

SIDELINES



Soccer Rocks!

Soccer is my favorite sport and this is how you play the game. In the game of soccer you're not allowed to touch the ball with your hands. You are only allowed to kick it with your foot. The goalie is the only one that's permitted to touch the ball with their hands. The goalie defends the net and the backs help the goalie by kicking the ball away from the net. The forwards score goals. If you want to win the game, you have to score more goals than the other team. I play soccer at Greeley and Bell fields and they're in really good condition! When I play soccer I feel good because I want to beat the other team! Even if we don't win, I'll still like soccer because I'm with my friends.

By Emily Daly, U-10

Welcome to the third issue of Sidelines. This newsletter couldn't happen without the great contributions from players and parents like you. I'd like to thank Emily Daly for her wonderful article, Roberta Laskey for volunteering so much of her time to report on the Wiz of Oss Tournament, Nehal Beltangady, David Perlmutter, Tom Pile and Dru Welburn for their insight, and Katie Brennan, Helen Daly, Mark Ellis, Sharon Katz, Lauren Stern, and Forrest Sussman for submitting great photos. Keep it coming!

Paul Leibowitz

1,195 Players!

This season we signed up **661** boys and **534** girls. Here is the breakdown by division:

Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U6B	142
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U6G	86
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U7B	133
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U7G	120
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U8B	112
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U8G	95
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U10B	136
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U10G	120
Fall Only 2006	U10B	27
Fall Only 2006	U10G	8
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U12B	56
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U12G	63
Fall Only 2006	U12B	10
Fall Only 2006	U12G	8
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U14B	28
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U14G	26
Fall Only 2006	U14B	4
Fall Only 2006	U14G	2
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U16B	10
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U16G	6
Fall Only 2006	U16B	1
Fall/Spring 2006/2007	U19B	2

How to Register Online

1. Visit www.chappaquaayso.org and create an account (if you are registering for the first time)
2. Sign in
3. Enter and/or update information about parents and children
4. Indicate volunteer preferences
5. Request player registration
6. Mail payment

A Letter from the Commissioner

Fields

Once again this fall, dozens of AYSO teams have been impacted on more than half of the weekends by games and events at the High School. More teams have had to practice on fewer fields and for shorter periods of time. Many of the field losses are covered in advance in our season field allocation and we are able to schedule around them, so the kids get to play. However, at the beginning of the season, high school coaches hold practices that are not scheduled at the time of the field allocation letter. During the season, there are the occasional "make up" games for competitions that have been rained out. Additionally, we occasionally lose fields at the other schools in Town due to school events. Although the advance notice given by the Athletic Director is sincerely appreciated, no amount of notice can alleviate that we have nowhere else to play these games. School teams and activities get priority on the use of the school fields, as well they should.

We all want our schools to have a robust program with diverse activities for the community seven days a week. Nonetheless, the adverse impact of the resulting schedule conflicts on the recreational sports programs like AYSO needs to be addressed. Once the two new fields that are planned for the Town owned Amsterdam property are built, recreational sports' dependence on school fields will be diminished and we'll be better able to meet current demands for field use. This project has been in the planning stages for several years. Let's build the Amsterdam fields now as a first step to eliminating field shortages for the thousands of kids that play recreational sports in New Castle. I doubt, however that these two fields alone will solve our space scheduling needs.

Looking beyond the Amsterdam fields, I challenge all of you to come up with additional solutions to our dependence on school fields. Do recreational fields belong on a portion of the Reader's Digest property? Should Upper Gedney be turfed and/or lit so that its use can be extended? If you've got any ideas, we'd love to hear from you!

David Perlmutter

Chappaqua AYSO Is Online

Registering your children for the upcoming Chappaqua AYSO season has never been easier. Parents are now able to sign up players by logging on instead of attending an in-person registration day. The new process allows parents flexibility and assures players are signed up and paid for well before the season begins.

"Parents who sign their children up early are eligible for a discount on registration fees, and the process is simple," says Dru Welburn, an AYSO parent and the owner of a computer consulting services firm. Welburn developed the site specifically for Chappaqua AYSO players, and

is always revising the site based on comments and thoughts from users. "I've had really positive feedback from parents using the online registration process, and am always up for ideas on what works and what doesn't."

This year, please make sure to add the email registrar@chappaquaayso.org to your address book so that the emails from the Chappaqua AYSO do not end up in your junk mail.

Visit www.chappaquaayso.org to save now and see how fast and easy registering online can be!

Extra, Extra

By Nehal Beltangady

We spoke with Tom Pile, the director of the Chappaqua AYSO Extra Program and a longtime AYSO parent to learn more about the Extra Program and its impact on the Chappaqua AYSO players and overall program.

The Extra Program was developed to allow more opportunity for children to play soccer aside from the regular AYSO schedule. It gives them the chance to play in additional games on fields around the Westchester area, and adds more practice time during the week. Unlike the travel team, anyone can play in the Extra Program without a tryout. At such young ages, it is hard to tell who is going to be a "star" as they grow, and the Extra program allows players more time on the field where they can learn.

Tom sees interest from both parents and children who are looking to learn more about the Extra program. "Extra is designed for those players who need a little more experience on the field but enjoy the game. This way, they don't get tracked into a non-soccer lifestyle, and have the chance to build their skills with other players hoping to do the same," he explains.

The Extra Program begins at the 3rd grade level—it usually continues until about age 14, when players begin joining school teams. The coaches with Extra are parent volunteers and weekly practices are conducted by trained professionals who are dedicated to building strong fundamentals for players. The principals taught in the Extra Program mirror those of the general Chappaqua AYSO program.

Tom's own son was involved with the Extra Program for over five years and his soccer career continues to flourish.

The Wiz of Oss Fall 2006 Invitational Tournament

By Roberta Lasky

Have you ever wanted to go to OZ? Well, on November 18th several hundred soccer fans had their very own opportunity to head to the Wizard of Oss. They just followed the double yellow lines down the Taconic Parkway and witnessed the 17th Annual AYSO 3T Region 201 tournament.

This event "originally began" as an "All Star" event in the spring of 1989, according to Tournament Director Mitch Belitz. This Region hosts the oldest-running AYSO Tournament on the East Coast. There are approximately 700 boys and girls (U9-U14) comprising as many as 60 teams in this semi-annual event. Most teams play up to four games each lasting 25 minutes. This year, U14 was fortunate enough to play on the new grass turf fields at the Ossining Middle School.

The unique feature of the Wizard of Oss (a name derived from the name of the Ossining High School yearbook) can be wrapped up in the acronym EBOPS. This special formula entails the following: Everyone Plays, Balanced Teams, Open Registration, Positive Coaching and Good Sportsmanship. All players receive a medal of participation and first-place teams receive a Championship trophy.



Congratulations to Chappaqua's U9 Boys!

1st and 2nd Place in the Magic and Wizardry Group

The 1st Place Mustangs are coached
by Peter Ginsberg
and Andy Neuberger
and the
2nd Place Stallions are coached
by Vinnie Groppa
and Steven Begleiter

The coveted award of this event is the "Sportsmanship" Medal. On November 4th, the first of the two tournaments took place. In the U11 Boys, U12 Boys and in the U11/U12 Girls Somers, Somers (Heller) and Tarrytown (Gonzalez) won the Sportsmanship award, respectively.

In the U11 Boys, Croton was the Champion and Ossining was the Runner-Up. In the U12 Boys, Tarrytown was the Champion and Somers (Heller) was the Runner-Up. In the Sunshine Group, Ossining (Scorcia) was the Champion and Tarrytown (Sutherland) was the Runner-Up.

In the Starlight Group, Ossining (Encalada) was the Champion and Mt. Pleasant was the Runner-Up.

On Nov. 18th, Anne M. Dorner Middle School and Veteran's Park were the hosting fields.

In Director Belitz's opinion, the best element of the tournament is that "kids, coaches, refs and parents throughout

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Chappaqua AYSO Board Members

Commissioner: David Perlmutter

Assistant Commissioner:
Dennis Greenberg

Assistant Commissioner: Larry Grob

Division	Coordinator
U16G	Charlie Steinhorn
U16B	Marc Citrin
U14G	Sandy Bologna
U14B	Marc Citrin
U12B	Bill Koster
U12G	Peter Burack
U10B	Richard Zandi
U10G	Forrest Sussman
U8B	Jamie O'Connell and Ron Jendzejec
U8G	Lauren Stern
U7B	Larry Grob
U7G	Donna Levitz
U6B (K)	Jonathan Taub
U6G (K)	Scott Krase
Auditor:	Open
Child VPA:	Noah Sorkin
Coaches - Director:	Scott Krase
Communications - Director:	Open
Extra Program - Director:	Tom Pile
Field Coordinator:	John Re
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Advisor:	Stu Finkelstein
Advisor:	Steve Young
Advisor:	Robert Snyder
Commissioner Emeritus:	John Re
Commissioner Emeritus:	Jay Shapiro

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the area look forward to participation in the tournament. When it's over, they are always happy to hear that they don't have to wait a full year for the next tournament – we've been able to hold our tournaments every spring and fall. He added, "I take great pride in the compliments we get for how well we run our tournament."

"Many Ossining team parents (and kids!) volunteer their time. They set up goals, line the fields, coach, referee, register teams, and act as field marshals, keep time, and more! As you know, AYSO is a volunteer organization and our tournament is successful because our whole community gets involved," commented Mitch.

"It raises money for next year's (High school) equipment," added Ossining High School Varsity soccer team member, Yohamy 'YoYo' Polanco, age 16.

Armonk resident and parent, Arthur Lev, said, "It's a day long filled with soccer. The kids get to play several games. It's a great way to meet other people from the surrounding communities.

A special feature of the event is the Penalty Kick Shootout Challenge. Each team in each division provides a goal-



keeper. Six shooters are chosen by random draw of tickets that players themselves purchase (1 for \$1 – 6 for \$5). Each shooter takes three shots from the penalty mark (Shooters can not shoot on their own team's goalkeeper). Goalkeepers and shooters rotate after each shot. The athlete making the greatest number of shots wins the trophy. If one or more shooters are tied after three rounds, the shooters with the most goals will continue with additional rounds until there is a single winner. All participating goalkeepers also get an award. A person carrying a large plastic bucket can be seen selling the tickets.

As only a true-blue fan can say, "The kids have a great time, I love soccer and I get immense satisfaction giving back to the community." Stuart Kahn, Referee Coordinator also commented that the best element of the event is "watching the players enjoy themselves."

A player from the Somers Wildcats, Olivia Fego, aged eight, said "It's a big tournament. I like to because a lot of people are watching me."

Hannon Ebert, aged eight and a Somers Wildcat as well, commented, "It is fun playing against other teams. I like being on this travel team."

Each fall and spring season, these kids wish to click the heels of their cleats and head back to the Wizard of Oss again. As these quotes testify, to them, there's NO place like the soccer field!



Photo Gallery













Photos in this issue courtesy Katie Brennan, Helen Daly, Mark Ellis, Sharon Katz, Paul Leibowitz, Lauren Stern, and Forrest Sussman

Design: Leibowitz Communications