

Kenmore Soccer News

Volume 12, Number 9

Kenmore/Tonawanda, New York

September 2019

Junior Academy Begins on Saturday September 7th

The new 2019-2020 season will kick off next Saturday September 7th with the commencement of our Fall Academy. Sessions will be held at the Hoover Middle School field behind 1500 Colvin Blvd. from 11:00am-12:30pm, every Saturday through October 26th (weather permitting).

We will move indoors starting in mid-November, with Junior Academy, Advanced Academy, Futsal, and Team Training. Those schedules will be posted by mid-October, and an alert will be sent via e-mail when they post.

Supplemental Tryouts Scheduled for Saturday 9/7 and 9/21

We will host supplemental travel soccer tryouts on Saturday September 7th and Saturday September 21st from 10:00-11:00am at the Hoover Middle School fields for players born between 2005 and 2012. Interested participants should come dressed to play.

Returning Players Need to Re-Register

- Don't forget that all of our current players who intend to return for the 2019-2020
- season must re-register through the web site. You should do this as soon as possible,
- as we have significant interest from new players looking to join Kenmore Soccer and
- we welcome those who have been at other clubs but are looking for a change. We are
- already filling roster spots with these new players.

- NOTE: If you intend to return and have not re-registered, this will be your final news-
- letter, as we will update our mailing list shortly.



Tryouts/Evaluations for 2019-2020 Season Continue

Tryouts for our National Premier League teams will be held weekly from mid September through October. Contact Ken Voght at voght@msn.com if you are interested in those teams - 16 and Under Boys, 17 and Under Girls, and 19 and Under Girls.

Kenmore Soccer Coach Selected as Sweet Home JV Coach

Congratulations to Prisco Houndanon upon his selection as the Junior Varsity Boys soccer coach at Sweet Home High School. Prisco will continue as the head of our Junior Academy, and also as a staff coach for two of our travel soccer teams.

Trivia Question (answer on page 7)

In 2017, what Club set the new record for being unbeaten in consecutive British domestic games?



Our three teams entering National Premier League play next season will create their customized league game schedules in mid-October.

The 16 and Under Elite Boys, 17 and Under Elite Girls, and 19 and Under Elite Girls will be competing in league play versus high-level teams from Ohio, western Pennsylvania, and western New York in an 11 game schedule from March through Mid-June.

Kenmore Sting 19U Boys Finish Strong

The Kenmore Sting won the U19 Boys C Division (Flight A) Championship with a six game unbeaten run to close out the season. This was a major turnaround from last year, where the Sting finished as the worst team in U17 C with a 2-7-1 record. Most of the players from last year returned, and they trained hard in the off-season with an eye toward improvement. However, results in 2019 were slow to come. The team started 0-3-1 in May and June.

However, after the Fourth of July break, the Sting traveled to Holland and stunned the home side with a 1-0 victory. At the time, Holland not only was unbeaten, but had not conceded a goal all season. The boys never looked back, and won 5 and drew 1 of their last 6 matches, conceding one goal in the process. Led by co-MVP goalkeeper, Owen Wurst, Bobby Wolfe, Nick Lisman, Jared Miller, Jacob Leon, and Alex Stauffiger, the Sting kept a clean sheet for four consecutive matches. Midfielders Mason Kelly (co-MVP and Captain), Matt Gawron, Pat Murphy, Joe Veronica, Zac Lo and Mike Bruch dominated the center of the park during the unbeaten run. Owen Manch, Mike Himes, and Billy George provided key goals when the side needed them.

Coaches Jeff Marion and Eric Kolber maintained a philosophy that every player has a role, and made sure that every player contributed whenever he was on the pitch. However, the success of this team was all due to the positive attitude of the players, who never lost faith in their abilities, and were rewarded for their resilience.

Award Winners

Co-MVP: Mason Kelly

Co-MVP: Owen Wurst

Most Improved: Owen Manch

Most Dedicated: Pat Murphy

Coaches' Award: Matt Gawron

Captain's Award: Bobby Wolfe

Game Over: Middle-Class and Poor Kids Are Ditching Youth Sports

by Aimee Picchi (CBS News)

From Little League to the ubiquitous suburban soccer field, youth sports in the U.S. have long been considered an important part of growing up. But the rising cost of playing sports, coupled with rising economic inequality, is increasingly leading poor and even middle-class families to hang up their cleats.

That trend is being fueled by the growth in "pay-to-play" sports, which is making organized athletics prohibitively expensive for many households. Participation in sports among families earning less than \$75,000 has dropped since 2011, according to The Aspen Institute's Project Play.

By contrast, children from better off families are participating in ever great numbers. About 7 of 10 children from families that earn more than \$100,000 play sports, compared with 3 in 10 from families earning less than \$25,000, the non-profit think tank found in a 2018 [report](#).

The typical American family spends about \$700 per year on their child's sports activities, but some parents shell out as much as \$35,000 annually to pay for lessons, camps, school sports fees, equipment, travel and more, according to Project Play. Even public schools are increasingly charging for sports due to budget cuts, data from the Rand Corporation [shows](#).

Families earning \$50,000 or less -- or middle- and lower-income households -- cited cost as the top reason their kids don't participate in organized sports, the Rand study noted.

The biggest predictor of sport participation is the parents' income. Only 27.5 percent of children from homes with incomes under \$25,000 a year play sports compared to the 45.5 percent of kids from homes with incomes greater than \$100,000 a year, via [@AspenInstitute](https://twitter.com/w7cGSoCccE)pic.twitter.com/w7cGSoCccE — Dr. Lynne Kenney (@DrLynneKenney) August 12, 2019

"We have a system that is based on the concept of 'up or out,' like we have in a lot of corporate America, except it's not merit-based," said Tom Farrey, executive director of The Aspen Institute's Sports & Society program. "It's disproportionately based on whether you come from a family with money or if you are that child who is simply an early bloomer."

Winning The College Game

This represents a massive shift within a single generation, Farrey said. In earlier decades, children played in local team sports, rarely traveling outside their local areas for games.

But that's changed, he said, partly due to the pressure from college-minded families to help their children earn athletic scholarships and admission to elite colleges. To make sure their children stand out, they are opening up their wallets for lessons, camps, expensive club teams that travel for tournaments and more.

"Youth sports has been transformed by the chase for the athletic scholarship and the preferential admission to highly selective colleges," he said. "A recruited athlete has a greater advantage than a legacy or a minority or any other population."

That change in the environment for youth sports was evident in the [college admissions scandal](#) that tarnished actresses Lori Loughlin and Felicity Huffman as well as dozens of other parents. Some parents spent millions to bribe college athletics officials, who then offered their children a spot on a college team -- securing them admission to Yale and other prestigious schools. In some cases, the students didn't even play the sport.

Of course, most families are simply spending money to further their children's athletic abilities, often with the goal of securing a college scholarship. One in 5 parents with a kid in sports believe it will lead to a college athletic scholarship. That's almost certainly wishful thinking: Only 1 in 10 young people who play sports ever get a sports scholarship, a recent TD Ameritrade study [found](#).

"When you have that kind of system, parents start spending a lot of money," Farrey said. "That's where you get them on the right club teams, hiring private trainers and doing whatever it takes -- buying them the \$300 special bat -- to have them succeed at sports."

He added, "It effectively pushes aside a lot of kids on the lower end of the income distribution."

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Public Schools Losing Out

Some public schools are adding pay-to-play fees due to shrinking or stagnant sports budgets. In some cases, it's due to caps on property taxes that's making it tougher to find resources for schools or financial struggles.

That pattern can be seen in Ohio, where families in one school district may pay up to \$1,000 to enroll their kids in sports, while a family in a nearby district may pay nothing, according to the Dayton Daily News. Some schools charge sports fees because it helps them avoid making cuts; others pared back the charges in order to increase sports participation, the paper noted.

Meanwhile, poor students face a host of issues that wealthier children don't that can deter them from playing sports, said Mara Mazza of the Kings County Tennis League, a non-profit that teaches tennis to low-income children in Brooklyn. "There are a variety of reasons why kids don't participate in sports. Some of it is access, some of it is transportation and some of it is safety," she said.

The bigger picture, according to the Aspen Institute's Farrey: Middle-class and poor children who can't afford to play sports may be at a distinct disadvantage compared with kids from affluent families.

"The research shows physically active kids are less likely to be obese, more likely to get a college degree, less likely to suffer chronic illnesses including cancer and more likely to be active as adults, and twice as likely to have active children," he said. "Everyone will pay price if we don't get them off the couch."

Submissions Anyone ??????????????

We want this to be your newsletter. We also want you to be a part of the Club web site. So, we are looking for your ongoing input—articles, pictures, match highlights, team and player recognition, etc. Each team should consider having a designee that can channel information to the Club for inclusion in the newsletter or web site.

Send your submissions to us at doc@kenmoresoccer.com. Pictures are welcome, but should be in a jpg or gif format.

Kenmore Soccer Joins the Social Media World

Kenmore Soccer has joined the social media experience by creating sites within Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Links to the first two platforms are on the left hand side of our web site landing page, while we are still working on linkage to the Facebook page.

Teams (or parents for that matter), can post information on these sites by following these instructions:

Instagram:

If someone posts a picture to their account and wants to tag Kenmore Soccer or include us in a comment, tag our account by using @kenmoresoccerclub

Twitter:

Anyone can tweet to the Kenmore Soccer page or include us in a post by tagging us using @KenmoreSoccer

Facebook:

Anyone can post to the wall on the Kenmore page, write a comment on posts, or post a picture/video to the page.

If someone wants to tag Kenmore Soccer Club in a post or picture, they need to type @kenmoresoccerclub

All other photos/videos can be sent to kenmoresoccerclub@gmail.com.

We already have a number of followers on these sites, and you might notice that it includes Celtic FC who posted information on our upcoming Celtic FC Summer Camp. There are also photos from the recent Buffalo State Futsal Tournament, featuring a number of our Kenmore Soccer teams.

Join in by following Kenmore Soccer, and by submitting information to post and share with the world!

Follow Us on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook!!!

Answer to Trivia Question

(from page 2)

Celtic FC set a new record in 2017 with 69 domestic games unbeaten. The streak began in May 2016 and ended in November 2017 when they were defeated 4-0 by Hearts.



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Fund Raising

The Kenmore Soccer Club is registered with the New York State Attorney General to conduct fund-raising, as is required by law, but each activity needs to be approved by our Board of Directors.

If your team wants to conduct any fund-raising, just e-mail us at doc@kenmoresoccer.com with the details of what you propose, and the eventual use of the funds raised. We will get back to you promptly.