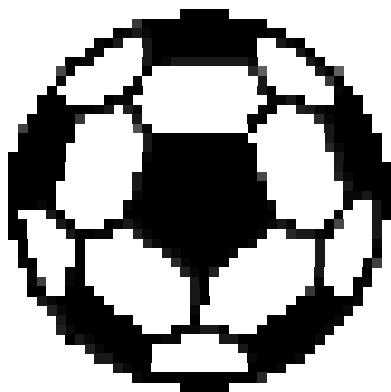
Those people interested in attending the coaching clinic should plan on arriving PROMPTLY. Coaches are encouraged to bring note books and pencils. Coaches are urged to dress in soccer attire to help out with any demonstrations.

SOCCKER COACHING COURSE

In addition to the coaching clinics, LMSC is sponsoring a United States Soccer Federation 'F' level coaching course. The course will be held on three nights (Wednesday, March 25, Monday, March 30 and Wednesday April 1) from 6:00 to 9:00 PM at the Lower Merion High School Gym.

This is the most fundamental USSF coaching course and gives a good overview of coaching methodology, technique, tactics, laws of the game as well as care and prevention of injuries. Successful participants will receive an 'F' level coaching license and will be eligible to attend the more advanced ('E', 'D' level etc.) courses in the future.

The cost of the course is \$30. LMSC will reimburse the FULL amount to all coaches who successfully pass the course and coach in the LMSC program. Coaches wishing to sign up for the course may request an application by writing to LMSC, Box 469, Gladwyne, PA 19035.



LMSC CATALOG

Enclosed with this letter is the LMSC catalog for those of you who wish to purchase any of the various soccer items that we carry. We will also be offering our size 3 LMSC soccer balls at the spring intramural program.

We must receive your order by March 30 in order for us to get your items in the spring delivery. Orders received after November 30 will be put on our spring order.

LMSC SUMMER SOCCER CAMP

LMSC will be running a local one week soccer day camp this summer. It will be run by Mr. Bob Davidson, head coach at Lower Merion High School and a long time club travel team and Delco League Select team coach. The program will run from June 22-26 in the mornings at Welsh Valley Middle School and will be geared for players ages 9-11 years of age.

OTHER SUMMER SOCCER CAMPS

There are several good one week soccer camps that are held in this area during the summer. All of our travel team players are expected to attend at least one summer soccer camp. Our intramural players are also strongly encouraged to attend one camp.

Enclosed is a partial list of local soccer camps that are recommended by LMSC. These camps have proven over the years to be well organized, educational and a fun-filled experience to the kids attending.

Olympic Soccer Camp (boys and girls 6-16). For one week sessions throughout July at Chestnut Hill College and Eastern College. Run by Mike Gorni (828-8135) who is a State Select coach and high school coach. His travel team, the Delco Demons became the first Pennsylvania youth team to win a NATIONAL championship this summer when they beat a team from Tampa, Florida 2-0 in the U-16 boys division in Omaha, Nebraska.

Haverford College Soccer School (boys and girls 7-16). Four one week sessions in July and early August, including a girls only session. Run by Joe Amorim, head coach at Haverford College (896-1123 or 446-2993).

Chestnut Hill Soccer Camp (boys and girls 6-14). Two one week sessions (June 15-19 and June 22-26) at Chestnut Hill Academy. Run by Jim Talbot (242-4424), head coach at C.H.A. who have won the Inter-Ac Championship in each of the past five seasons.

FALL SEASON INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

The fall season will mark the start of our 25th season at Lower Merion Soccer Club. LMSC was originally three separate programs, Gladwyne Soccer Club, Penn Valley Soccer Club and Wynnewood Soccer Club. With the merger of the three organizations, the club has grown to include over 1200 youngsters participating each year.

Our 25th season will have the intramural program setup this fall under the following format:

Atoms Division: Boys born in 1987

Bantams Division: Boys born in 1986

Juniors Division: Less athletic boys born in 1985, 1984

Intermediates Division: Advanced boys born in 1985, 1984

Seniors Division: Boys born in 1983, 1982, 1981

Neutrons Division: Girls born in 1987, 1986

Protons Division: Girls born in 1985, 1984

Electrons Division: Girls born in 1983, 1982, 1981

Applications for the fall intramural program will be mailed out in May. If you know of anyone who is not on our mailing list who would like to sign up, please have them submit their name address to our Gladwyne address.

Youngsters do NOT have to live in Lower Merion township to participate. Youngsters of the proper age may play in our program regardless of where they live.

Please be aware that our fall intramural program has a registration deadline of August 20. You must have your application in to us by then to ensure placement in the program. Applications received after that time will be placed on a waiting list and not guaranteed placement in the program.

Parents are urged to volunteer to coach in the intramural program. Last year we had a shortage of coaches. We do not want to have to turn players away from the program due to a shortage of coaches. Please consider being a coach this fall, it will help the kids and you'll probably enjoy it a lot.

FIELD ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT

Our program is interested in obtaining and developing a field complex but we need your support. We need to get some leads as to any property that we might be able to obtain and develop. If you are able to help the club in any way with this, please contact one of the LMSC directors (phone numbers listed below).

THE LMSC DIRECTORS

For anyone who has questions that need to be answered concerning the LMSC program, we'll leave you with the names and phone numbers of the directors.

Bruno Ceccarelli, 649-5410. LMSC President and Director of the LMSC Girls Program

Chick has been with the program for over 15 years. In 1986, his boys U-14 team won the State Championship. Chick's efforts in the girls program has resulted in the program doubling in size the past two seasons. Chick was a Delco League Select coach for many seasons.

Joe Hopkins 525-0700, LMSC Vice President and Director of the Boys Travel Team program.

Joe has been a travel team soccer coach for six years now, he holds a National United States Soccer Federation 'C' coaching license. His current team, the U-13 boys were State Champions three years ago. This fall, Joe will be head coach for our developmental Under 8 boys travel team (tryouts will be in October for boys born August 1, 1984 to July 30, 1985).

Biff Sturla 964-9024, Vice President / Intramural Director. A former player in the program, Biff has been coaching at LMSC for 10 years. He has also been a head coach in the Delco League Select program for 7 years and is in his second year coaching in the State Select program. He holds a USSF 'B' level coaching license, one step away from the highest coaching license offered in the USA. His teams have won 3 state championships. He is currently head coach for the Under 9 Boys first division team.

Brian Kammersgaard 645-5801, Vice President. Brian is a former professional player and National Team player in his native country of Denmark. He is currently the assistant coach at the University of Pennsylvania and is the head coach for our Under 16 and Under 8 boys teams. Brian has earned the highest Denmark National Coaching License and has extensive experience coaching at both the League Select and State Select levels.