

# Meet Larry Grob, Our New AYSO Commissioner

by Roberta Lasky

There's a new Chappaqua AYSO Commissioner in town and his name is Larry Grob.

As an attorney for a large insurance company by day, this father, husband and Westport, CT native, spends his free moments thinking of soccer first and surfcasting striped bass second.

Our new commissioner has a mission in mind as he thinks about the upcoming Fall 2007 season. 'I would like to maintain Chappaqua's high quality youth soccer program in a manner in which everyone builds positive character and develops confidence through participation in a fun, family-oriented environment', commented Grob during our phone conversation last week.

Volunteerism is the nuts and bolts of keeping this athletic program in place. "We depend entirely on our volunteers, so finding and keeping good volunteers has always been our challenge", said Grob. According to Grob it is key that parents devote their time and energy when it comes to kids. He looks forward to meeting and working with many new people in the course of this term. Working with such dedicated and exceptional volunteers and various board members is the main reason that Grob was interested in increasing his involvement.

All of the referees and coaches volunteer their time and energy at each game they are assigned to. Grob pointed out that "the coaches receive standard background checks and updated training to promote safety and fun on the fields."

Another major point that Grob finds important and interesting is that our past commissioners including John Re and Jay Shapiro "are actively involved in the current program on a regular basis." I am very thankful that (outgoing Commissioner) David Perlmutter will continue to be highly involved," stated Grob. Grob had been Assistant Commissioner for this region. He voluntarily decided to run for this three-year commitment role and was elected by the AYSO board. The role includes representing the Chappaqua Region in maintaining its relationships with other regions in the larger AYSO Area and Section.

Another challenge of the weekend program is resolving scheduling conflicts due to a limited number of fields in New Castle. Many parents are experiencing this firsthand

as they learned at the second-to-last game of this season that the last game would be cancelled. The reason for this major cancellation is due to the Greeley fields being inaccessible due to the scheduled graduation ceremonies and preparation. Thus some of the girls and boys received their trophies on June 9<sup>th</sup>. "Chappaqua has limited available field space to accommodate over a thousand children playing multiple outdoor sports. Until the day comes when we find a way to increase field space or provide lighting on more fields, I look forward to working with the town and the other program heads to make the scheduling difficulties work," added Grob. Weekend games often begin at 8 am and run until 5 or 6 pm.

When Grob was growing up, he and kids his age were able to participate in several sports simultaneously because the time commitment was less. Grob, who was an avid rugby player, hopes in this day and age we can balance kids' schedules to allow them to stay involved in multiple activities, and "that we can inspire kids to continue playing soccer and remain active as long as possible — hopefully for life."

"It's a huge effort and commitment on the part of many, many people to make our program work. But when we all step out on the fields that first day in the Fall and see hundreds of smiling faces, I always remember why we do what we do," concluded our new Regional Commissioner.

This special sports program puts smiles on the faces of all the parents, relatives and friends that cheer the kids on as well. It is the icing on the cake of living in a community where everyone gets excited to see old and new friends alike as well as other children from the surrounding schools as their child changes teams from season to season.



SIDELINES

# A Fond Farewell

by Dixie Sellers

June 30th will mark more than the end of another fun-filled soccer season for Chappaqua AYSO. It is also, sadly, the last day for our Commissioner, David Perlmutter. David brought his enthusiasm and love of soccer to the community and did much to grow and improve our community involvement in AYSO. And now, with his term complete, he will hand over the reigns to the very capable hands of Larry Grob, our Assistant Commissioner.

A soccer enthusiast through and through, David lives and breathes the sport...and that isn't only due to the challenging job of commissioner. His whole family is just as devoted. Saturdays and Sundays in the Perlmutter household are spent out on the soccer fields, coaching (he and his wife), playing (his four children), and working as commissioner. So life post-commissioner will probably look very much the same.

While many of us might consider the role of commissioner to be a thankless job, David is quick to defend the role. "Lots of

people come up to me and say 'thank you'," he says. "I think people realize the importance of soccer in the community." He also states that his 'job well done' was also the doing of the more than 200 coaches, board members and volunteers that help him make the job do-able. "It's a group effort in that people bring their ideas to the table, and then *they* lead the effort in getting them up and running."

Some highlights from David's term include:

- 1,250 players this year, which, while slightly less than last year's was unusually high numbers is still very impressive and what makes Chappaqua one of the biggest AYSO groups in Westchester.
- Added online registration.
- Instituted more training for coaches, bringing trainers to the field for more convenient, on-the-job coaching.
- Re-introduced the newsletter, which has become a shared project among the board, parents and players.
- Added gifts for assistant coaches to further encourage volunteer retention.
- Made a contribution for field improve-

- West Orchard and Horace Greeley High School.
- Involved more kids in the AYSO extra training program.

Looking back, David explains that he learned a lot about Chappaqua people in this job, and how to become referee of sorts for the parents, ensuring fairness for all the kids. The role also gave him experiences that will last a lifetime, for example, his experience coaching an autistic child and observing how other children interacted with him. "That is truly one of the most heartwarming types of experiences you can hope to get out of coaching," he explains.

While we will miss David's enthusiasm, the job will be left in very capable hands when Larry takes over. David will continue to coach and will help Larry hit the ground running. David would like to thank all the people that helped him in the job, John Re, his commissioner predecessor and everyone that served AYSO. It was a dedicated, hard-working team and he couldn't have done it without them.

## Behind the Scenes at Chappaqua AYSO Commish HQ



Passing the Torch



Yes, Larry is that good!



The other David

John Re has been taking odd jobs since he abdicated three years ago



...Mr. Re's Neighborhood



Mano a Mano in the coaches game



...and Carnac

# Coaching Maxims

by Charlie Steinhorn

Some coaches prefer to be quiet during games; others like to be active. There is no right or wrong here. Here are some simple principles to keep in mind while coaching games.

## Coach Calmly

Players tense up if you are tense or if you yell at them; they absorb information if you speak calmly. (This does not mean you cannot be loud—to be heard during a game you sometimes have to be loud—but just that you control the tone of your voice).

## Coach Off the Ball

Wait until the game has moved away from a player to offer instruction or comments. That way she can pay attention to what you are saying rather than trying to make a play and listen to you at the same time.

## Coach Positively

If a player makes a mistake, wait a few minutes, choose a moment when the play is far from the player, and tell him how

to react to the situation appropriately without mentioning that he made a mistake (e.g., to a defender, “If you are in trouble play the ball away from the middle, even kick it out of bounds if you are pressured,” rather than “Don’t kick the ball into the middle of the field.”)

## Keep it Simple

Prepare your half time comments before the half ends, and keep them to one or two simple points per player or group of players (e.g., defenders, midfielders, forwards).

## Ask Your Players What They See

Start your half time by asking what your players have seen (keep it to a few observations or it will get overwhelming) and fold those that fit into what you want to say into your comments.

## Coaching is Teaching

Model your coaching after your most memorable teachers; don’t overload your players with information; repeat and reinforce important points; at half time, get their attention and hold it.

## Soccer Movie Suggestions



### Gracie

*A teenage girl who overcomes the loss of her brother and fights the odds to achieve her dream of playing competitive soccer at a time, before Title IX's influence, when girls' soccer did not exist. In Theatres Now*



### Goal

*Santiago harbors the dream of being a professional footballer. However, living in the Barrios section of Los Angeles, he thinks it is only that—a dream. Until one day an extraordinary turn of events has him trying*

*out for Premiership club Newcastle United. Now on DVD*

## Father's Day Gift Suggestion



### Magnum Soccer

*A book of about 200 photos spanning 70 years, Magnum Soccer offers a glimpse at soccer from all over the world and how it shapes the people, culture, and country.*

## Blogs You Might Like

US Youth Soccer Blog

<http://usyouthsoccer.blogspot.com/>

AYSO Member Blogs

<http://soccer.org/Members/Blog/default>

Thoughts and Insights on Youth Soccer from a Soccer Dad, Fan, Coach and Administrator

<http://www.onthepitch.org>

# Parents' Code of Conduct

Reprinted from AYSO National website

As a parent, you play a special role in contributing to the needs and development of youngsters.

Through your encouragement and good example, you can help assure that all the boys and girls learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. In AYSO, young people learn to work together, to sacrifice for the good of the team, to enjoy winning and deal appropriately with defeat - all while becoming physically fit and healthy. Best of all, they have fun.

## Support Your Child

Supporting your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in their team is very important.

Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than victory — that way your child will always be a winner despite the outcome of the game!

## Always Be Positive

Parents serve as role models for their children. Become aware of this and work to be a positive role model. Applaud good plays by your child's team as well as good plays by the opposing team.

Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth sports activities.

## Remember: Your Child Wants To Have Fun

Remember that your child is the one playing soccer, not you. It's very important to let children establish their own goals - to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose your own standards and goals on them.

Don't put too heavy a burden on your child to win games. Surveys reveal that 72% of children would rather play for a losing team than ride the bench for a winning team. Children play for the fun of playing.

## Reinforce Positive Behavior

Positive reinforcement is the best way to help your child achieve their goals and their natural fear of failure. Nobody likes to make mistakes. If your child does make one, remember it's all part of learning, so encourage your child's efforts and point out the good things your child accomplished.

## Don't Be a Sideline Coach or Referee

Coaches and referees are usually parents just like you. They volunteer their time to help make your child's youth soccer experience a positive one. They need your support too.

That means refraining from coaching or refereeing from the sidelines. As a volunteer organization, there's usually always an opportunity for you to take your interest in coaching or refereeing to the next level and become one yourself!

# Haiku

by Richard H. Patrick-Sternin

## The Joys of Coaching

children are learning  
a drill plays out in game time  
best feeling ever

## Kids' perspective on playing

Many parents yell  
I cannot hear the coaches  
I just want to play

## Why women should coach

Every coach a dude  
The exception is quite rare  
Girls need models too.

## Getting dirty while playing soccer

A clean uniform  
Might be good at first kickoff  
Dirt: the sign of fun

## Silent Saturday/Sunday

Children teach themselves  
Except Rich Patrick-Sternin  
It seems he forgot.

## Age appropriate instruction

Teach a puppy math?  
Makes about as much sense as  
offsides in first grade

## Moving goals off the fields

What are these objects?  
Other sports teams must contend  
With goals left on fields

## Playing keeper

Last line of defense  
Find fault not with the goalie  
They beat the whole team

## Good Sportsmanship

Awesome soccer skill  
Doesn't mean as much without  
Being a good sport.

## A player's first goal

Ball crosses the line  
Teammates cheer, a rush of joy  
Her first goal ever.

## Registering before June 30th

Save money, save time.  
Seems like a real no brainer.  
Register early.

## Everyone Plays

This league is for all  
You want crazed competition?  
Go play ice hockey.



# Be the Referee

## What's the Short Answer?

Reprint courtesy of AYSO Shorts,  
the AYSO National Newsletter

### Answers Below

“To whistle or not to whistle?” that is the question. Referees must make quick decisions or give the “short answer” to the question. The luxury of time to think it over, look it up, or discuss it with someone is not an option for the referee during the game. Be a referee for two or three seconds and give the “short answer” to the following situations. Be honest and don't take more than the two or three seconds the referee has to make a decision.

**1.** During kicks from the penalty mark to determine a winner in a drawn match, the blue team's goal keeper violently strikes a red team player. What should the referee do and how is play restarted?

**2.** During kicks from the penalty mark to determine a winner in a drawn match, the blue team's goal keeper is sent off and the blue team's coach wants to replace her goalkeeper with a substitute from the bench. What should the referee do and how is play restarted?

**3.** During kicks from the penalty mark to determine a winner in a drawn match, one of the blue team field players is injured prior to the kicks beginning and the blue team's coach wants to replace this injured player with a substitute from the bench. What should the referee do and how is play restarted?

### Answers:

1. Send off the blue team's goalkeeper and continue with the kicks from the penalty mark.
2. Deny the request to substitute from the bench and request one of the blue team's players on the field replace the goalkeeper and continue with the kicks from the penalty mark.
3. Deny the request to substitute from the bench and continue with the kicks from the penalty mark.

## Don't Forget

Online Registration for the Fall 2007–Spring 2008 season is open. Visit [www.chappaquaayso.org](http://www.chappaquaayso.org) and click on the registration link.

**Register by June 30th for the Early Bird Discount!**

## 5 Reasons Dogs are NOT Welcome

1. Da feces
2. Can bite or injure kids
3. Can get loose
4. Can cause a distraction to players
5. No one loves your dog as much as you do

# Congratulations

To Billy Welburn for winning the AYSO Scholarship Award and to John Re for winning the Grishman Award (and also being nominated Field Coordinator).

## Thanks Again to the 2007 Chappaqua AYSO Board Members

**Commissioner:** David Perlmutter

**Assistant Commissioner:**  
Dennis Greenberg

**Assistant Commissioner:** Larry Grob

### Division Coordinator

U16B	Marc Citrin
U16G	Charlie Steinhorn
U14B	Marc Citrin
U14G	Sandy Bologna
U12B	Bill Koster
U12G	Peter Burack
U10B	Richard Zandi
U10G	Forrest Sussman
U8B	Jamie O'Connell
	Ron Jendzejec
U8G	Lauren Stern
U7B	Larry Grob
U7G	Donna Levitz
U6B (K)	Jonathan Taub
U6G (K)	Scott Krase

**Auditor:** Alan Pollack

**Child VPA:** Noah Sorkin

**Coaches - Director:** Scott Krase

**Communications - Director:**  
Trisha Kallman

**Extra Program - Director:** Tom Pile

**Field Coordinator:** John Re

**Goal Safety & Maintenance:**  
Richard Zandi

**Health, Fitness and Nutrition:** Eric Small

**Newsletter Editor-in-Chief:**  
Paul Leibowitz

**Referees - Director:** John Barnes

**Registrar:** Dru Welburn

**Safety & Equipment:** Marc Reisch

**Secretary:** Michael Fontaine

**Treasurer:** Joel Wolf

**Volunteer Coordinator:**  
Dennis Greenberg

**Webmaster:** Dru Welburn

**Advisor:** Jane Sheinfeld

**Advisor:** Steve Adnopoz

**Advisor:** Stu Finkelstein

**Advisor:** Steve Young

**Advisor:** Robert Snyder

**Commissioner Emeritus:** John Re

**Commissioner Emeritus:** Jay Shapiro

# Photo Gallery



Photos in this issue courtesy Mark Ellis, David Perlmutter, John Re, and Spencer Rosman

Design: Leibowitz Communications



# Photo Gallery



# Photo Gallery





# Photo Gallery

