



# The Piscataway Soccer Club Newsletter

## Important Dates

January 21 - Board of Director's Meeting @ 7:30

February 18 - Board of Director's Meeting @ 7:30

## PSC Covid 19 News

### Fall season a success!

As you know, our club worked hard this season preventing the spread of Covid-19 while our players participated in soccer activities.

- (1) We implemented a health check system for Travel players to use before each and every practice and game.
- (2) We rolled out a separate Covid form for Instructional players.
- (3) We created a Protocol document to identify what steps the club was to take in the event that a coach, player, parent or sibling tested positive, or was potentially exposed.
- (4) Lastly, we created a Competition Protocol document that was sent to our out-of-town opponents.

The results? We did have 3 players that tested positive for Covid during the fall season, and per CDC guidelines we temporarily stopped some team activities. All of these cases originated outside of the club and we believe that because of our efforts, Covid was NOT SPREAD as a result of our club practices and games. Our protocol helped make the Fall season a success, minimizing impacts in all leagues. All leagues completed most of their games. We thank everyone for their patience and cooperation following the rules which contributed to our success.

We are moving forward under the assumption that the spring season is on schedule.

## Message from the President

Dear Members,

What a strange year it has been. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions we were not able to hold our General Membership Meetings this year.

The Board has worked hard to fill this Newsletter with information for you; I hope you find it useful.

We were able to get the Fall Season in with only a few hiccups. The Board worked very hard to monitor the Covid situation to ensure a safe playing atmosphere for all the players. I want to thank them for the hard work and dedication to the youth soccer players and coaches of Piscataway and the surrounding area.

At this time, due to the restrictions we will not be able to have indoor training in the school gyms. If things change, we will advise you.

I really missed working with you all at the tournament

this past September, so I am really looking forward to the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Classic in September 2021.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful and safe Holiday Season and a Healthy and Happy New Year. We are all looking forward to a much better 2021.

See you on the Pitch in the Spring of 2021.

Mike Majorczak

President PSC

## PSC Masks

Now available for purchase, the PSC MASK. Just in time for the holiday season, get a mask for your team's players, coaching staff, parents, siblings and other beloved spectators. [Order Online Here](#). Buy 1 for \$10, or 4 for \$30, or save even more and get the Team Bundle at just \$7 each (minimum of 10). The team bundle can be any group, so pool your team's players, parents and spectators in a single order. Masks come in 4 sizes, L/M/S/XS, so even Little Kickers can show their PSC Pride! Note, this is fundraiser for the PSC 12 Hotspurs team.



## Instructional News

Thank you to all of the players and families that attended the Fall season. We appreciate your effort in attending sessions and being part of the Piscataway Soccer Club Family. We know that this was a different type of season, but hope that your players and the families enjoyed their experience this Fall.

Thank you to the USA Sport Group trainers for running our sessions and working with the players over the Fall season. We look forward to our Spring season and will hopefully have registration open in Mid to late January. Once again thank you for being part of the Piscataway Soccer Club family. We look forward to seeing you all back in the Spring. Have a safe and Happy Holiday!!

## Travel and ICYSL News -

### Eight Teams Finish Full Fall Schedule

This past Fall season was difficult for team managers to get all of their games scheduled. Eight of our club teams were able to play all of their fall games. The club had a 93% overall games-played percentage, which given the Covid challenge, was better than expected. How did your team do? Here's a graphic that shows how each team did.



### Field Usage News

Unfortunately, we will not have indoor time in the town's school gyms, but the turf field is open for use. Such use must be coordinated with the league vice presidents. As for the grass fields, avoid practicing on any game fields and avoid playing on the grass when wet or going through a thaw, or the grass will be destroyed.

- Absolutely **no training** at Quibbletown Park and Schor School where the goals are set up, as this equipment and space is owned and used by a separate club and is off limits to us. Also, no training at New Market.
- **All games fields are off limits to coach led sessions.**

### Background Checks

As a requirement for coaching with the club, all coaches are required to have a background check as part of the coaching approval process. This will be done through the carding process and all coaches should have received instructions.



### Piscataway Soccer Club & Elks Soccer Shoot Out!!!

16 PSC Players shine at the Elk's Shootout

The Elks Soccer Shoot Program is a national competition open to all kids. It consists of two different contests that test different level skills for different ages. A "Five Goal Contest", for under 8's, consists of a

series of five goals, decreasing in size from 48 inches to 17 inches. The Grid Goal Contest, for older players, consists of a full-size goal sectioned off so points can be scored when the ball is kicked into certain sections. This year 16 PSC players placed in the Elk's Local Lodge level competition – AND AGAIN – in the Elk's Central District level competition, shown below. Congratulations, and for those that get to advance to the State level competition in January, we wish you good shooting.

#### U8 Boys

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bara Salah, PSC Instructional

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Sergio Fonseca, PSC Instructional

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Miles Giuliani, PSC Instructional

#### U10 Boys

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Arkan Damra, PSC Hotspurs

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Sharif Barakaev, PSC Hotspurs

#### U12 Boys

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Colin McKim, PSC Eintracht

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Vihan Hawaldar, PSC Valencia

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Patrick Batulis, PSC Dortmund

#### U14 Boys

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Ivan Benavides, PSC Arsenal

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Kendall Tillman, PSC Liverpool

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Raghav Godhwani, PSC

Instructional

#### U16 Boys

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Dylan Johnson, PSC Barcelona

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Vincent Novak, PSC Barcelona

#### U10 Girls

1<sup>st</sup> Place – Annabelle Cahn, former PSC

Cosmos

#### U12 Girls

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Meagan Martineau, PSC Eintracht

#### U14 Girls

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Hayley Opitz, PSC Courage

In addition to current club members, there were other Piscataway residents who also did great.

For the U16 girls, first place was by Emma

Couchie, former PSC player and niece of

instructional vice president Mark Batulis.

Second place was by another Piscataway

resident, Jenna Phalen. Finally, for the U12

girls Riley Mills of Piscataway took first place.

### Reffing Info – Revamped Process

New Jersey youth soccer has revamped the referee requirements for referees. Any new prospective ref need to sign up for a new referee class for one day and then attend an on the field class on another day. Grade 9,8, and

7 refs will all be known as Grassroots refs. New refs can now start this process at 13 now.

The Grassroots Referee Course is now available online for those who are interested in taking the first step to become a soccer referee. [Learn more.](#)

However, if you have done traveling soccer and know the rules, you can ref instructional games. Please contact Brian Hinds if you are interested. If you get your reffing license and ref instructional, there is a bonus pay.

## **Tidbits from the *NJ Youth Soccer Newsletter***

**NJ Youth Soccer Vision Statement:** Provide fun and safe soccer experiences at all ages and abilities for the youth soccer community.

### **NJ Youth Soccer Offering Scholarship Opportunities for College Bound Seniors**

New Jersey Youth Soccer is pleased to offer scholarship opportunities for New Jersey students to assist in the cost of higher education. All college-bound seniors who have played in the NJ Youth Soccer system are encouraged to apply for one or more of the three annual scholarships that are available. [Learn more.](#)

### **NJYS State Cups Registration Now Open**

The NJ Youth Soccer State Cups provide pathways to be crowned champions of the state, region and nation. With the National Championship Series, Presidents Cup, and Challenge Cup tournaments, every participating team has the ability to vie for the title of "State Champion." [Read more.](#)

### **SOCCER PARENTING: 5 Ways Parents Can Make a Losing Season a Win**

Parents need to remain optimistic, supportive and hopeful if a losing season happens for their child, which will make it a win in the long run. In a recent post for Soccer Parenting, founder Skye Eddy Bruce takes a look at five things parent can do to make a losing season a winning one for their child. [Read more.](#)

## **Team News**

Want to have some fun information about your team's season put in the newsletter? Just send them to the public information officer at [groussey@erols.com](mailto:groussey@erols.com)

### **PSC Chiefs**

*Onyi Freeman, one of our past travel VP's, penned the following.*

After a disappointing decision to cancel Piscataway

High School fall sports, the girls' high school soccer team was left with a competition-free fall season. Not happy with the decision nor the lack of play, the team decided to come together to play in one tournament. With the help of the Piscataway Soccer Club and a very understanding tournament director, the team was entered into the Steel United Showcase. The PSC Chiefs began preparing for what would be their only competition together this fall. The Chiefs played in the showcase over the weekend of 11/14, winning 2 out of their 3 games and earning 3rd place. We are so proud of their hard work and determination to play the game they have grown up loving to play.



### **PSC 12 Hotspurs – on the road**

*Chuck Myers, one of our travel VP's, wrote the following.*

The players, coaches and parents of our 2012 boys team recently braved the cold Thanksgiving weather and competed in the Turkey Cup Tournament on 11/29. The team had progressed with every game this fall season, so it only made sense to continue to challenge them. The result? They netted 12 goals in 3 games and finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place! In the first 9 games in the fall season they only scored 10 goals. So, congratulations on the team's continuing improvement!



## **Wolfsburg 2010**

Coach Mark and Coach Jim would like to thank the Wolfsburg families and players. We definitely had quite the season. Our team worked hard and adjusted to many difficulties along the way. Overall, the record is not the most important thing, but playing hard and working together as a team is. The players had fun and we are looking to competing in the Spring season. Thank you Wolfsburg families for your commitment to your player. Have a safe and Happy Holiday season and we will see you in the Spring for some more Wolfsburg Soccer!!!

## **PC 09 Valencia**

After a rough scheduling re-start, our own PSC 09 Valencia was one of the PSC teams that played every single one of their scheduled games in the Inter-County Youth Soccer League (ICYSL). They finished with a record of 4-3-1 (W-L-D) and took 2nd place in their U12 flight. Well done players of PSC Valencia!

## **PC 09 Dortmund Takes 1<sup>ST</sup> Place**

Congratulations to our own 2009 boys' team for taking first place in their Mid-NJ Youth Soccer Association league flight. They completed a hard-fought Fall schedule to finish 6-2-2 (W-L-D), scoring a total of 41 goals.

## **Web Site**

Please visit our website on a regular basis. There is a lot of great information **See us on Facebook!** Lots of Tournament photos.

[www.PiscatawaySoccer.org](http://www.PiscatawaySoccer.org)