

# The Goal Post

October 1, 2007



## Goal Fest 3v3 is Coming!

Due to popular demand, we will hold the 1st Annual Goal Fest 3v3 Soccer Tournament on Saturday, October 20, 2007, at the dual-tiny fields at the Sarnoff Corporation's grounds in West Windsor. We invite all players who registered for Fall Rec to sign up and participate in what we hope will be a terrific experience.



We expect our friends from Puma to come help us celebrate the kickoff of this exciting event, along with food, and commemorative t-shirts, sweatshirts and more!

Goal Fest 3v3 was created to give our Rec players a taste of what their Travel siblings experience each season: the buzz and excitement of tournament play, and we really wanted our Rec players to enjoy that same exhilaration.

As opposed to your Fall Rec teams, YOU form your own teams with your child's friends or classmates and form a team of 3 or 4 players to play a guaranteed 3 games on Saturday, October 20. Awards will be given to the top 3 teams in each league and every child will receive a participation award. If you don't have a team, you can submit your child's name and we'll do our best to find them a team. Find more answers on the [Goal Fest Home Page](#). See you there!

## Volunteers Needed in Rec and Travel for 2007-08; Please help!

WWPSA is looking for volunteers for the Fall Rec Executive Committee and 2007-08 Travel Executive Committee, among other positions. We depend on our volunteers to run our highly successful programs and need parents with some time to help out, particularly women, whose presence is vastly underrepresented throughout WWPSA. Please e-mail our [Dir. of Rec Soccer](#), our [Dir. of Travel Soccer](#) or [Volunteer Coordinator](#) for more info.

There are no experience requirements to serve, only a willingness to help your community. Thanks for your contribution!

## Have Questions about Travel Soccer? Try our Travel FAQ Page

For all those parents new to Travel soccer or for those Rec parents who are considering Travel soccer, we've created a Travel Soccer FAQ page to help you better understand the commitment, the cost and just what the differences are between Rec and Travel. [Click here](#) to access the Travel Soccer FAQ page.

# Parents' References Now Available

Now available on the WWPSA website are resources for parents, including links to Frequently Asked Questions about our largest programs, as well as pertinent articles to help you be a better fan on the sidelines.

Our latest addition to the Parents' References page is an article entitled "Attitudes are Contagious: Make Sure Yours is Positive", which links to a terrific educational video from the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association to help our parents understand just how their behavior on the sidelines affects their children's enjoyment of the game, as well as on our young referees. [Click here](#) to check out this brand-new resource!



## WWPSA Fanware is Here!

As part of our overall strategy for creating a single "Club" culture within WWPSA, we've listened to your requests and are offering WWPSA-logo merchandise that parents or siblings can

wear to support your teams and your Club:

- PUMA Fleece Jacket
- PUMA Vencida Water-Resistant Jacket
- PUMA Sack Pack
- WWPSA Car Magnet

We've posted detailed descriptions of all items on the [WWPSA Merchandise page](#) and you can buy any item during registration. Already registered and want to buy something? Just login to your household within our secure online registration system and register anyone in your household for the "MERCHANDISE ONLY" program; you'll be able to purchase just the right size of any item you wish and will still be able to use your credit card! For those who have already placed orders, you should hear from our Dir. of Merchandise shortly as to how we can deliver your order. Quantities are running out, so make sure you place your orders today! This stuff is **really** sharp, comfortable and functional, so sign up for yours today!

## Photo Day is Coming

Photo Day is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup> at Millstone River School in Plainsboro. All players receive a free team photo and parents can order individual photos of their children. In addition, parents can purchase WWPSA fanware and other merchandise to continue to help support this great organization. Team envelopes should be passed out this weekend, so follow-up with your coach if you don't get them. See you there!

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

## Coaches' Corner

We've been steadily beefing up the content within our [Training and Development](#) section, particularly the Coach's Corner. [Click here](#) to see what's new.

25 of our coaches attended a free Rutgers Safety Course presented by former President David Westbrook, on Sep. 7.

On Sep. 8, we hosted a Referee Training Course for a Grade 9 (Rec) license. 32 high-school-age participants attended, with over ½ from WWPSA. The course is fully reimbursable and uniform costs can be reimbursed up to \$75.

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# What's Next for Facilities

Our Executive Director, Robin Dean, and Director of Facilities, Howard Rabin, have been working with West Windsor Township to draft Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to clearly outline the responsibilities of WWT and WWPSA at each of the complexes we use within WW. We hope to leverage these MOUs to improve the quality of the facilities we use within WW and use as a launching point to significant improvements over the next 24 months. Some of the proposed improvements under consideration include:

- Repair and restoration of Zaitz Park fields, including installing permanent lighting, irrigation and drainage systems; three fields were taken offline for the fall season to make necessary repairs and rest these highly utilized areas.
- Installation of synthetic turf fields
- Permanent restrooms, concessions and a dining pavilion at Zaitz Park, similar to that at West Windsor Community Park.
- Replace obsolete goal frames with new portable frames to improve safety and maximize our field setup options. Previously purchased frames are in place at WWCP and Conover Park.
- Repair and develop a field at Conover Park when Wildcats Football and Lightning Lacrosse complete their transition to WWCP. With the lights already in place, we anticipate using this field for several options.
- Develop a fully-lit small-sided practice field for our U-10 and younger Travel teams and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and other Rec teams.

We are also speaking with Plainsboro Township to draft similar agreements to oversee similar facilities improvements in Plainsboro. You can reach Howard via [facilities@wwpsa.org](mailto:facilities@wwpsa.org) or Robin at [execdirector@wwpsa.org](mailto:execdirector@wwpsa.org) for any facilities needs.

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Two free Rec coaches' clinics were offered the week prior to the start of Fall Rec and were attended by over 100 of our Rec coaches. Our Executive Director, Robin Dean, and Nick Harrison, the head of ProActive Sport, the official Training Provider to Rec Soccer, led the sessions and received strong reviews for helping our Rec coaches learn to run practices and giving them confidence to be more effective coaches.

We have developed a Travel Coach Manual that will help new Travel Soccer coaches better understand their options, responsibilities and deadlines. [Click here](#) to download a copy of the manual for your own use.

Over 50 high school soccer players signed up to be Big Brothers and Big Sisters to be an extra coach for our youngest players. Thanks for all your help!

We offered our coaches an F-License course to improve their coaching skills and knowledge of the game. The course was attended by 60 coaches, with 21 from WWPSA attending free.

## What's Coming?

It's been an absolutely crazy start to the fall season; here's a summary of what's happening:

- We're in the home stretch for planning the Goal Fest 3v3 Rec Soccer Tournament on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Make sure you sign up your 3- or 4-person team before the application deadline of October 8. [Click here](#) for more info.
- We've offered free mid-week training to Rec players on Mondays and Wednesdays; [click here](#) for more details.
- We've again launched Tactical and Positional (T&P) Training to help our Travel Soccer players develop the specific skills they most want. [Click here](#) for more info.
- We're planning our fall Facilities improvements, including repairs to the 3 fields at Zaitz Park that are currently offline.
- As part of our Club-wide strategy of better aligning all programs together, all Fall Rec players received **2** jerseys this year, one home and one away in the Club colors of green and white.
- We've launched a [Parents' Resources](#) page to give you links to the information you most request, including: Club, registration and Rec soccer and Travel soccer FAQ pages; articles regarding parental conduct; video published by the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association on kids' attitudes towards sports based on the parents' behavior; and more.
- WWPSA Banner Contest was announced to update the banners on the WWPSA website. We have an opportunity to not only update the main banner but to also customize the banners for each program. [Click here](#) for more info.
- We're calling for volunteers to serve on the 2008 WWPSA Board of Directors. While we now have our first full-time employee, **we must enlist your help to make this organization run and present the fun, high-quality programs your children currently enjoy. Every person can make a difference.** [Click here](#) for more information and to sign up.

### Upcoming Events

*October 3:* WWPSA Board meeting, 8 pm, WW Library

*October 13:* Photo Day, Millstone River School

*October 15:* Travel Coaches' meeting, 8 pm, WW Library

*October 18:* WWPSA Board meeting, 8 pm, WW Library

*October 20:* Goal Fest 3v3 Rec Soccer Tournament, Sarnoff

## Confused by Offsides?

You're not alone! FIFA reports that Law 11 is the most confused rule in the Rules of the Game. Did you know that a player can be in an offsides position but the referee shouldn't stop play? [Click here](#) to access FIFA's easy, graphical demonstration of the offsides rules and become your team's in-house offsides resource!

## WWPSA Launches RSS Feed

In conjunction with our technology provider Demosphere International, Inc., WWPSA is launching the availability of an RSS feed of news from the WWPSA home page. RSS, or Really Simple Syndication, is a way to read headlines and articles from websites without navigating through your browser. [Click here](#) to read more and find out how you can get WWPSA news whenever you want!

## Useful Resources

### Weather / Game Info:

<http://www.wwpsa.org/home/127907.html>

### Field Maps:

[www.wwpsa.org/facilities/index\\_e.htm](http://www.wwpsa.org/facilities/index_e.htm)

# Board Members Wanted!

As 2007 draws to a close, it's again time to call for volunteers to serve on the 2008 WWPSA Board of Directors. Not only do we welcome new volunteers to serve in currently filled posts, but several positions remain open; [click here](#) to see the current Board. Interested in signing up? [Click here](#) to submit your name for one or more positions to serve on the 2008 Board. We are only able to operate due to the generosity of our volunteers, and we sorely need your help to maintain the high quality of our programs going forward.

## Website Tips

When you register for WWPSA programs, please choose to pay via credit card instead of check whenever possible. Our volunteers have to spend much less time processing registrations where the payment was made online than when they are made by check, so thanks for helping cut down on the workload!

**New Feature:** Our Home Page now contains a field status indicator in the upper-right corner to tell you when "All Fields Open", "Some Fields Closed" or "All Fields Closed". You may click on "Some Fields Closed" to see which fields are closed, so please be sure to check the indicator before heading to your field.

**Coming Soon:** Use Google™ to search the WWPSA website for what you need!

## Safety Update: Don't Move the Goals!



Falling goals that weren't properly anchored are the # 1 cause of preventable injuries in soccer. If you want to move a goal for casual use, **please don't!!!** You may not realize that large goals are **extremely heavy** and can cause serious injury or death if the goal isn't properly anchored and falls on a player. Before you think that you can simply replace anchors by hand, please be aware that our Facilities personnel use sledgehammers to keep the anchors firmly in the ground. [Click here](#) to read more about soccer goal safety.

## Fall Programs Continue: What's Going On?

Our Fall Rec Soccer programs are open and running; free training is offered during the week on Mondays and Wednesdays; [click here](#) for info.

Our Travel Soccer teams are playing and State Cup games begin this weekend. Good luck!

Our Adult Rec and Competitive programs are playing with their new Club uniforms; they look great!

Goal Fest 3v3 Rec Soccer Tournament planning is underway and the applications are coming in.

Our Facilities leadership has outlined the improvements most needed for the fall season and beyond.

The Board has received the fundraising feasibility study and will now determine our fundraising potential and document a road map to achieve our fundraising goals.

The Director of Merchandise has delivered all of the merchandise purchases bought during registration.

# Think You Know the Rules?

One of the largest reasons that referees' calls are questioned by parents during a game is a lack of thorough understanding of the rules of soccer. Of course, parents should support their team and not let the game become a melodramatic display where their mood delicately hinges on the game's outcome. Remember: in Rec soccer, the referees are usually 14 year-old kids who are doing the best they can. The video, "Attitudes are Contagious", is a wonderful short example of the effect we parents can have on our kids by how we conduct ourselves on the sideline. [Click here](#) to access the article and view the 27-minute video that EVERYONE in your family should watch.

Do you think you could simply and clearly explain to your child the definition of "offsides"? What about why the referee chose not to stop play for an offsides call or for a foul? To help our community better understand the rules of soccer, we are working with New Jersey Youth Soccer to offer our parents and coaches in separate sessions a free "Rules of the Game" presentation to help them better understand the rules and improve their experience during games. Stay tuned for details of when we're planning to offer a session for you.

## WWPSA Banner Contest

WWPSA is pleased to announce the Website Banner Contest to update the photo banner that appears at the top of all WWPSA pages! We have an opportunity to create customized banners for each program's section of our website, so Rec, Travel, Adult, Referees, etc., can each have a banner that represents each unique program.

How can you help? [E-mail us](#) your photos of close-up action on the field. You can either send us links to your online photo albums or attach the photos, but snap away and send us your best pics!

## Thanks to Fall Rec Team Sponsors!

We want to thank all of our Fall Rec Team Sponsors for their continued support of WWPSA's largest program. Please support our sponsors whenever you can and let them know that you saw their listing with WWPSA!

- [WWPEA](#)
- [Sarnoff Corporation](#)
- [Plainsboro Dental Care](#)
- [Allied Vision Services](#)
- [UPS Capital Corp.](#)
- [Pied Piper Kids](#)
- [Tradition Capital Mgmt.](#)
- [Sydney Albert Salon](#)
- [Access Self Storage](#)
- [Dick's Sporting Goods](#)
- [Ashley Furniture Homestore](#)

## WWPSA has a Strong Showing at SB Invitational

WWPSA sent nearly a dozen teams to the South Brunswick Invitational Sep. 8-9, 2007. The Warriors U-12 Boys team made a strong showing as they won their flight and strongly represented our Club by scoring 14 goals and allowing only 2 on their way to an undefeated 4-0 record. Also earning strong accolades were the Sharks U-11 Boys team who finished in 2nd place in their flight.

Way to go!

# WWPSA is Growing and Needs Your Help!

By offering year-round programs and activities that meet the diverse needs of our families, WWPSA is growing quickly and needs to fill several volunteer positions so that we can continue our mission of providing safe, fun soccer activities for our area residents. Won't you please help? The time commitment is less than you think, but the results can make all the difference in the world! Please e-mail [volunteer@wwpsa.org](mailto:volunteer@wwpsa.org) with the position that interests you.

## Calling All Women Volunteers

We'd like to reach out to the countless women in our Club who are underrepresented in numerous volunteer positions to step forward and help out. We on the Board are concerned that our daughters are lacking visible examples of women leaders in our Club, particularly in the numerous available coaching positions, so won't you please consider stepping forward to be that example? We offer coaching courses and lots of guidance to help you feel more comfortable, so we urge you to please help out.



## Director of Equipment

We're looking for a Director of Equipment to take charge of organizing our balls, cones, nets, uniforms, flags and other items stored in various locations. The job is cyclical in that it requires more time at the beginning and end of each season, more so in the fall than the spring, but can be done by anyone willing to help.

## Useful Links

[WWPSA Home Page](#)  
[Recreational home](#)  
[Goal Fest 3v3 home](#) **New**  
[Travel home](#)  
[Adult home](#)  
[Sunburst Tournament](#)  
[Training home](#)  
[Referees home](#)  
[Directions and Facilities](#)  
[The Goal Post](#)  
[Club Policies](#)  
[Rec Lost and Found](#)

## Contact Information

Please use the appropriate method to contact us for the fastest response:

Executive Director:

[execdirector@wwpsa.org](mailto:execdirector@wwpsa.org)

Rec: [rec@wwpsa.org](mailto:rec@wwpsa.org)

Travel: [travel@wwpsa.org](mailto:travel@wwpsa.org)

Adult:

[adultsoccer@wwpsa.org](mailto:adultsoccer@wwpsa.org)

Sunburst:

[sunburst@wwpsa.org](mailto:sunburst@wwpsa.org)

Training:

[training@wwpsa.org](mailto:training@wwpsa.org)

Registration:

[registrar@wwpsa.org](mailto:registrar@wwpsa.org)

Photos:

[photos@wwpsa.org](mailto:photos@wwpsa.org)

Merchandise:

[merchandise@wwpsa.org](mailto:merchandise@wwpsa.org)

Equipment:

[equipment@wwpsa.org](mailto:equipment@wwpsa.org)

Facilities:

[facilities@wwpsa.org](mailto:facilities@wwpsa.org)

Fundraising:

[fundraising@wwpsa.org](mailto:fundraising@wwpsa.org)

General:

[soccer@wwpsa.org](mailto:soccer@wwpsa.org)

Phone: (888) 267-8988

Mail: P.O. Box 757

Princeton Junction,  
NJ 08550

# Chairman's Corner

After a rocky start we're up and running and the kids are again swarming the fields of West Windsor and Plainsboro this fall. We apologize to all of you for the late start but we did the best we could under the circumstances and hope to rectify those issues going forward. Even though Robin Dean, our Executive Director, has been tirelessly addressing our needs in several areas of our Club, we are critically dependent on our volunteers to run our programs in their spare time, so please remember that we need your time, as well as your suggestions for improvement.

I'm very pleased with the way everyone handled the transition to the new uniform styles this year and really like seeing the Club colors of Green and White every Saturday as Rec kids celebrate their chance to play. I'd like to especially thank Steve Per, our Dir. of Merchandise, who worked overtime with Robin to coordinate the distribution of Travel soccer uniform orders in time for the start of the season. He really went above-and-beyond in making sure all teams submitted their orders and providing teams with sample uniforms they could try on to ensure proper sizing. Thanks, Steve!

As seems to always occur this time of year, I need to remind everyone **NOT TO PARK ON THE GRASS AT SARNOFF CORPORATION**. Sarnoff graciously grants us permission to use their facilities and we ought to respect their request that we not damage the grass by parking where we should, rather than trying to save a few hundred feet of walking from a further spot. Please remember: one of the primary goals of WWPSA is to promote EXERCISE, and the extra walk is good for all of us. If your cars are on the grass, you are jeopardizing 8 of the 17 Rec leagues that use that facility, so please park only in designated parking areas where there is pavement.

In addition, **please think "Safety first" while at Sarnoff:**

- **Do not stop your cars along the road to drop off or pick up;**
- **HAVE PATIENCE WHEN ENTERING OR EXITING THE FIELDS AND OBSERVE SAFE DRIVING HABITS.**

Stopping your car along the road – unless to permit players or parents and siblings to cross – is **dangerous** and increases the opportunity for a tragic accident. Please do everyone a favor – arrive a few minutes early and take the extra time to walk from designated parking areas so you are not tempted to stop on the road.

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## WWPSA Board

Chairman – Justin Stein  
 Secretary – Randie Brazel  
 Finance – Pat Trombetta  
 Facilities – Howard Rabin  
 Rec – Bill Kramer  
 Travel – vacant  
 Adult – David Boate  
 Equipment – vacant  
 Merchandise – Steve Per  
 Development – Paul St. Amour  
 Fundraising – Marc Herold  
 Webmaster – Brent Nielsen  
 At-large – Ken Matthews

## Coordinators

Sunburst – Jacqueline Stein /  
 Diane Kooker  
 Pictures – Cindy Alvarez  
 Volunteers – Steve Per  
 Referees – Chris Hazen  
 KidSafe – vacant  
 Community – vacant  
 Registrar – Brent Nielsen  
 Insurance – Hemant Sarma  
 Sponsors – Maryann Lewis

(“Chairman’s Corner”, continued from previous page)

I received a report of someone passing other stopped cars while on the road in Sarnoff. Unless you have a medical emergency, driving in this manner is unacceptable in any setting, let alone one where over 1,000 children play every weekend. Don’t tempt fate and please take every precaution necessary to take your time and drive safely. On the soccer field and in our community, EVERY child is OUR (and YOUR) child.

I’d like to close with a few thoughts about Goal Fest 3v3, our Rec Soccer tournament scheduled for October 20. We’re working hard to plan a fun and frenzied day of soccer for our Rec kids so that they can experience the thrill of tournament play that, up until now, only our Travel players were able to feel. Everyone who participates will receive an award, with the top 3 teams in each grade receiving additional awards. Every team will play 3 ½-hour games with a game of rest between each, and we’re putting together the schedule to ensure that all teams from a given grade will play together within a block of time. We’re also planning on scheduling the Senior league’s games for later in the day to accommodate the PSAT exam that is held on that day; I’m sure our Senior league players would like an opportunity to blow off some steam after that is over!

YOU form the 3- or 4-person teams, not your current team’s coach; just call your child’s friends or teammates and ask whether they’d like to play together, then register the team’s name with a team contact and then separately submit the team’s roster so that we can verify the players are registered for Fall Rec. There is no need for you to “coach” the team; the Team Contact’s job is only to forward e-mails we will send to all Team Contacts to the other players’ parents letting everyone know about schedule updates. You’re not responsible for guiding your team with soccer wisdom!

You can find answers to other questions at the [Goal Fest 3v3 FAQ Page](#) and can find registration instructions at the [Goal Fest Home Page](#). I’m really excited for the tournament and can’t wait to see my own son out there having a great time and enjoying the day, so **please sign up your children before the registration deadline of October 8**. There will be no late fee to register after this date; the system simply won’t let you in as we need time to organize the schedules and teams and can’t keep letting in teams after this date. I hope to see you there!

Regards,

Justin D. Stein  
 Chairman, WWPSA Board of Directors