

LOWER MERION SOCCER CLUB

1996 SPRING NEWSLETTER

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1996 SPRING INTRAMURAL PROGRAM

On page 8 of this newsletter we have information about our 1996 Spring Intramural Program which will be held for boys and girls born between August 1, 1988 and December 31, 1991. The program will start on April 21st and run every Sunday through June 23rd, except for Memorial Day Weekend.

Players do NOT need to have prior soccer experience to play in the Spring Intramural Program. Players do NOT have to live in Lower Merion Township to participate.

Experienced soccer players ages 11 and up who would like to be considered for referee positions and / or field crew positions can find application forms for these positions in this newsletter. No prior reffing or field crew experience is necessary for these positions.

TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUTS

Page three of this newsletter has the dates, times and field locations for Fall Season Travel Team tryouts, including names of people to contact if you require additional information. These tryouts are for the 1996 / 1997 Fall Season which will start in late August.

Participants in the Travel Team Program must be at least 8 years of age as of August 1st, 1996. We plan to field up to four boys teams in each age group from Under 9 through Under 14 and up to three girls teams in age groups Under 9 through Under 16.

Players do NOT have to live in Lower Merion Township to play in the Travel Team Program, nor do they need to have played in LMSC before.

Anyone born in 1984 or later who does not make a travel team will be eligible to play in the Fall Intramural Program. Registrations will be sent out in late June.

LMSC DERELICTS WIN INDOOR STATE CUP CHAMPIONSHIP

Page two of this newsletter has an article about our Under 11 Boys team, The Derelicts, who won the Indoor State Cup Championship. In their five games, the Derelicts did not allow a single goal. Their win marks the fourth consecutive year that an LMSC team has won a State Championship.

Also covered is our U-14 boys team, the Sharks, and our U-13 girls team, the Firebirds, who both made it to the semifinals of their Indoor State Cups.

LMSC SUMMER SOCCER CAMP INFORMATION

Information on our two one week summer soccer camps can be found on page four. Our camps will be under new management this year. They will be under the direction of Mike Barr, head coach of the Philadelphia Freedom Professional Team and head coach of the Strath Haven High School boys varsity, the 1995 State Champions.

The first week of the camp will be for travel team players only. It will be held June 25 - June 29. The second camp will be for intramural players and will be held on July 1,2,3,5 and 6.

INDOOR STATE CUPS RESULTS

For the fourth consecutive year, LMSC has had a team win a state championship as our Under 11 boys team, The Derelicts, captured the Indoor State Championship out in Lancaster on February 18th. This was the first State Cup that the Derelicts were eligible for and they did it up in fine style, not allowing a goal the entire tournament while scoring 16 goals of their own. Last fall, the Derelicts won the Delco League First Division Championship.

The Derelicts defeated fellow Delco League member Nether Providence 4-0 in the championship game. In all, there were 16 teams in the Cup. In the preliminary games, the Derelicts defeated Radnor 4-0, Ephrata 2-0 and Council Rock 5-0 to advance to the semifinals where they defeated Bloomsburg 1-0.

The rock solid defense was led by Robert Machnicki in goal. Machnicki recorded five shutouts on the day with help from defenders John Sawin, Chris Jones, Chris Geraghty and Chris Corrado. The excellent play of the defense enabled the offense to maintain possession and attack at will. The offensive effort was spread out between Ryan Westman, Jared Kahn, Ryan Kelly, David Moscow, Andrew Lichtman and Robbie Rotfeld.

Several other players helped out in the winning cause, putting in lots of energy at midfield, helping the defense shut down opponents and helping to get the ball up to the attack. Christos Panidis, Zach Schildhorn, Josh Regina, Josh Baer and David Rosner all pitched in when called upon to help earn the State Championship.

At the end of the day, head coach Joe Hopkins proudly held up the State Cup Trophy. This was nothing new to Joe who previously earned State Championships in 1989 (Under 10 Boys Outdoor), 1993 (Under 17 Indoor) and last year (Under 15 Indoor). Assisting Joe with the coaching duties for the Derelicts are former Lower Merion High School standout Alan Greaves along with Paul Geraghty, Brett Schildhorn and Max Westman.

This is the seventh State Championship for LMSC since 1989 when LMSC was formed as a result of a merger between Gladwyne Soccer Club, Penn Valley S.C., Wynnewood Soccer Club and Narberth Soccer Club.

LMSC DERELICTS

1996 UNDER 11 BOYS INDOOR STATE CHAMPIONS

Baer, Josh	Lichtman, Andrew	Rosner, David
Corrado, Chris	Machnicki, Robert	Rotfeld, Robby
Geraghty, Chris	Moscow, David	Sawin, John
Jones, Chris	Panidis, Christos	Schildhorn, Zach
Kahn, Jared	Regina, Josh	Westman, Ryan
Kelly, Ryan		

Coaches: Joe Hopkins, Alan Greaves, Paul Geraghty

Two of our other Premier Travel Teams also reached the semifinals of their Indoor State Cups. Our Under 14 Boys team, the Sharks, reached the semifinals for the second consecutive year while our Under 13 Girls team, the Firebirds reached the semifinals in State Cup play for the fourth time in their team's history.

The Under 13 girls team, the Firebirds, reached the semifinal round of their Indoor State Cup, losing to defending Indoor and Outdoor State Champion Council Rock after two thrilling opening round victories in the 16 team tournament. Manheim needed only a tied to advance; however the Firebirds crushed their hopes 4-1 on goals by Elizabeth Pillion, Colleen Narvaez, Jamie Sundheim and Claire Laver, along with outstanding goaltending by Livia Barton and a strong defense led by Rebecca Kornberg and Rachel Prowler.

In their last divisional game, the Firebirds needed a win over Coventry and took a 1-0 lead on a Laver goal off an assist from Pillion. After Coventry tied the game with 3:40 left, Laver nailed an angled, far-post bullet at the 1:20 mark after a left-side run to give the Firebirds the lead. Laver completed the hat trick with less than a minute left, feeding Pillion and receiving a "textbook" wall pass return before a one-time shot and score for a 3-1 victory.

Throughout the tournament, Angel Schleinkofer, Katy Heuisler and Emily Moore contributed defensively; and Ruth Kelley and Katie Block pressured offensively.

The semifinal finished marked the fourth time that the Firebirds have reached that round or better in State Cup play. They were the indoor and outdoor state finalists in 1994 and the outdoor state semifinalists in 1995. In each Cup, Council Rock claimed the Championship.

Our U-14 boys team, the Sharks, got to the semifinals for the second straight winter. In the semifinals, the Sharks played Greater Chester Valley, the defending Delco League champions. The two teams battled it out into sudden death overtime where the goalies are not allowed to use their hands. Despite many chances, the Sharks couldn't put the ball in the net and Greater Chester eventually got the winner, only to lose to Danubia from Philadelphia in the championship game.

LMSC 1996 / 1997 TRAVEL TEAM TRYOUT INFORMATION

Each year, LMSC holds tryouts in the spring for their fall season travel teams. The 1995 fall team lineup will include girls teams from Under 9 up through Under 16 as well as boys teams from Under 9 through Under 14.

There will be up to four teams in each boys age group and up to three girls teams in each age group. The formation of all teams is conditional upon a sufficient quantity of players as well as a qualified head coach being identified.

Boys U-15 teams and older will play in the winter season. Tryouts for those teams will be held in October.

To be considered for the Travel Team Program, players will be expected to be at the tryouts listed below. Several age groups will have additional tryout dates which will be announced at the first tryout.

Players MUST tryout for the age group corresponding to their birthdate, as listed in the tryout schedule. Players may **NOT** play "UP" an age group without the express permission of the LMSC Board.

All players will be expected to bring both a white shirt and a red shirt to all tryouts. Shin guards, soccer shoes and an appropriate sized soccer ball are also required. Under 9 through Under 12 players will need a size 4 ball, U-13 and older will need a size 5 ball.

Players do **NOT** need to live in Lower Merion Township to be considered for a travel team, nor do they need to have played in LMSC before. All youngsters of the proper age are welcome to tryout.

AGE GROUP	ELIGIBLE BIRTHDATES	AGE GROUP CONTACT		TRYOUT DATES AND FIELDS		
Boys Under 9	Aug. 1, 1987 - July 31, 1988	Biff Sturla	964-9024	May 13, 20	6:00	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 10	Aug. 1, 1986 - July 31, 1987	Dan Grauman	668-9904	April 25, May 2	5:30	South Ardmore
Boys Under 11	Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986	Josh Krotec	525-8860	April 29, May 1	6:00	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 12	Aug. 1, 1984 - July 31, 1985	Joe Hopkins	525-0700	May 8, 15	6:00	South Ardmore
Boys Under 13	Aug. 1, 1983 - July 31, 1984	Kip Lord	667-6533	May 16, 17	5:30	Welsh Valley
Boys Under 14	Aug. 1, 1982 - July 31, 1983	Chris Scott	617-0189	May 8, 15	5:30	Bryn Mawr Polo
Boys Under 15	Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982	Bob Rock	525-4681	May 6	5:30	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 9	Aug. 1, 1987 - July 31, 1988	Rich Schwab	667-1043	May 10, 17	6:00	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 10	Aug. 1, 1986 - July 31, 1987	Steve Hamilton	667-3288	May 9, 15	6:00	Welsh Valley
Girls Under 11	Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986	John Carson	664-2571	May 2 May 5	6:00 4:00	Welsh Valley Welsh Valley
Girls Under 12	Aug. 1, 1984 - July 31, 1985	Chris Campbell	664-0979	April 25 April 28	6:00 3:00	Welsh Valley Welsh Valley
Girls Under 13	Aug. 1, 1983 - July 31, 1984	Tony Greaves	896-5665	May 21, 23	6:00	South Ardmore
Girls Under 14	Aug. 1, 1982 - July 31, 1983	Lance Laver	668-9844	May 5	2:00	Bryn Mawr Polo
Girls Under 15	Aug. 1, 1981 - July 31, 1982	Bob Dubin	215- 871-5777	April 28, May 5	4:00	Bryn Mawr Polo
Girls Under 16	Aug. 1, 1980 - July 31, 1981	Jim Jakobowski	527-0414	April 28, May 5	4:00	Bryn Mawr Polo

Welsh Valley Middle School: Hagy's Ford Road in Penn Valley, just off of Conshohocken State Road (Route 23).

South Ardmore Park: In Wynnewood, at the intersection of West Wynnewood Avenue and East Spring Avenue.

Bryn Mawr Polo Field - Old Railroad Avenue and County Line Roads in Bryn Mawr, just south of Lancaster Avenue.

PHILADELPHIA FREEDOM SOCCER CAMP AT LMSC

LMSC will once again be running two one week soccer camps. The LMSC Board Of Directors has decided to shift focus on our summer camps this year. As a result, for the first time ever, the LMSC camps will be run by Mike Barr, head coach of the Philadelphia Freedom (the local Professional Team in the U.S.I.S.L.) and head coach for Strath Haven High School Boys Varsity, the defending State Champions.

Mike will be bringing in many other local area coaches as well as several of the Philadelphia Freedom players.

The first camp will ONLY be for travel team players (boys and girls) who will be playing Under 9 through Under 14 in the fall. The camp will be held the week of June 24-June 29.

The second week will be open to intramural players ages 6-12. The camp will be held on July 1,2,3,5 and 6.

Each camp will be held at Welsh Valley Middle School from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM. The camps will have use of both gyms at Welsh Valley in the event of rain.

The cost of each camp is \$125 per player. This cost includes a Freedom T-shirt, Freedom poster with team schedule, ticket to a Freedom match and an autograph session. Scholarships are available for both camps.

OTHER SUMMER SOCCER CAMPS WE ENDORSE

There are plenty of other soccer camps available to youth soccer players in the local area. The two programs that we have found to be liked best by our travel team players are listed below:

National Olympic Soccer Camp, St. Davids, PA

They run four one week sessions, starting July 1st and running through August 4th. The first two sessions are for "Elite" players, i.e., Premier Division Travel Team players. The goalkeeper staff is headed by Gordon Banks, keeper for 1966 World Cup Champion England. For information, call them at 215-230-9575.

Haverford Soccer School, Haverford, PA

They run several one week camps for both travel team and intramural players in July and August, including a "girls only" session. The camp is run by Haverford College head coach Joe Amorim. For information, call Joe at 896-1123 or write to Haverford Soccer School, Inc., Haverford College, Haverford, PA 19041.

One other camp that LMSC highly endorses is Camp Tecumseh located in Center Harbor, New Hampshire. Tecumseh is a seven week overnight camp for boys ages 8-16. Tecumseh specializes in most outdoor sports and is located on Lake Winnepesaukee.

LMSC Director Biff Sturla was a camper and counselor there for over 20 years. LMSC Director Joe Hopkins sent his two boys there for many summers. If you would like more information about Tecumseh, please call Biff or Joe or call the LMSC Hotline (215-953-8060).

STATE CUP HONOR ROLL

Each year our travel teams Under 11 and up are eligible to compete in both the Indoor and Outdoor State Cups. This winter, we had three teams make it to at least the semifinals of the Indoor State Cups, capped by the Indoor State Championship of our U-11 boys, the Derelicts. This was the seventh State Championship for LMSC since 1989.

In 1990, the U-13 Gorillas won the Indoor and Outdoor State Cups in the same season. They are one of only nine teams in the state to ever accomplish that feat. Several of the players from the Gorillas are now playing soccer in college, including Jobey Hollinger (Harvard), Josh Pincus (Cornell), Jon Conway (Rutgers), Adrian Cox (Richmond), Nate Laver (Lehigh), Nick Harmelin (Johnson and Wales), Hans Davies (Williams) and Todd Davidson (Elon College).

In the past seven seasons, LMSC has had 21 teams make it to the semifinals of State Cups, including the seven State Champions:

Year	Age group	Birth year	Team	Result
1996	U-11 boys	(84/85s)	Derelicts	indoor Champions
1996	U-13 girls	(82/83s)	Firebirds	indoor semifinals
1996	U-14 boys	(81/82s)	Sharks	indoor semifinals
1995	U-12 girls	(82/83s)	Firebirds	outdoor semifinals
1995	U-16 boys	(78/79s)	F.C. Joe	indoor Champions
1995	U-12 boys	(82/83s)	Lunatics	indoor semifinals
1995	U-13 boys	(81/82s)	Sharks	indoor semifinals
1994	U-11 boys	(82/83s)	Lunatics	outdoor Champions
1994	U-11 girls	(82/83s)	Firebirds	outdoor finalists
1994	U-11 boys	(82/83s)	Lunatics	indoor finalists
1994	U-11 girls	(82/83s)	Firebirds	indoor finalists
1993	U-17 boys	(75/76s)	Psychos	indoor Champions
1993	U-14 boys	(78/79s)	Dragons	indoor finalists
1993	U-12 boys	(80/81s)	Hurricanes	indoor semifinals
1992	U-11 boys	(80/81s)	Hurricanes	indoor finalists
1991	U-14 boys	(77 birth)	Gorillas	outdoor semifinals
1991	U-12 boys	(79 birth)	Dragons	indoor semifinals
1990	U-13 boys	(77 birth)	Gorillas	outdoor Champions
1990	U-13 boys	(77 birth)	Gorillas	indoor Champions
1989	U-10 boys	(79 birth)	Dragons	outdoor Champions
1989	U-12 boys	(77 birth)	Gorillas	indoor semifinals

REFEREE CERTIFICATION COURSE (AND SEMINAR)

On Wednesday, May 1 at 7 PM, we will present a free Soccer Referee Seminar for coaches and parents. This will be a structured three hour presentation by a trained instructor of the EPSARC. The seminar will be limited to the thirty people. This is a free seminar, open to coaches or parents. The event is completely paid for and hosted by LMSC. If you plan to attend, please call Dan Sutton at 610-664-4890.

The Lower Merion Soccer Club is pleased to announce that it will be sponsoring an EPSARC refereeing course this spring. The eighteen hour entry level course is geared for those who want to start their refereeing career. No prior experience is required. The only requirement is that you are over 14 years old. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to referee or be a linesman in the Delco and Tri-County Leagues. In fact, you can referee anywhere in the USA. This course is not a requirement for refereeing Intramural games, but LMSC Intramurals would be pleased to hire you. Please note that LMSC is planning on paying hire fees next year to referees who have obtained their EPSARC referee license.

The course will be presented over six three hours sessions. The law book, an administrative handbook and several handouts will be provided to each candidate. There is a 100 question examination at the end. Unlike the coaching courses, this is strictly theory. There is no "on field" portion. Your only equipment for the course is a notebook and a pen. The course will be taught by EPSARC licensed refereeing staff.

The course will be held at Lower Merion High School on Wednesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM. Please plan to show PROMPTLY at 6:30 each night. The scheduled nights are:

Wednesday	April 10	Thursday	April 18
Thursday	April 11	Wednesday	April 24
Wednesday	April 17	Thursday	April 25

The cost for the course is \$50, payable to EPSARC. This is a non-refundable fee. Neither the club, nor the associations will reimburse you. Fees for refereeing games will soon compensate you for your time, effort and money.

This course can be your first step. The Delco Chapter of EPSARC regularly offers clinics, newsletters and mentors to their referees.

Anyone interested in this course should send their check, payable to EPSARC, before March 22 to Dan Sutton, 401 Kent Rd., Bala Cynwyd, PA, 19004. The registration will

take place at the first night. Fifteen applicants are required before the course can be held.

For more information concerning this course, call Dan Sutton, evenings before 10 PM at 610-664-4890.

EQUIPMENT RECYCLING FOR INNER CITY SOCCER

During the past year, LMSC made several major contributions of soccer clothing and equipment to the Philadelphia P.A.L. Our contributions have assisted in the formation of several inner city soccer programs in South Philadelphia involving several hundred boys and girls.

As these programs grow, so will their need for shoes, clothing and other soccer equipment. Soccer balls are especially needed because they are given to the children to practice with on their own. PLEASE save any and all outgrown soccer items for these programs.

OUR NEXT COLLECTION will be at the Lower Merion High School cafeteria on Wednesday, May 29th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. The collection will coincide with the annual travel team player registration night. It is anticipated that the Phillie Phanatic will once again be at this event to meet players and raffle off several soccer balls. Intramural players are also welcome to come to this fun filled event, they should show up in their LMSC jersey.

For more information about the equipment recycling program, call our collection drive chairperson, Marilynne Rose, 664-5260.

UNDER 8 BOYS TRAVEL TEAM

Congratulations to our newly formed Under 8 boys Developmental Travel Team on winning three of their first four indoor tournaments at Woodhaven this winter and reaching the semifinals of the outdoor Hulmeville Tournament. Members of this awesome team include:

Avart, Harrison	Ivory, Tim	Rubenstein, Lee
Bershad, David	Kasser, Jesse	Rublin, David
Carter, Nick	Lavoritano, Scott	Smolen, Ben
Erickson, Drew	Leto, Chris	Stitt, Alex
Glass, Jonathan	Leven, Marc	Tennekoon, Daniel
Goldwein, Robbie	McCallion, Rob	Vale, Peter
Horshaw, Ricky	Mustin, Eric	Yankowitz, Matt

Coaches: Biff Sturla, Marty Rubenstein,
Gary Smolen, Frank Leto

SPRING INTRAMURAL REFEREES AND FIELD CREW

Experienced soccer players ages 11 through 18 are invited to apply for positions in the Spring Intramural Program as referees and / or Field Crew workers. You do not need to have prior reffing experience. The program will run on Sunday afternoons starting on April 23rd and continue every Sunday through June 25th except for Memorial Day weekend.

Games for most age groups will be at Ardmore Avenue Fields on Greenfield Avenue in Ardmore (just past Recreation Station).

In addition to reffing games, referees will be expected to help coach the players and teach them the rules of the game as they go along. Referees will be expected to ACTIVELY participate in the 15 minute skills clinic at the beginning of each session. They will be expected to work with the program commissioners in teaching the players the fundamental skills of dribbling, passing, receiving, shooting, goalkeeping, etc.

Referees will also be expected to help with the field setup and helping to put equipment away at the end of the day.

We will need five referees at Ardmore Avenue Fields from 12:15 until 5:45. Referees at these fields will be paid \$8.00 per hour. Referees who work the entire afternoon will be paid \$50.

Our older, more experienced referees (ages 14 and up) may apply to be a Senior Level Referee, responsible for doing the Boys Premier Division (advanced 7 year old boys). This division will play at Merion Elementary School.

We will need two Senior Level Referees each Sunday to each do three or four games. They will be paid \$10 per game, each game lasting approximately one hour.

Each Thursday, LMSC referee assignor Paul Geraghty, Jr. will call referees until he has enough referees to cover all games for the upcoming Sunday. If you are able to referee that Sunday, let him know. If you are not available that weekend, let him know that. There is no penalty for not being available to referee. If you do commit to reffing and then fail to show up, you will be removed from the referee list for the remainder of the season and all of the 1996 Fall Intramural Season.

All referees will be expected to wear soccer attire including a soccer tee shirt, soccer flats and soccer shorts. Basketball sneakers, heavy metal tee shirts, etc. will not be tolerated. Referees will be expected to provide their own whistle each time that they referee. Field Crew workers will be responsible for setting up the goals, taking down the goals, loading and unloading

equipment, etc. They will be expected to work in the morning at Ardmore Avenue Fields, before the first group arrives, and work in the early evening, after the last group leaves. They will be paid \$10 / hour for their work. Referee / Field Crew assignor Paul Geraghty, Jr. will be in charge of calling people for field crew.

If you are interested in reffing or being on the field crew, fill out the enclosed application form and return to our post office box. Applications are due by April 10th at the latest. If you require additional information, please call the LMSC Hotline.

THANK YOU KEVIN SEITS AND SPORTS RINK

This winter, many people got to experience indoor soccer for the first time ever in Lower Merion Township, thanks to the arrival of Sports Rink, Inc.

Sports Rink is a new indoor soccer facility located at The Haverford School. Sports Rink ran indoor leagues for boys ages 5 - 8 and girls ages 6 - 8. In all, they had over 350 participants in the leagues, mostly players from LMSC. In addition, Sports Rink ran two travel team tournaments each weekend for travel teams ages Under 9 through Under 12.

Sports Rink is owned by Kevin Seits, teacher and head coach for the boys varsity team at The Haverford School. The Director of Soccer at Sports Rink is LMSC Vice President Biff Sturla who is also head coach at Conestoga High School. Both Kevin and Biff are members of the our State Association's Coaching Staff.

Sports Rink kicked off the season on December 28th running an all day marathon soccer game to raise money for Special Olympics Soccer. In all, Sports Rink raised over \$720 for Special Olympics. Their regular season runs from the beginning of January through the end of February. League games and tournaments are primarily played on Saturdays and Sundays.

Sports Rink will be up and running again next winter. Registration forms will be mailed out in November to active members of LMSC as well as other local area soccer players.

Due to the immense popularity of Sports Rink, it is recommended that if you want to play there next year, get your registration form in promptly before the leagues fill up. The SRI directors anticipate that they will fill all spaces in the leagues well before Christmas next year.

Again, a special thanks to Kevin Seits for bringing high quality indoor soccer to Lower Merion Township.