



LAYSL Newsletter

December, 1995

Annual General Meeting of LAYSL

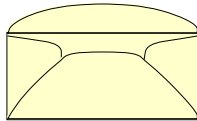
The annual general meeting and elections were held on November 27, 1995. Four of the Board's positions were up for election this year. The newly elected board members are:

Treasurer: Herb Fry
 Advanced Teams Coordinator: Pam Erickson
 White Rock Coordinator: Debby Hyman
 Coach Trainer/Equipment Coordinator: Lore Pellette

We are also pleased to announce that George MacArthur has agreed to serve as secretary, filling the unexpired term of Timothy Hower, who recently moved to Oregon.

Membership Feedback

A short survey is included in this newsletter. Please take a few minutes to respond and return to any board member. If you prefer, the form may be mailed to the board at:



Los Alamos Youth Soccer League (LAYSL)
 P.O. Box 649
 Los Alamos, NM 87544

Discussion of U-8 Rules

We plan to discuss any potential rule changes for the U8 age group at the January board meeting, scheduled for January 22, 1996. Coaches or others proposing any changes in the rules of play should attend this meeting and are encouraged to send comments to Bob Walker or Gary Cort before this meeting.

Spring Registration

Registration forms for the upcoming Spring '96 season will be mailed to those players who were registered for only the past Fall '95 season. These are due by February 6. Open registration deadline is February 17. Extra forms will be placed in our county libraries.

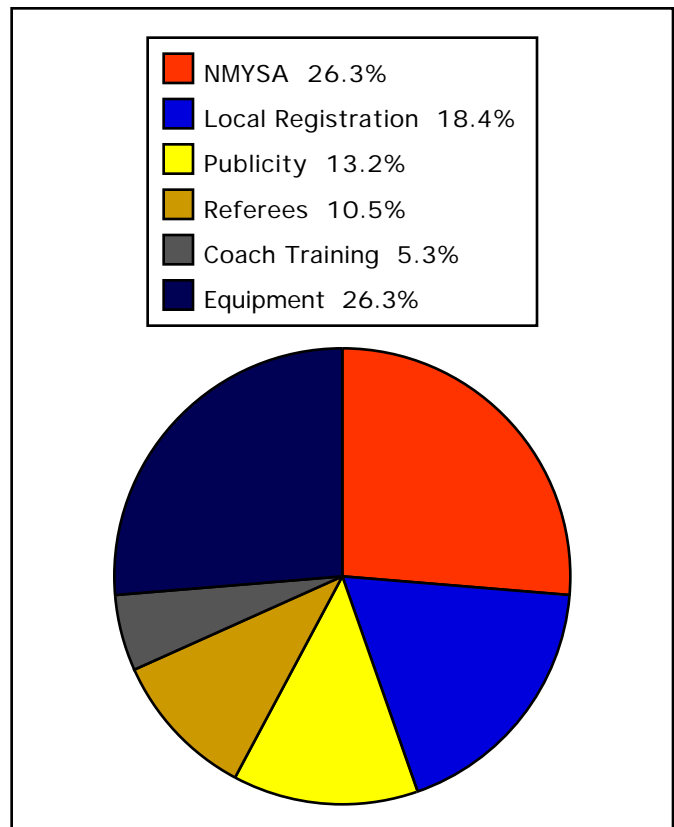
Spring registration deadline is **February 17, 1996**.

A big "Thank you" to all our volunteers who have put in so much time and effort. Your help is very important to the League.

The League's Finances

The League (LAYSL) is facing a cash-flow problem. We must find a means to reduce expenses, increase revenue, or do both. The obvious means for increasing revenue is to raise registration fees; no one wants this. Controlling expenses is more difficult, but more desirable. Essentially the only source of revenue for the League is the money collected from player registration.

Approximate breakdown of LAYSL expenses:



Monies sent to the NMYSA covers state registration, operating expenses and provides insurance coverage for all players and coaches.

Local registration expenses include the registrar's salary, telephone, printing and mailing.

Publicity costs include several newsletters, newspaper ads, and participation pins, hats & shirts. In tight budget times such as this year, we expect to eliminate the use of participation mementos.

Referee costs were initiated to ensure that we fielded an adequate number of qualified referees. These costs include providing a fraction of a uniform and payment for youth referees.

The League has been providing modest coverage of coach training clinics to help ensure a high quality of coaches for all players.

Equipment costs (balls, cones, nets, goals,...) continue to increase. This is due in part to inflation in prices, but is caused also by an increase in damaged and lost equipment. We ask everyone in the League to help with cost control by ensuring that:

- Equipment is not lost,
- Vandalism is discouraged, &
- Usable equipment is returned at the end of each season.

Comparison of past three years:

Year	Income	Expenses	Balance
			\$10,786.77
1993	\$27,915.27	\$32,322.63	\$6,379.41
1994	\$31,793.66	\$29,489.76	\$8,839.99
1995	\$33,807.54	\$36,169.61	\$6,300.11

From the Registrar (Debbie Castro):

Registration forms for the spring 1996 soccer season will be accepted until February 17, 1996. Registration fees for the spring are \$25.00; \$18.00 for the under-6 age group. Registrations received after the February 17 deadline are doubled in price. Also, players registered late can be accepted only if space is available on existing teams.

Practice for the spring season will no earlier than March 25. First League game will be Friday, April 5 or Saturday, April 6th. The spring, 1996 season will end on May 11.

Advanced Soccer

Any new spring advanced team must submit a roster, all birth certificates, and pictures for player passcards to Debbie Castro by January 5.

Any advanced teams planning on attending the State Cup Tournament must:

1. Contact Debbie Castro to get required white rosters.
2. Complete separate applications and send it with an entrance fee directly to the tournament director prior to February 15.

If you need a State Cup application, contact Pam Erickson, 662-2056.

Registration fees for this season are:

Single season only, Fall or Spring	\$25.00
U-6 age group only, one season	\$18.00

Hill Coordinator (Bill Flor)

If you would like to help with any facet of league operations on the Hill, please call me at 662-7885. While only designated jobs are fee-rebated, we still need many volunteers at all levels from individual team helpers, coaches, referees, and linespersons to Coordinators and Board members. Sometimes we're fortunate, and an "old standby" who has followed a child throughout the program still has a younger one at home, and returns to start all over again. Others 'graduate' with their children and 'retire.' We welcome new faces. One thing we don't do well as a program is recruit volunteers who love soccer but who do not have the built-in 'link' of a child in the program somewhere. If you know of such an individual with soccer experience and interest, please tell them about our program and invite them to contribute to the development of our youth players.

Many thanks to those who helped this Fall season on the Hill as Age-group coordinators:

U-06:	John Erickson	662-2056
U-08:	Brenda Robertson	662-4924
U-10 (coed):	Gina Koehler	662-2390
U-12 (coed):	Pam Hornsby	662-5001
U-14 (coed):	Olaf Lubeck	662-3471
U-19 (coed):	John Huang (coach)	662-9273
All girls:	Dory Ryan	662-3390

I am expecting that all the above will be continuing in the Spring half of the season. If that is not the case, please let me know as soon as possible. Also special thanks to John Erickson, who again doubled as Hill fields' coordinator. Maybe, with some luck, we'll have the new North Mesa field to add to his arsenal one day soon!

As you've read elsewhere in this newsletter, controlling costs is an issue in LAYSL, as it seems to be everywhere else these days. We have not done as good a job as we need to do in accounting for the equipment we use in this program. Without equipment serviceability and life expectancy data, it's hard to budget for those recurring costs and set appropriate fees. Without return of equipment from those no longer coaching, unnecessary replacement costs are incurred. Previous attempts at conducting inventories of equipment in the hands of coaches (both present and former) have often been less than successful. I might even be tempted to characterize the overall response to my last two inventory attempts on the Hill as essentially non-responsive. Each coach from this past Fall season should already have received a simple equipment inventory/status form. If you don't have one yet, please call me. Please complete the form and

return it to me directly, (mail or bring to 1862 Broadview Drive, or if you prefer; e-mail to 71001.313@compuserve.com, send by carrier pigeon, or whatever). Based on your inputs, I'll be working with the new LAYSL Equipment Manager to be sure we adequately (and responsibly) equip our teams. If you plan to coach again in the Spring, you may hold on to the team equipment presently assigned to you. If you will not be coaching again, please note that on the inventory and we'll arrange to collect your equipment for re-use by others.

Each coach should also have a player rating sheet. Although we try not to disrupt Fall teams in the Spring half of the season, there are always additional registrants who need to be placed, some realignments which may be necessary, and some players who are 'fall-only' and will not receive a rating in the spring. Coaches, please fill these out promptly and return them to me as well.

White Rock Coordinator (Debby Hyman)

Many thanks to those who helped this fall season as White Rock age-group coordinators.

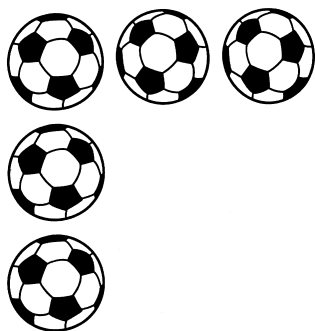
U6:	April Nakaoka	672-3323
U8:	Beth Arnone	672-1250
U10:	April Nakaoka	672-3323
U12:	Carol Brown	672-3022
U14:	Sue Goff	672-0232
U16/U19:	Barbara Cort	672-1901
U10 G:	Francine Mendoza	672-3254
U12 G:	Susan Hodgson	672-3822
U14 G:	Francine Mendoza	672-3254

I am expecting all the above to continue in the spring half of the season.

White Rock's U16/U19 Co-ed team needs a coach for the spring. A coach is not required to have a child in the League. Please let me know of anyone with soccer experience who might be interested in coaching these older players.

If you are no longer coaching, but still have soccer equipment, please let me know and I will arrange for it to be picked up. We are short on good equipment.

Soccer Equipment



There have been scattered reports of defective soccer balls. We would appreciate knowing about all such instances. In fact, if the defective balls are returned by the coach to the equipment coordinator, we can return them for exchange or credit. This is another way the League can reduce expenses.

Current Members of the Board of Directors and their Responsibilities:

President: Bob Walker, 672-9749

The president presides over all regular meetings, normally sets the agenda and serves as the primary point-of-contact for the LAYSL.

Registrar: Debbie Castro, 662-2181

The registrar is certainly the busiest and most important board member. She maintains all player records, databases, prepares identification and pass cards, pays state registration fees, prepares all bulk mailings, and handles most of the other paperwork that keeps the league functioning. The registrar is the only paid position in the LAYSL and is a non-voting member of the BOD.

Secretary: George McArthur, 667-3543

The secretary keeps the official minutes of all meetings, handles the mailing of these minutes and ensures that records are maintained of official BOD operations.

Treasurer: Herb Fry, 662-6491

The treasurer keeps the league's financial records and pays most of the bills.

Referee Coordinator: Gary Cort, 672-1901

The referee coordinator is responsible for ensuring that all our referees are properly trained, licensed and registered with the State. He also has the big job of scheduling all in-town games and ensuring that referees cover all games.

Hill (Los Alamos) Coordinator: Bill Flor, 662-7885

White Rock Coordinator: Debby Hyman, 672-1149

The two area coordinators must ensure that everything moves smoothly and correctly for the several recreational teams in Los Alamos and White Rock. Jobs include coach selection and notification, overseeing age-group coordinators, team selection and problem resolution. Age group coordinators (not BOD members) assign players to individual teams.

Coach Trainer/Equipment Coordinator: Lore Pellette, 672-0389

This busy coordinator is responsible for ensuring that our coaches are trained and that advancement opportunities are available. She also must ensure that all teams have proper and adequate equipment such as balls, cones, nets, and field-stripping equipment.

Advanced Teams Coordinator: Pam Erickson, 662-2056

Serves as the single-point contact for all advanced teams and for the league's interaction with the Duke City Soccer League.

Publicity Coordinator: Dave Schneider, 662-9702;

FAX 662-7743; E-mail 73577.143@compuserve.com

The publicity coordinator normally prepares the LAYSL Soccer Pitch newsletter, newspaper ads, and prepares other notices as required.

General LAYSL Information

The LAYSL operates under international, national, state and local rules, bylaws and guidelines. Our local (LAYSL) bylaws were prepared in 1982. In addition, we have guidelines for both the recreational and advanced teams. With the exception of the registrar, all positions are filled on a volunteer basis. The primary purpose of LAYSL is to provide a safe and fun opportunity for the youth of Los Alamos to play soccer.

The recreational teams provide this opportunity with a minimal investment in time and money. All recreational games are normally played in Los Alamos either on Friday evening or on Saturday morning. The advanced teams embark on more serious play and normally attend weekend games in Albuquerque. There are also several out-of-town tournaments during the season. Obviously the commitment and support (both time and money) required of parents for the advanced teams is significantly greater. In all cases, most teams hold practices twice weekly during the playing season.

Los Alamos Youth soccer is still growing

The Los Alamos Youth Soccer League embarked on its 13th year with 68 teams in the fall of 1995. Established in 1982, LAYSL's charter is to cultivate soccer among its youth in an atmosphere that encourages the highest standards of performance and sportsmanship.

LAYSL is affiliated with the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association, a member of the United States Youth Soccer Association, whose membership exceeds 1.5 million.

LAYSL operates through the efforts of dozens of volunteers throughout the county. LAYSL operations and policies are established by a nine-member board of directors that meets monthly. All regular meetings are open to the public.

In the recent two years, LAYSL registration approached 1000. With these numbers, LAYSL is one of the largest youth sports organizations in the county.

LAYSL players participate in one of two divisions. Eighty percent of the players participate in the recreational division. Recreational teams are formed early in the fall and usually stay together through the spring season. Each season is normally six weeks long. Players are assigned to teams by age-group coordinators, who oversee the operation of each particular age bracket. Coaches assist in team selection to ensure that teams are nearly equally balanced.

Recreational teams range in age from 6 to 19 years. Games are played on county fields in Los Alamos and White Rock on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings.

Approximately 20 percent of LAYSL players participate in the advanced division. This division is appropriate for players and coaches with a higher interest, skill level and dedication. Advanced teams are formed through tryouts that are held at the end of the spring season. The number of advanced division teams normally increases in the spring to provide additional playing time for high-school players.

Advanced teams typically play at least eight fall and eight spring games in the Duke City Soccer League in Albuquerque. Most advanced teams participate in several state and regional tournaments.

Referee Coordinator, (Gary P. Cort)



Fall '95 was another big success. We covered 259 games and scrimmages with 33 active referees (20 adults and 13 students). Many thanks to all of the referees, mentors, and field marshals who participated. We still need lots more referee volunteers; call me at 672-1901 and we can talk about getting you into the program. SPECIAL NOTE: We're planning our next referee clinic series for the week before Spring Break--watch the Monitor for an announcement or call me in February for more details.

Selections from the State Calendar:

Jan. 15	ODP (Olympic Development Program) applications due
Feb 1	Team rosters due for entry into State Cup
Feb 15	State Cup applications due
Feb 20	Rosters due for Spring Classic FC Cup
Feb 24,5	Spring Classic FC Cup Tournament
Mar 1	Deadline: team registration for American Cup
Mar 15	Deadline: American Cup applications
Apr 13	Roster deadline: State Cup
Apr 27,8	State Cup knockouts
May 4	Roster deadline: American Cup
May 4,5	State Cup
May 11,2	State Cup U11 & U13
May 18,9	American Cup
May 21	Sandia Cup & Four Corners Invitational
May 25-7	Sandia Cup
May 25-7	Four Corners Invitational