

⚽ ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Los Alamos Youth Soccer League (LAYSL) was held on November 25, 1996. The two main agenda items were Board member annual reports and election of new members of the Board. Seven Board members, the Registrar, and six general members were present.

PRESIDENT

Bob Walker summarized the League's activities and directions over the past two years that he has served as President. The principal point he made was that the success of the League and its programs depends on the continued support of many dedicated

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⚽ IMPORTANT CHANGES CONCERNING REFEREES AND ASSISTANT REFEREES!

Because of increased need, every team above U8 is now **REQUIRED** to supply a trained assistant referee (formerly called linesman) for each game. "Trained" is defined as attending either the Fall '96 or Spring '97 Basic Rules **AND** Assistant Referee clinic sessions. Training is required annually, so if you've been "lining" for years but haven't attended these clinics, you're no longer "trained." Referees will not be assigned to games of teams who do NOT have a trained assistant.

Each U8 team is required to have a trained U8 referee (which means has attended the Fall '96 or Spring '97 Basic Rules Clinic).

Prior to assigning game referees, the Referee Coordinator will compile a list of the teams and their trained referees and assistants. This information will be collected at the Basic Rules and Assistant Referee clinics or the coaches can call Kim Thomas with the information. Attendees at the clinics **MUST** know what team they represent—coach's name, age group, and team number. **See page 3.**



⚽ SPRING REGISTRATION

LAYSL spring '97 registration time is upon us! For those players initially registered as "fall only" who now wish to play in the spring, registration is open from 6 Jan to 3 Feb '97. For players not registered this past fall, new registrations are now being accepted for "spring only" play from 13 Jan to 17 Feb '97. Fees for spring-only play are \$26 per player (U8 and above) or \$18 per player (kindergarten league, U6). Spring '97 recreational games begin 11-12 April and end 16-17 May '97.

Past "fall only" registrants should have received a spring invitation letter and registration materials by mail. Blank registration materials for any player category will be available at both branches of the Mesa Public Library beginning 13 Jan '97. Detailed instructions are included in those materials. **Or visit LAYSL's new web site for all the current registration information, and much more!**

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⚽ LAYSL WEB SITE

<http://www.newmexico.com/~laysl/>
laysl@newmexico.com

LAYSL now has a web site and an e-mail address! The Board hopes that this site will provide more immediate and continuing communication with our members and players, and that it will eventually contain virtually all the League information to which anyone could ever want or need access. The site is still considered in "draft" status, but it already contains a large amount of material. The home page index

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Page 4: League Calendar

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volunteers, and that the League needs to continually replenish its ranks of volunteers. Volunteers serve the League as parents, coaches, referees, and Board members. The continued success the League has enjoyed is a direct result of the dedication of its current volunteers.

REGISTRAR

Debbie Castro submitted a report summarizing registration numbers for the Fall '96 season and comparing these numbers with the Fall '95 season. The Recreational Program has 68 teams and 699 players serving age groups from U6 through U19; the Advanced Program has 7 teams with 111 players. The total '96 registration of 810 players on 75 teams is to be compared with the '95 registration of 828 players on 68 teams. There will be additional advanced teams forming in the Spring '97 season.

Debbie's report also described other registrar activities: continued work with the state-provided registration software, work on the spring registration letter, generating mailing labels for this newsletter, obtaining a display permit for the registration reminder sign on the Diamond Drive overpass, and submitting her financial report.

TREASURER

Herb Fry reported the League is in a strong financial position, with a current balance of \$14,957.95, approximately \$8,000 greater than at this time last year. Our strong position is the result of the collective efforts of Board members to control costs, to pay stricter attention to the management of League equipment (reducing expenses for new equipment), publishing fewer newsletters, reducing referee questionnaire expenses, and not issuing participation pins to players this past year. His report also shows graphically the League's monthly income and outflow. Income peaks in the months of June and July, when Fall registrations come in, and expenses peak in August and September, as registration fees are paid to NMYSA. Local expenses also occur during the Fall and Spring seasons, as equipment and referee expenses are incurred.

HILL COORDINATOR

Bill Flor reported that the Hill fielded 41 recreational teams in the Fall and had a generally uneventful season. Team sizes were kept smaller, to increase player time on the ball for learning soccer skills, so long as an adequate number of coaches could be found. More games were scheduled between the Hill and White Rock programs this season, increasing the variety of teams our players experi-

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already includes links to the following information:

- ↗ General league information
- ↗ Recreational program (with schedules)
- ↗ Advanced program
- ↗ Registration information (and some forms)
- ↗ Board of Directors
- ↗ Field information (including maps and how to line a field)
- ↗ League calendar
- ↗ Coach's page ("one-stop shopping" for the recreational team coach)
- ↗ Referee information (including back issues of **HEY, REF!**)
- ↗ League bylaws
- ↗ League guidelines
- ↗ Clinic, training and camp information
- ↗ Newsletters (including back issues of **The Soccer Pitch**)
- ↗ Soccer links on the web

Please visit our site and provide feedback. It's there to serve our league. If there is anything that would make it more valuable to you, as a player, parent, coach, referee, or other volunteer, please tell us.

The Board would like to thank Bill Flor (Publicity Coordinator) for the considerable time and effort he has donated to creating the prototype LAYSL web site and to incorporating comments to date.



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After much discussion, the LAYSL Board decided on the above dates for the Spring Season this year. This was a difficult decision, because it makes our season conflict with baseball more than usual. The Board felt it was nevertheless necessary to choose these dates to avoid running the season over Spring Break, which is quite late this year (Mar 31 - Apr 4). If we start soccer before Spring Break, the interruption the break causes throws the entire scheduling process into almost certain chaos, with many requests to reschedule games that cannot be played on the first or second weekend because too many players are unavailable. We also cannot start the season well in advance of Spring Break, because we cannot be sure the fields will be playable. Those of you with children who play both sports, we ask your indulgence and understanding.



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ence. Thanks go to the Hill's Age Group Coordinators, who were Terry Izraelevitz, U6; Dave Goggin, U8; DeeDee McInroy, U10C; Pam Hornsby, U12C; Karl Braithwaite, U14C; Olaf Lubeck, U16/19C; and Dory Ryan, Girls. Thanks also to all the volunteers who's efforts make the program successful, including coaches, parents, referees, youth referees, and to John Erickson for continuing to serve as the Hill's field coordinator. We need to increase coach cooperation in returning player rating sheets and equipment inventories.

As a long-standing member of the LAYS� Board, Bill concluded his report with observations and recommendations aimed toward maintaining the health of LAYS� and its programs. These included: strive to keep teams small; improve communications with coaches; improve educational programs for parents; continue support for youth referees; strive also to recruit volunteers without children in the League; continue programs to train/license coaches; maintain balanced recreational teams and continue not publishing scores of games; add advanced teams carefully to minimize any negative impact on the recreational program; and develop a coaching outline for each age group based on expectations of player skill development.

WHITE ROCK COORDINATOR

Debby Hyman thanked all the coaches and volunteers that made soccer possible this fall. She especially thanked the age group coordinators who did the behind-the-scenes work of organizing 25 teams. These were Beth Arnone, U6; Linda Fortgang, U8; Jim Umstead, U10B; Beth Arnone, U10G; Ann Wohletz, U12B; Jenny Sprinkle, U12G; Jean Picard, U14; and Jim Soukup, U16/U19. The increased level of play with Hill U10 teams was well received. She

reported that she has received almost all of the player rating sheets for these teams, and plans to hold meetings with the coaches before the beginning of the Spring season, at which she will give coaches a current copy of the rule books.

ADVANCED TEAMS COORDINATOR

Pam Erickson's report was provided by John Erickson. We currently have 7 advanced teams, a decrease from 11 teams at this time last year. Most of the decline is because of fewer girls competitive teams (only 2 currently). In the Spring, 2 new girls team will form, serving mostly High School players. There may also be 1 or 2 teams formed drawing from the boys High School program, if a coach can be found. John mentioned the recurring problems with coordinating the LAYS� and High School programs in the Fall, especially when it is unclear when or if the High School will take 8th graders to form "C" teams. This is mostly a problem with the girls program—we expect that the High School will need 8th graders for the Fall '97 season.

John also made an appeal for some soccer-knowledgeable volunteers to consider applying for a position with the Parks and Recreation Board. There are presently 3 openings. None of the current P&R members are from the soccer community. There are several important issues facing that Board, including possibly establishing usage fees for soccer fields. Also, we do not currently have any lighted soccer fields. A request was made to consider purchasing some soccer goals for the North Mesa field. *[Editor's note: John has served superbly as a member of the P&R Board for two terms, and is no longer eligible to succeed himself—therefore, his request for other volunteers to step forward!]*

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SPRING '97 REFEREE CLINIC

LAYS� will hold a FREE Spring '97 referee clinic for League coaches, parents, and referees. The classroom portion will be held 18-20 March '97 in the Piñon School Library from 7-9 PM. New this year will be a field session for Assistant Referees (linesmen) at Overlook Park on 23 March '97 beginning at 1 PM. The first evening (Basic Rules Clinic) is devoted to basic rules and the special needs of beginning coaches and younger teams with small-sided games, especially U8's. The second evening is for training Assistant Referees (linesmen), including offside. The third evening is advanced rules and concepts, and is targeted for referees of games above U8 and for those who will be taking the certification exam.

The field session provides the opportunity to practice some of the classroom concepts "hands on." All referees wishing to take the certification exam (or those needing recertification) should attend all four sessions. The exam will be 7PM on Thursday, March 27, at the White Rock Library. First-time certification has a \$5 fee. Coaches and parents are invited to attend any session of interest. Students are also invited to attend. However, any student not already certified who wishes to become a referee for the Spring season should first contact Kim Thomas. For more information, please call the Referee Coordinator, Kim Thomas.



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For referee program details of the Fall '96 season, Kim Thomas referred back to her report at the Sep '96 Board meeting. In summary, referees covered 233 games in the Fall, of which 76 were worked by youth referees. There are a total of 34 adult referees and 15 youth referees serving the League. All but 5 of these worked at least a minimum of 3 games during the Fall. More games are expected in the Spring season, in part because of more tournament activity.

COACH TRAINER / EQUIPMENT COORDINATOR

Lore Pellette reported that 18 candidates completed training for the USSF "F" license last Spring, and 11 candidates completed an "E/F" clinic in the Fall. Another "E/F" clinic is planned for this Spring (see box this page). She reported a need for a "G" level clinic aimed toward parents of new, young players. With regard to League equipment, the equipment locker in Los Alamos has been cleaned and stocked for the Spring. The league needs to order more nets, and needs to decide whether to provide goalie shirts for the recreational teams.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The LAYS� Board of Directors consists of 9 volunteers serving staggered 2-year terms. Five Board Members' terms expired Nov '96. The nominating committee proposed one candidate for each vacancy, to serve from Nov '96 to Nov '98: John Courtright (President), Bob Walker (Secretary), Joy Dee White (Hill Coordinator), Kim Thomas (Referee Coordinator), and Bill Flor (Publicity Coordinator). Since there were no further nominations from the floor, these candidates were approved unanimously. The Board then thanked the two departing members for their valuable service (George MacArthur, Secretary, and Dave Schneider, Publicity Coordinator). Kim Thomas remains referee Coordinator, Bob Walker moves from President to Secretary, and Bill Flor moves from Hill Coordinator to Publicity Coordinator. The Board welcomed it's two new members, John Courtright as President and Joy Dee White as Hill Coordinator.



E- and F-LICENSE CLINIC

The "E"- and "F"-License Coach's Clinic will be **either** 7-8 Mar or 14-15 Mar. The Friday classroom portion is from 6:30-9 PM at Fuller Lodge, and the Saturday field portion is from 8:30-4:00 at Overlook Park. Generally, the F License is suitable for beginning coaches up to U8. The E License is recommended for coaching up to U10. For more information, and to confirm the date, please call our Coach Trainer, Lore Pellette.

We hope to hold a D-License Clinic soon. The D License is generally suitable for up to U14 and advanced team coaching. It's a 2-weekend commitment, and we need at least 10 people. Please let Lore know if you're interested.

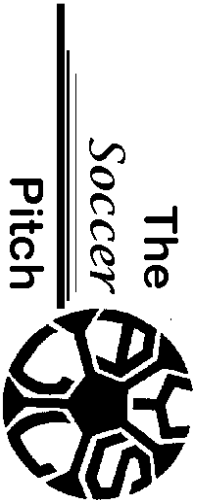

SELECTED CALENDAR ITEMS

- 6 Jan Spring registration OPENS
- 13 Jan Additional registration packets available at Libraries
- 27 Jan LAYS� Board Meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 3 Feb Spring registration for "fall-only" players CLOSES
- 17 Feb New spring registration CLOSES
- 24 Feb LAYS� Board Meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 7-8 Mar (OR 14-15 Mar) E/F-license coaching clinic
- 14 Mar Equipment pickup 6-8PM, Storage Unit #36, Hill
- 18-20 Mar Referee clinics (classroom) at Piñon School
- 21 Mar Late registration ABSOLUTE deadline
- 23 Mar Referee clinic (field) at Overlook Park
- 24 Mar First day spring practice allowed
- 24 Mar LAYS� Board Meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 27 Mar Referee certification exam at White Rock Library
- 11/12 Apr Spring recreational games BEGIN
- 28 Apr LAYS� Board Meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 16/17 May Spring recreational games END
- ?? May Equipment turn-in (date to be announced)
- ?? May LAYS� Board Meeting at Mesa Public Library


LAYS� BOARD OF DIRECTORS (November 1996)

John Courtright	662-9216	President
Bob Walker	672-9749	Secretary
Herb Fry	662-6491	Treasurer
Kim Thomas	672-3354	Referee Coordinator
Joy Dee White	661-6697	Hill Coordinator
Debby Hyman	672-1149	White Rock Coordinator

Lore Pellette	672-0389	Coach Trainer / Equipment Coordinator
Pam Erickson	662-2056	Advanced Team Coordinator
Bill Flor	662-7885	Publicity Coordinator
Debbie Castro	662-2181	Registrar (non-voting)



January 1997
Newsletter

**Los
Alamos
Youth
Soccer
League**

Bulk Rate
U. S. Postage
PAID
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Permit No. 154

 **Spring Registration**

 **Referee Changes**

 **LAYS L Web Site**

 **Annual Meeting**

 **Clinics**



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