



Letter from the President

Andy Hill
LWYSA President

With the fall season underway, it's a good time to remind everyone of some of the basics to keep soccer safe and fun for our kids:

- **Behave!** Sideline behavior, from parents and coaches, should be positive and model the behavior we want our kids to emulate.
- **Give the refs a break!** We have a huge shortage of referees this year. Let's give them support rather than abuse. And be especially easy on the newly minted 14-year old ref that may not know how to deal with a screaming adult.
- **Move the goals at Sixty Acres!** If you are practicing at Sixty Acres, PLEASE move the goals out of the goal mouth to preserve the fields. The new goals are light and easy to slide out of the way.
- **Leave fido home!** No dogs are allowed at any of the games or practices.

continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Letter from the President
- 1 Expansion of Sixty Acres
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 3 Tips from LWYSA Technical Director-Peter Hattrup
- 3 Reminders for the season
- 3 Youth Academy
- 4 Set an Example.....

King County & LWYSA's 60 Acres South Use Agreement

Proposal offers additional sports fields to the south of 60 Acres

Curt Bateman
Director of Operations

King County and LWYSA have proposed to allow the development of additional athletic fields on 60 Acres South. Additional sports fields (seven or more) would help alleviate the high demand for athletic facilities and support the expansion of youth sports. In addition, the agreement would ease stress on current athletic fields as well as provide greater opportunities for passive recreation uses. In a related action, LWYSA proposes to sell the Muller Farm (72 Acres) to King County and Full Circle Farms and return the property to active farming.

We need your support....

The King County Council will be voting on to approve the proposed new Use Agreement. The City of Redmond will be issuing the necessary permits for construction. It's important that our leaders hear strong support from the community.



60 Acres Park

continued on page 2

Letter from the President *(continued)*

Association Update

LWYSA enjoys a strong financial position. We are debt free, no longer require a line of credit for seasonal cash flow needs, and have a strong balance sheet. This is due to the hard work of board members and office staff over the past three years

Our facilities are in excellent shape. The fields on Sixty Acres have never looked better and we continue to work with the Marymoor maintenance staff to make those fields safe and in top shape.

Participation is strong, with 6,600 kids playing on over 500 teams.

LWYSA is seen as a model association across the state, noted for its well managed affairs and multiple programs that provide kids opportunities to play at the ability and level of commitment that best suits them.

Our association does face challenges. We suffer from field shortages most of the year. Our referee pool continues to dwindle, and we still struggle with some unacceptable parent behavior. We continue to work on these issues, and will keep you informed on progress. You can help by supporting our quest for new fields, treat our referees with respect (and sign up to be one!) and cheer the kids on, letting them play the game and have fun. Please take a look at the "Set an Example..." article in this issue for ways to support our kids in a positive manner.

Overall, the association is in great shape. We have strengths and we have challenges. But ultimately I see us continuing to improve and tackling the challenges that we face. My confidence lies in the strength of our dedicated office staff and hundreds upon hundreds volunteers that coach, manage teams, bring snacks on game day and serve on the board and committees. Our thanks goes out to all of these people that collectively make LWYSA what it is today, and will make it stronger tomorrow.

I welcome your comments and feedback at president@lwysa.org.

Use Agreement *(continued)*

60 Acres South has been used for decades by a variety of passive recreation users, including model airplane enthusiasts and rocket launching to name a few. While passive use will be reduced during the active recreation season, LWYSA has committed that 60 Acres Park will continue to be enjoyed by both passive and active recreation users. LWYSA will construct the new facility and maintain the entire 60 Acre complex at no expense to the taxpayers.

Please take the time to sign either the petition being circulated at the fields, or the online petition at the following link:

<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/60acres/>

For further information:

FAQ

<http://www.lwysa.org/doclib/60FAQ.doc>

Read the press release by King County

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/dnrp/newsroom/new/releases/2008/august/0821Sixty-acres-park.aspx>

Read about the sale of the Muller Farm

<http://www.capitalpress.info/main.asp?Search=1&ArticleID=44094&SectionID=67&SubSectionID=618&S=1>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LYWSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 7:00PM

LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED

This is the Association's annual general meeting open to all members. An update on the Association will be presented and new officers elected.

YEAR END TOURNAMENT (YET)

PLACE: MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

TIME: BEGINS NOVEMBER 1ST

LWYSA-only tournament for U10-U13 Recreational players. Registration open soon.

PRESIDENT'S CUP

PLACE: MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

TIME: BEGINS OCTOBER 11TH

State Tournament for U11-U19 Players

Youth Academy

Registration is now open for the **Crossfire Premier Fall 2008 Youth Academy** which begins on October 3rd. The Youth Academy is intended for serious players that would like to challenge themselves. The curriculum is created by the Crossfire Premier Directors of Coaching will help each player develop the skills necessary to compete on a high level. Crossfire Premier coaches will lead each training group. The Youth Academy consists of 7 (1.5 hour) sessions on Friday nights, and should supplement the players current team's training. To register, go to www.lwysa.org or www.crossfiresoccer.org and click "register now" under Crossfire Premier Youth Academy Fall 2008.

GIRLS AND BOYS ages 7 – 11 (players U8 – U12)

LOCATION: HARTMAN PARK, LOWER SOCCER FIELD

DATES: FRIDAYS OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, NOVEMBER 7, 14, 21

TIME: 6:15 PM to 7:45 PM

COST: \$210.00 (BALL AND T-SHIRT INCLUDED)

Coaches Corner

Peter Hattrup
LWYSA Technical Director

Coaches, the fall season is off to a great start with lots of beautiful weather and thousands of excited kids and coaches.

Thanks for all your time and dedication, without you we would have literally thousands of kids unable to play the game they love.

Walking around and having a chance to observe a fair amount of teams practicing. I have a couple of observations.

We have many teams still warming up by running laps or similar exercises. Try to incorporate the ball into warm up sessions-if you are fortunate enough to have a ball per kid, they can warm up by each dribbling in a confined area while you give them different tasks, i.e. dribble only with the right, only the left, inside of the feet only, etc.

If you don't have a ball per kid, you can do a similar exercise; have some kids without balls and on your command to switch, they leave the ball they have and quickly move to another ball.

Reminders for the season.....

- For the safety of the players, jewelry is not allowed.
- Dogs are not allowed on *any* of the fields we use with the exception of service animals. Please leave them at home, not in a vehicle.
- Playing time is to be equal over the *season*-remember the game flow sometimes makes it difficult to insure it's even every game!
- Please remember to drive slowly and carefully in the parking lots-safety of our players is paramount!
- Be an example of great sportsmanship
 - Be positive
 - Let the coach do the coaching
 - Be respectful of the officials
 - Be proud of your player
- Do what you can to insure games start and end on time so the entire day's schedule is not affected.
- **HAVE FUN!!!**

Remember, the more touches they get on the ball the better, and warm up is a good way to get hundreds if not thousands of touches on the ball in a short amount of time.

Thanks again for all you do for the kids, and remember, it should be fun for all involved in the game!!

Set an Example...

Tina Aldridge
LWYSA Board of Directors
Director of Coach Development

LWYSA is constantly striving to help promote the game of soccer for all youth who play soccer in our affiliated area and to provide educational opportunities for our players, coaches and parents. We believe it is our responsibility to provide the best environment for our youth to further develop as players and young adults in our community. As we venture out to find the best educational tools for our membership we frequently come across programs we believe will promote our vision and mission. "To be recognized by our membership and the soccer community as a world class provider of soccer services."

Positive Coaching Alliance is a organization that offers educational tools for organizations affiliated with youth sports, coaches and parents. Provided below is just one example of information that will help create a positive environment for our youth players at LWYSA

Guidelines for Honoring the Game

The key to preventing adult misbehavior in youth sports is a youth sports culture in which all involved "Honor the Game." Honoring the Game gets to the ROOTS of the matter and involves respect for the Rules, Opponents, Officials, Teammates and one's Self. You don't bend the rules to win. You understand that a worthy opponent is a gift that forces you to play to your highest potential. You show respect for officials even when you disagree. You refuse to do anything that embarrasses your team. You live up to your own standards even if others don't. Here are ways that **parents** can create a positive youth sports culture so that children will have fun and learn positive character traits that will last and benefit them for an entire lifetime.

Before the Game:

1. Make a commitment to Honor the Game in action and language no matter what others may do.
2. Tell your child before each game that you are proud of him or her regardless of how well he or she plays.

During the Game:

1. Fill your children's "Emotional Tank" through praise and positive recognition so they can play their very best.
2. Don't give instructions to your child during the game. Let the coach correct player mistakes.
3. Cheer good plays by both teams (this is advanced behavior!)
4. Mention good calls by the official to other parents.
5. If an official makes a "bad" call against your team? Honor the Game—BE SILENT!
6. If another parent on your team yells at an official? Gently remind him or her to Honor the Game.
7. Don't do anything in the heat of the moment that you will regret after the game. Ask yourself, "Will this embarrass my child or the team?"
8. Remember to have fun! Enjoy the game.

After the Game:

1. Thank the officials for doing a difficult job for little or no pay.
2. Thank the coaches for their commitment and effort.
3. Don't give advice. Instead ask your child what he or she thought about the game and then LISTEN. Listening fills Emotional Tanks.
4. Tell your child again that you are proud of him or her, whether the team won or lost.