



Lee's Summit Soccer Association

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President's Newsletter

January 2012 (Winter Edition)

by Ron Cox

Dear Fellow Members,

In just a few short weeks we will welcome our LSSA members back to Legacy Park. It seems like just yesterday we were removing goals from the fields and locking up for winter and now in less than a month we will be back moving goals on the fields and hanging nets again. I hope all of our wonderful volunteers had a tremendous "off season" and are well rested for what is looking to be another record year for LSSA.

In 2011, LSSA registered just over 5,000 players to play soccer at Legacy Park and the surrounding area. This was an increase over the previous 2010 total which was a couple hundred less. The majority of the new growth in LSSA can be attributed to our newly created "Junior's" program, which introduces our three year olds to the fun game of soccer.

This winter LSSA expanded our programs to include indoor 3v3 soccer for the youth players and indoor 7v7 for the adult division. Both indoor leagues have been very well received by our members. In both leagues combined LSSA registered nearly 650 members.

As we move into 2012 you will notice a difference in practice facilities. Due to the new, increased fees assessed to all youth groups by the Lee's Summit R7 School District and our continued growth, LSSA has entered into lease agreements and memorandum of understandings with both public and private land owners to expand our training facilities or relocate to locations that will accommodate after school activities. As a result of these changes LSSA has increased fees slightly for the 2012 year. In an effort to keep our costs down the board adopted an annual budget that will ensure that fees will not increase again in 2012 and we do not foresee other fee increases in 2013. In order to keep costs down and still expand new programs the board renegotiated existing contracts, cut some services and will be reprogramming concessions and other revenue challenges in order to keep costs low for the league and our members.

In 2012 the board has forecasted over 5,500 registrations will be processed which is another double digit increase in the number of registrations. In order to accommodate the additional growth we will again increase the number of practice fields available in 2013 by revising our existing agreements with Jackson County and Lee's Summit Parks and Recreation. At this time we anticipate acquiring an additional 20 plus practices facilities between this spring and next spring. More information will be forthcoming in my future updates to the members.

Finally, I want to let all our members know that our board has voted to approve our continued support of the 2nd Annual Kid's Kick'n Cancer Blood Drive to be held at the conclusion of our spring recreational tournament. Last year we raised nearly 200 units of blood. This blood drive was a record for the Kansas City Community Blood Center and Children's Mercy Hospital. I know we can beat last year's totals, but we can't do it without your help. Please look on the web site over the next couple weeks for sign ups.

If you have any comments, questions or concerns, I encourage you to email your board members. As we look forward to another great season, I assure you we will continue to provide a great program for you and your family in 2012.

Sincerely,

Ron Cox

Lee's Summit Soccer Association President