



# LAYSL Newsletter

## January 1998

<http://www.roadrunner.com/~laysl/>

[laysl@newmexico.com](mailto:laysl@newmexico.com)

### ⚽ ANNUAL MEETING

The LAYSL 1997 Annual Meeting was held on 24 Nov '97 in the downstairs meeting room of Mesa Public Library. The primary business was Board member reports and election of officers for the four Board positions whose terms expire in odd-numbered years. There was a good turnout of general members, which made for a valuable meeting.

In the Board elections, Debbie Smith was elected to the Advanced Teams Coordinator position. The Board extends its sincere thanks to Pam Erickson, who has served us capably in that position for the past two years. Herb Fry (Treasurer) and Lore Pellette (Coach Trainer / Equipment Coordinator) were each reelected to a second two-year term. The outgoing White Rock Coordinator (Liz Fawcett) temporarily agreed to continue until a special election could be held. Also, the Board appointed Dave Goggin to fill the unexpired term of Joy Dee White as Hill Coordinator. The Board also extends its sincere thanks to Joy Dee for her capable service this past year. In a subsequent special Board meeting of 12 Jan '98, April Nakaoka was elected to fill the White Rock Coordinator position—our thanks also to Liz, for her dedicated service.

**Registrar's report:** Debbie Castro distributed her annual report, listing the number of teams and players in each age group for the Recreational and Advanced Programs. In Fall '97, LAYSL fielded 80 teams and 861 players. Corresponding figures for

*(ANNUAL MEETING, continued on page 2)*

### ⚽ NEW REGISTRAR NAMED

A new LAYSL Registrar has been selected. Martha Katko has accepted a 2-year contract to serve as our next Registrar, beginning on 1 Apr '98. She will be "in training" with our current registrar (Debbie Castro) until then. The League wishes to extend our great appreciation to Debbie for her long and very capable tenure. Martha may be reached on the League phone number (662-2181) as soon as US West relocates the line and also via the League e-mail address.

### ⚽ LAYSL TO HOST KNOCKOUTS (VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)

LAYSL has been designated to host two State Cup knockout rounds by NMYSA—U-11 girls & U-13 boys, both on the weekend of 25-26 Apr '98. As those of you who have helped put on such tournaments in the past already know, many volunteers will be needed to make this a success. We will be needing Field Marshals and assistants, referees and assistant referees, tournament director and assistants, field preparation personnel, concessions, programs, publicity, and many others. All interested individuals are welcome to assist. You do not have to have children in these age groups, or even in LAYSL. Recreational and Advanced teams are also welcome to volunteer to help. Please contact any Board member (listed on page 4) to assist.

### ⚽ SPRING REGISTRATION

Registration for the Spring '98 portion of the LAYSL season is well underway. Letters were mailed 5 Jan '98 to all "Fall-only" registrants inviting them to continue on their same teams. General registration for new players also began 15 Jan '98, with placement of registration packets in both branches of Mesa Public Library. To ensure placement on the same team as this past Fall, "Fall-only" re-registrations are due 2 Feb '98. The new registrant deadline is 27 Feb '98. Please see the League calendar on page 4 for other dates important to this upcoming Spring '98 season, or visit our web site for detailed information.



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Fall '96 were 75 teams and 810 players. The additional players to be registered in Spring '98 will bring the total number of players near the 1,000 mark again this year.

**Treasurer:** Herb Fry reported that he has almost recovered from a computer crash, and all League records have now been re-entered. The basic financial position of the League continues to be good, with a current balance of \$26,646 (about \$8,000 more than at this time last year). The principal expense for the last month was the purchase of a field lining machine which can use either gasoline (diesel) or paint.

**Referee Coordinator:** Kim Thomas distributed her annual report. A total of 42 referees (26 adult, 16 youth) covered 600 games over the past year. Considering that most adult referees volunteer their services, this is equivalent to a benefit of over \$3,300 in expenses that LAYS� does not have to cover.

**Advanced Team Coordinator:** Pam Erickson reported that the League will form two new advanced teams this Spring for HS-aged boys, and two for HS-aged girls. Information must be provided to Duke City Soccer League (DCSL) in time for them to prepare Spring schedules. Phil Pellette plans to coach U15 boys, and Don Forehand U17 boys. Ron Madrid and Debbie Smith are currently polling girls to determine the level of interest in girls teams. There are approximately 5 HS-aged U16 boys who are unable to find a place to play. A discussion ensued concerning how situations like this can be avoided, while still making it possible to field highly skilled teams in nearly pure age groups for the Spring season. Also, member Debbie Smith reminded the Board that LAYS� is likely to receive bills from the DCSL for referee costs, and that competitive coaches should be advised to plan for these fees in advance as a part of team expenses. Coaches also need to track games they play in ABQ when referees do not show, so that the League is not charged for these games.

**White Rock Coordinator:** Liz Fawcett reported that the Fall recreational season seemed to go well.

**Coach Trainer / Equipment Coordinator:** Lore Pellette summarized the past year's efforts. The equipment locker in Los Alamos was cleaned and thoroughly inventoried. On four separate days, equipment was issued to coaches. Equipment was not collected after the Fall '97 season, since most coaches will continue in the Spring. Lore also reviewed this past year's clinics: 18 people attended a Spring '97 clinic. The proposed D-license clinic, to be held over two weekends, was never held because too few people committed to attend. Member Bruce



## HILL COORDINATOR

Joy Dee White

Another season is around the corner and we're getting ready for it! There will be a change and it is a good one. I am stepping down as Hill Coordinator, but Dave Goggin, who is more capable than I am, is taking the position. I am very confident that all will move smoothly and everyone will be at ease with Dave in the lead! A huge "thank you" to all you age-group coordinators for all your hard work and help. I also want to thank the other Board members; I enjoyed getting to know you and the world of soccer here in Los Alamos. Keep working for the kids!



Barracough expressed concern over the organization of the field lining task for last Fall. Lore proposed that we hold a coaches meeting before each season, to provide them with guidelines, assign field maintenance responsibilities, and issue equipment.

**Publicity Coordinator:** Bill Flor summarized his activities for the last year. LAYS� provides public notice of its activities in three forums: this newsletter, the League web site, and the local newspaper. Newsletters are published 3 times/year, in about January, May, and September. Bill also reviewed the progress made during the year in constructing the LAYS� web site. The success and usefulness of the web site depends on having up-to-date information, which requires that League volunteers supply him with timely information concerning upcoming activities. There have been some problems getting the newspaper to publish announcements about League activities reliably, perhaps attributed to the paper not having a sports editor for the last several months.

**Other New Business:** John Courtright reviewed the status of the search for a new Registrar. Bill Flor will continue with advertisements in the Monitor. Phil Pellette volunteered to help to develop coaching standards for the League, recalling the need to elaborate and improve coaching guidelines for LAYS�. Bruce Barracough inquired about corporate sponsorship of teams (not allowed by our Bylaws), inquired about opportunities for informal play during the summer, and inquired about new ideas for more competitive level play within the League. Bill Flor volunteered to hold some LAYS� meetings at a Laboratory site (since LAYS� is now a sanctioned LANL organization).



## ⚽ THE PREZ SAYS

John Courtright

Spring soccer is almost here, and soon we'll all be out scooping snow off the grass! Well, let's hope not, but if you want the kids to play ...

I don't want to sound like a broken record, but last Fall, the Board had several discussions regarding who was responsible for lining fields, where's the referee, and even why new nets aren't installed routinely.

The LAYS�, except for the Registrar, is organized and operated by volunteers. There are people coming out to help, but not enough in some cases. We cannot simply rely on the U-6 influx to fill the vacancies created by those who leave. The Board does feel we've made progress, and to all who DO take it upon themselves to help a little extra, a hearty "Thank you!" But, as I said, as the program gets bigger, so do the personnel requirements to keep up such a top-notch youth program. Bill Flor, who has been around the League a long time, was even impressed by how many people came to the annual meeting to participate in the election ... and no, they didn't show up with tar and feathers, either! For the first time in a long time, we had several qualified and dedicated volunteers to vote between for Board positions. Those not selected this time still can make valuable contributions to the League in other ways. Also, the three well-qualified people who applied for the Registrar position further shows that people do care about the soccer program in LA. But there is still much to do. As kids leave the sport (heaven forbid!), so do most of their parents. True, we get incoming U-6 parents, but the experienced coaches and refs are not replaced so easily or quickly. Gone are the days of a parent simply "stepping in" to ref or coach. Such a person now needs training, licensing, and recertifying. The Board is making every opportunity for interested people to receive any training they need, and is also working on plans to train and entice people to enter the "management" side of soccer, but we need commitments from new individuals. Now, I know some of you are saying, "Yeah, yeah, John; we've heard all this before." And I don't want this to sound as if it's just filler I'm using for the newsletter, but consider our dilemma. The only way to improve our league, the sport, its players, and anyone else involved, is for everything and everyone to take a step up. Without self-improvement, there is no improvement at all.

Enjoy the Spring season, and please get involved. As the coaches and teams prepare, we will be asking (and expecting) more of the team parents to pitch in and help make soccer a success for the kids.



## ⚽ ADVANCED TEAMS NEWS

Debbie Smith

As advanced teams coordinator, I wish everyone the best for the spring season. We have 3 new spring teams: U-15 boys, U-17 boys, & U-17 girls. We also have a new program for HS players to build skills in scheduled small-sided, coed games (U-14 to U-17 boys & girls), but with additional full-field weekend scrimmages against DCSL teams. It allows those who don't have a spring team to continue to build skills and play competitive games (without the rostering and scheduling restrictions of our KIXX and Laser teams). Interested players should complete a LAYS� registration, and turn in a picture and birth certificate for pass card to travel, and return to me by 15 Feb.

Advanced team coaches are forming a "Coaches Association" to plan for LA soccer development, to share ideas and strategies, and to develop coach guidelines. We are attending a coaching symposium in ABQ on 31 Jan. to help us develop age-specific training guidelines. Also, we will be working with the HS and ODP coaches to better prepare our youth for these programs. We are considering offering "skill sessions" for all advanced players, run by different coaches on a rotating basis, to provide LA players the advantages of additional skill-specific training, and the opportunity to work with different coaches.

We are also working on ways to build "mentoring" relationships between the HS and younger players. Coaches will discuss developing training for HS players to be assistant coaches for younger teams. We are also encouraging them to consider referee training, to help build the program in LA.

In closing, I wish you good luck, and ask you to remember that we are all in the business of helping our youth to build soccer skills, tactics, and above all character. Please put sportsmanship FIRST on your list, and remind all participating adults that their own actions provide the greatest lesson to our kids!

**Olympic Development Program tryouts:** high school players born 1979-1981 (girls), 1980-1981 (boys) at Bernalillo Complex Feb. 7-8 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM (times vary for boys and girls). If you haven't registered, you may do so at check in at 8:00 a.m. Call Debbie Smith for details (672-1793).

### Advanced teams deadlines:

- \* New team registrations to registrar - PAST DUE
- \* Coach symposium - 30-31 Jan, Sandia Prep, ABQ
- \* Coach meeting - 3 Feb - place TBA (will e-mail)
- \* Small sided registration to D. Smith - by 15 Feb (birth cert., pict., regist., \$)
- \* State Cup registration to NMYSA - by 15 Feb

(ADVANCED TEAMS, continued on page 5)

## ⚽ REFEREE CLINICS

Kim Thomas

**Spring '98 Soccer Referee Clinic:** LAYS� will hold a Spring '98 referee clinic for League coaches, parents, and referees. Refresher training is required for certified referees at least annually. There were some significant changes in the Laws of the Game last year that merit review at this clinic. Remember also that LAYS� requires each team to provide TRAINED Assistant Referees (formerly called Linesmen).

The classroom portion of the clinic will be held Tues-Thurs, 17-19 Mar '98, in the CST-Division Office Conference Room (Pajarito Rd, TA-48, Bldg RC-29--outside the fence, to the left of the parking lot) from 7-9:30 PM (map on the web site). The field session for new referees and assistant referees will be held at Overlook Park on Sun, 22 Mar, 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. The second evening is devoted to training Assistant Referees, including the offside rule. 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 for "hands-on" practice of some of the classroom concepts.

Students are also invited to attend these training sessions. However, any student not already certified who wishes to become a referee for the Spring season should first contact the Referee Coordinator. New student referees must be in 6th grade or higher or at least 11 years old. If there is enough interest

*(REFEREES, continued on page 5)*

## ⚽ '98 CALENDAR of EVENTS (visit our web site for more details!)

- 2 Feb "Fall-only" re-registration CLOSES
- 3 Feb Advanced Teams coaches meeting
- 7-8 Feb 5v5 tournament (Geckos), for U-11
- 7-8 Feb ODP tryouts at Bernalillo Complex
- 9 Feb Supplemental Board meeting at TA64-39-102
- 14-15 Feb 5v5 tournament (Geckos), for U-12 & up
- 20-24 Feb "D"-License at Alamogordo
- 21-22 Feb Classic Cup Tournament (ABQ)
- 23 Feb Regular Board meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 27 Feb Spring supplemental new registration CLOSES
- 28 Feb First DCSL advanced teams games
- ?? Mar Advanced Teams assistant referee training
- 12 Mar Spring team formation deadline
- 17-19 Mar Spring coach and referee clinics at TA48-RC29
- 19-22 Mar "C"-License at Sandia
- 20 Mar Spring LATE registration FINAL CUTOFF
- 22 Mar Field portion of Spring referee clinic
- 23 Mar Regular Board meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 23 Mar First Spring recreational practice allowed
- 26 Mar Referee certification exam given
- 28 Mar - 1 Apr "D"-License at Alamogordo
- 30 Mar - 3 Apr Public School spring break
- 2-5 Apr "C"-License at UNM
- 10-11 Apr First weekend of Spring recreational games
- 25-26 Apr LAYS� hosts State Cup knockouts (U-11G & U-13B)
- 27 Apr Regular Board meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 15-16 May Last weekend of Spring recreational games
- 25 May Regular Board meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 22 Jun Regular Board meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 27 Jul Regular Board meeting at Mesa Public Library
- 3-7 Aug British Soccer (U-13 and up and competitive)
- 10-14 Aug British Soccer (U-12 and under and competitive)

## ⚽ LAYS� BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(January 1998)

John Courtright	662-9216	President
Bob Walker	672-9749	Secretary
Herb Fry	662-6491	Treasurer
Kim Thomas	672-3354	Referee Coordinator
Dave Goggin	662-3537	Hill Coordinator
April Nakaoka	672-3323	White Rock Coordinator
Lore Pellette	672-0389	Coach Trainer / Equipment Coordinator
Debbie Smith	672-1793	Advanced Team Coordinator
Bill Flor	662-7885	Publicity Coordinator
Debbie Castro	662-2181	Registrar (until 31 Mar)
Martha Katko	662-2181	Registrar (as of 1 Apr)

## ⚽ VISIT OUR WEB SITE

There is much more information on our web site about these events and about other activities mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, including more detailed content, points-of-contact for more information, maps, forms, etc. Please visit us at:

<http://www.roadrunner.com/~laysl/>

If you have any items of general League interest that you would like to have posted on our site, please fill in the on-line form or send e-mail to us at:

[laysl@newmexico.com](mailto:laysl@newmexico.com)



(*REFEREES, continued from page 4*)

(expressed by calling the Referee Coordinator), a separate student clinic might be arranged for week-end afternoons and/or early evenings to minimize school conflicts.

All referees wishing to take the certification exam should attend all four sessions. Those needing recertification refresher training should attend both Wed and Thurs evenings, as a minimum. The exam will be given at 7 PM on Thurs, 26 Mar (place TBD). There is a \$5 USSF fee for those certifying for the first time. For more information, please contact the Referee Coordinator (Kim Thomas, 672-3354).

**Referee Scheduling:** The Referee Coordinator compiles a list of all referee volunteers from the current season's registration materials as well as from the list of available certified referees in the area. After the Hill and White Rock Coordinators prepare team schedules for the upcoming season, the Referee Coordinator attempts to cover each match from the available referee pool. Priority is given to those teams having trained assistant referees. Teams without trained personnel will be assigned referees only on an "as available" basis.

The schedule of referee assignments is distributed to the Hill and White Rock Coordinators, to referees (their individual assignments), and is posted on the League web site. All matches are kept to common time slots to enable referees to cover more than one match a day. Therefore, it is extremely important that coaches have their teams warmed-up and ready to play at the scheduled time. Games that start late due to teams not being ready will have the playing time shortened accordingly.

**Referees for Make-up Games:** In the event that a scheduled match is postponed for any reason, it is the responsibility of the involved coaches to contact the originally assigned referee (posted on the web) as soon as possible to negotiate the rescheduling for any make-up game. ONLY in the event that a mutually acceptable time cannot be reached with the original referee should ONE of the involved coaches contact the referee coordinator and request a replacement referee. Please identify the teams involved, the age group, suggested place and time, and a point of contact. Be sure to coordinate field and time selection with either the Hill or White Rock field schedulers prior to rescheduling a referee, to ensure that another team is not using that time slot. Further keep in mind, the LAYSL Board has decided that regular recreational league games should NOT be rescheduled to take place on Sundays.



(*ADVANCED TEAMS, continued from page 3*)

\* First Duke City games - 28 Feb

**Other tournament info:**

- \* West of the Pecos Shootout, Roswell (\$250): 3/21-22 (to U-13), 3/28-29 (U-14 up).
- \* State Cup (locations vary) (\$300) due 15 Feb: 4/25-26 prelims, 5/2-3 and 5/16-17.
- \* semis and finals (U-11 girls and U-13 boys north prelims are in LA!).
- \* American Cup, ABQ. (\$250) due Mar. 1: 5/16-17 (U-12 to U-18) - an alternative to State Cup.
- \* Sandia Cup, ABQ. (\$350): 5/23-24 brings teams nationally and internationally.
- \* Memorial Day Brawl, Farmington (\$200) - 5/23-24 alternative to Sandia Cup.
- \* Zia Cup, ABQ. (\$250) 6/5-7 - new tourney for post-season, ~100 teams.

For other tournaments, search NMYSA web site: <http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Arena/3758/> and USYSA site at: <http://www.usysa.org>

**Coach training:** (contact NMYSA for registration 505-830-2246)

- \* C license: 3/19-22, 4/2-5 (national license, coaching high school up, must have D)
- \* D license: 2/20-24, 3/28-4/1 Alamogordo (must have E, is for coaching U-14 up)
- \* E license: contact Lore Pellette if interested on one here (for up to U-14 coaching)

**High School players' indoor soccer:**

- \* Sun. 3-5 PM, Auxiliary Gym for HS boys
- \* Sun. 5-7 PM, Auxiliary Gym for HS girls
- \* Mon. 5:30-7:30 PM, Middle School for HS boys
- \* Wed. 7-9 PM, Middle School for HS boys
- \* Thurs. 6-8 PM, Pueblo Gym for HS girls

The possibility of creating additional playing opportunities for Recreational Program players or teams is being explored, and interested persons are invited to serve on a committee to develop proposals for additional play options. The general idea is to explore ways for Recreational players with sufficient motivation to play more than the six regular Recreational program games per half-season and to seek out a higher level of play in the local area (without having to travel to ABQ). Any proposals would be within the general framework of the current LAYSL Recreational and Advanced team structure, and in compliance with participation and eligibility requirements of the NMYSA. If you are interested, please contact Bruce Barraclough at 661-9623 for further information. The intent is to formulate a concrete proposal soon for additional play and present it to the LAYSL Board for consideration/approval in time for implementation in the Fall '98 season.



January 1998  
Newsletter


**Los  
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Bulk Rate  
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Los Alamos, NM  
Permit No. 154

 State Cup Knockouts Here

 Annual Meeting/Elections

 '98 Spring Registration

 League Calendar

 Referee Clinics



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