

The Goal Post

November 1, 2007



What a Goal Fest!

Nearly 300 players from 14 WWPSA Fall Recreational Soccer leagues came together on Saturday, October 20, 2007, to participate in the inaugural Goal Fest 3v3 Rec Soccer Tournament. The outstanding weather contributed to the enthusiastic mood of the players and families who decended on the Sarnoff Corporation's fields to watch some fast-paced, high-scoring soccer in the first Recreational Soccer tournament in WWPSA history.



We received glowing reviews and many calls to make this an annual event. The online survey that we launched to capture your feedback has already logged over 100 responses so we've got a strong base on which to build going forward. Thanks to all of our volunteers who helped run a top-notch tournament that was fun for everyone! Our friends from PUMA were on-hand to help us celebrate, and the commemorative tie-dye shirts looked great on the players!

We posted the results on the [Goal Fest 3v3 Home Page](#) and have also begun posting parents' pictures and comments received from our survey. Thanks for making the day such a fun success!

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 and who has volunteered to serve. 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.

Travel Executive Volunteers Needed

WWPSA is looking for volunteers to serve on the Travel Executive Committee (TEC) for 2007-08. We're looking for anyone with Travel soccer experience who may be able to help transition one of several roles from outgoing TEC members to ensure continuity of our high-quality Travel program. Please e-mail our [Executive Director](#) for more info. Thanks for your contribution!

WWP Challenge Advance to Semi-finals of NJYS Nat'l. Championship



Congratulations to the WWP Challenge U-14 Girls who reached the semi-finals of the NJYS National Championships after defeating several highly ranked teams. In the opening round, the Challenge defeated the #7 state-ranked Freehold Shooting Stars 3-0. In the next round, they were 1-0 winners over the #4 state-ranked Pittsgrove Pride before reaching the Quarter-Final round, where they overcame the Bridgewater Breakers 1-0. In the semis, the Challenge were defeated by the Wall Wild Wombats, one of the top teams in Region 1 and the 2007 US Club National Cup Championship finalists. This is a tremendous achievement; well done ladies!

WWP Xtreme U-13 Girls Take 2nd Place in Hamilton

The WWPSA Xtreme put on an awesome display of exquisite soccer in capturing second place in the U-13 girls division of the Columbus Day weekend tournament in Hamilton this past October 6-7, 2007. The team started out strong on Saturday by defeating the YMS Jaguars 2-0 on the strength of two goals by Mariel Pofido, who was respectively assisted on each score by Stephanie Briffa and Sarah Jones. The Xtreme followed with another 2-0 win against the Rockville Center Challengerz, with Pofido again scoring the team's goals, this time assisted by Skylar Delemos and Jones. Striker Courtney Laermer exerted constant offensive pressure in both games to ensure that play stayed in the opponents' ends.

On Sunday, the Xtreme - spurred by the strong defense of Joanna Gochuico, Sarah Hayduchok and Rebecca Xi and the intense midfield play of Brianne Jacques and Charlotte Townsend - had a solid performance in a 1-0 victory over the Upper Makefield SC Patriots, with the decisive goal scored by Jones. Goalkeeper Stefanie Wisotsky had another strong showing in posting her third consecutive shutout.

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Photo Day Summary

Photo Day was held on October 13th at Millstone River School in Plainsboro. 148 Rec and Travel teams and all Fall Rec Pre-K sessions were photographed and we want to thank all of our volunteers for helping to organize and run this annual event. Special thanks to Cindy Alvarez, our Photo Day Coordinator, for doing another outstanding job.

Did you see the merchandise table? We had more options than ever for you to show your WWPSA pride, and we're all pleased to see your support. Thanks to Steve Per, our Dir. of Merchandise, and Jacqueline Stein and Diane Kooker, our Sunburst Tournament Co-Directors, for their help as well.

2007 WWPSA Scholarship Winners

We'd like to thank everyone who submitted an application for a WWPSA Scholarship, and we finally have our winners! The following highly-qualified applicants each won a \$500 WWPSA Scholarship in recognition of their participation and contribution to WWPSA activities and whose values follow WWPSA's mission:

- Michael Christie
- John Morris
- Matthew Girandola
- Stephanie Hagen

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The championship match against the Jackson Freedom saw midfielders Sloane Garelick and Megan Brennan play with boundless determination and skill to guide the Xtreme to a 1-1 tie (with the Xtreme goal scored by MiaQuinn) through regulation time and two overtime periods, which led to the game being decided by penalty kicks. The team performed valiantly in the shootout, only to have the win registered by the opponent on the tenth kick.

Congratulations, ladies!

Emeralds Scare Opponents at Spookarama



The WWPSA U-12 Girls Soccer Team Emeralds took advantage of the spring-like weather this past Oct 20th to win their flight in the South Brunswick Spookarama Tournament, "Fright 1." The team arrived in the early morning fog in high spirits with Green Vampire Garb and translated that energy into a 4-3 win on their first game. After a hard fought second game that resulted in a 1-1 tie, they took the tournament in a tiebreaker with their total of 5 goals for the day vs. 3 for the second place team. This success is mirrored by their regular season record that now stands at 5-1-1. Congratulations to the Emeralds!

Parents' Resources New

Just as we're continually looking to improve WWPSA's programs, we're also looking for better ways to communicate with you, our constituents. Consistent with this goal, we've revamped the Parents' Resources section of our website to help you more easily find what you need. We've relocated this important section to the WWPSA Home Page where you can now access articles on youth sports, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) pages for every program, a link to our secure online registration system, and more.

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!

Coaches' Corner

We've been steadily beefing up the content within our [Training and Development](#) section, particularly the Coach's Corner. There are articles on Coaching Responsibilities, Effective Communication, Pre-Season Meeting Agenda, Sample Game Formations, Effect of Weather on Players, Emergency Action Plans, Treating Injuries, Protection from Liability and Defensive Tactical Skills. We're adding new articles each month, so check back often for new suggestions and guidance. [Click here](#) to see what's new.

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!

WWPSA Community Relations

WWPSA representatives are working on the following projects to make a difference in our and other communities:

- Donate old, no-longer-used uniforms to needy children in Africa through the Returned Peace Corps
- Work with NJ Wildcats women's soccer club to identify opportunities to leverage the Wildcats' resources to help train our young women players and also promote the Wildcats through an affiliation with WWPSA.

Stay tuned for more details!



WWPSA Fanware is Here!

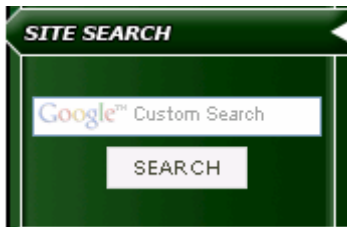
As part of our overall strategy for creating a single "Club" culture within WWPSA, we've listened to your requests and are offering WWPSA-logo merchandise that parents or siblings can wear to support your teams and your Club:

- 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! 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!

WWPSA Introduces Google™ Search

We've conferred with our online presence provider, Demosphere International, Inc., to provide a search feature to provide our users with faster access to our online content and it's ready! Just type the text you want to find in the search tool at the upper right of our Home Page and either press *Enter* or click *Search* and you're on your way!



Donate Your Old Uniforms

WWPSA will be looking for parents to donate their children's old uniforms to be sent to families in Africa. You may recall that we donated over 50 balls to Kenya over the summer and we are working on an extension of this initiative to give back to those whose needs are greater than ours. Stay tuned for details.

Fundraising Survey Results Under Review New

As we've noted in previous issues of The Goal Post, the Board of Directors authorized a planning study by Graham Pelton, a professional fundraising consulting company, to determine whether WWPSA could run a successful fundraising campaign to fund future facilities capital projects. The Board reviewed the study during the October 18, 2007, Board meeting and was encouraged by its findings, which determined that the vast majority of those interviewed and those who responded to a direct mail survey believe that:

- WWPSA leadership is acting in the best interests of its constituents and is doing a good job
- We should concentrate our facilities expenditures on improving existing facilities before focusing on building new complexes
- They would be willing to donate to a campaign if it addressed these needs.

Howard Rabin and Robin Dean will present options to the Board for various projects that WWPSA can undertake in the next few months and years that follow the recommendations of the study so that the Board can evaluate the next course of action that has the highest impact after taking into account timing and resources. Thanks to all who participated in the study; your input was critical!

WWPSA Board Elections

The Annual General Meeting to elect the 2008 WWPSA Board of Directors is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Tuesday, November 27, 2007, and will be held in Room A of the WW Municipal Building. According to the WWPSA Constitution, each player is entitled to cast a single vote during the election, made by a parent or guardian either in person or via proxy. There are several critical open positions that will be filled by new members of the Board, so we need as many parents as possible to come, listen to their credentials and determine who would best fill the needs of WWPSA for the coming year.

If you know you will not be attending the meeting, please fill out and submit a proxy form so that your vote can be counted and we have the minimum number of votes at the meeting. [Click here](#) to download the fillable form. See you there!

Website Tips

When you register for WWPSA programs, please pay via credit card instead of check whenever possible. Our volunteers 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.

New Feature: Use Google™ to search the WWPSA website for what you need!

Did you know that there is a calendar view where you can see what upcoming events are scheduled for a coming month? Click [Show Full Calendar](#) on the WWPSA Home Page to view the current month's activities. You can then choose another month to see the events for that month.

Do you have a suggestion for our website? E-mail our [Executive Director](#) or [Webmaster](#) with your ideas to improve how we deliver information to you.

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 full-sided field at Conover Park when Wildcats Football completes 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 3rd, 4th 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 or Robin at execdirector@wwpsa.org for any facilities needs.

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

Coach's Corner:

<http://www.wwpsa.org/Training/CoachCorner>

Field Maps:

www.wwpsa.org/facilities

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. The next time you see children playing on a goal or hanging from the net, please be proactive and instruct them to get down for their own safety. [Click here](#) to read more about soccer goal safety.

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.

Fall Programs Continue: What's Going On?

Our Fall Rec Soccer programs resumed last week after a break for Goal Fest; free training is offered during the week on Mondays and Wednesdays; [click here](#) for info.

Our Travel Soccer teams are nearing the end of their fall seasons and wrapped up their State Cup games.

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

Goal Fest 3v3 Rec Soccer Tournament was *fantastic* and you can see pictures and testimonials on the [Goal Fest 3v3 Home Page](#).

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.

Spring Rec Registration

We are working on launching Spring Rec Registration in the coming weeks, so please stay tuned for details on one of our fastest-growing programs. Space is limited, so please don't wait to register or you might be closed out!

Stay tuned for more details...

Winter Rec Soccer Opportunities

We have heard from many of you that your kids would like to play soccer over the winter, and due to our northern climate this is not feasible. However, there are several options within our area for indoor soccer and we are working to put together details for a winter league for those who are interested.

Stay tuned for more details...

Upcoming Events

Nov. 6: WWPSA Board meeting, 7:30 pm, WW Muni Bldg

Nov. 17: Fall Rec soccer last game

Nov. 27: Annual General Meeting, 7:30 pm, WW Muni Bldg

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 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 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.



Useful Links

[WWPSA Home Page](#)
[Recreational home](#)
[Goal Fest 3v3 home](#)
[Travel home](#)
[Adult home](#)
[Sunburst Tournament](#)
[Training home](#)
[Parents' Resources](#) **New**
[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

Rec: rec@wwpsa.org

Travel: travel@wwpsa.org

Adult:

adultsoccer@wwpsa.org

Sunburst:

sunburst@wwpsa.org

Training:

training@wwpsa.org

Registration:

registrar@wwpsa.org

Photos: photos@wwpsa.org

Merchandise:

merchandise@wwpsa.org

Equipment:

equipment@wwpsa.org

Facilities:

facilities@wwpsa.org

Fundraising:

fundraising@wwpsa.org

General:

soccer@wwpsa.org

Phone: (888) 267-8988

Mail: P.O. Box 757

Princeton Junction,
NJ 08550

Chairman's Corner

In my role as Chairman of the WWPSA Board of Directors the past two years, the beginning of the year is always a blur as we get the fall programs up and running and then prepare for Photo Day. This year was even more hectic with our new initiative to give our Recreational Soccer players a tournament of their own, Goal Fest 3v3, and it just seems as if we're always busy with not only handling the day-to-day tasks of running a huge Club but also looking forward to delivering the programs and events that our constituents will need going forward. It's a HUGE undertaking and we really need more volunteers to help make it happen.

I'd like to call on those of you reading this letter to step up and volunteer for an open Board position, an open Travel or Recreational Soccer Executive Committee position and commit to that role for at least 2 years so that we can build experience and not have to focus on transitioning from one person to the next. This organization only runs when good people volunteer to help and I'm encouraged to see so many new people volunteer to serve on the 2008 Board of Directors, but the truth is we need more. When more people help, the load is easier on all of us.

How cool was Goal Fest 3v3?! The kids really enjoyed themselves and I couldn't be more pleased with how it all turned out, particularly since it was our first year attempting this sort of program in Rec soccer. Our volunteers were INCREDIBLE and I want to personally thank you for your contributions of time and energy to make this event a wonderful experience for all involved. We received over 100 responses to our feedback survey within just a few days and thank everyone who took the time to let us know how we did and how we can make it even better next year. Yes, I believe there will be a 2nd Annual Goal Fest 3v3 based on the numerous kids and parents who called for us to offer the tournament again and on the feedback we received from you. How can we say "no" to that? I'm looking forward to including Goal Fest 3v3 in our 2008 planning.

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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
KidSafe – Lisa Schmid
Community – vacant
Registrar – Brent Nielsen
Insurance – Hemant Sarma
Sponsors – Maryann Lewis

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

With our elections coming up on November 27, 2007, I’d like to remind everyone that every player in a WWPSA program is entitled to one vote to be submitted by a parent, guardian or other nominee who you can assign your proxy to vote in your stead. You can also submit a proxy form to choose who you wish to vote for, similar to an absentee ballot. We issued the proxy form via e-mail last week so please fill it out and return it to us using the instructions on the form; your vote counts, and you should make sure that those who represent you on the Board are acting according to your wishes. If not, maybe your perspectives and comments can help shape the future of WWPSA for the better so I urge you to consider stepping forward to fill a vacant position or run for a position currently occupied by an existing Board member.

With my final thoughts of the fall season I’d like to extend my gratitude to a dedicated volunteer whose undying contributions to WWPSA should be recognized throughout Club. Bill Kramer is stepping down as Director of Recreational Soccer after 3 years and I want to congratulate him on his stewardship and thank him for the tremendous job he did. Bill began the year as the Deputy Dir. of Rec Soccer after serving as the Dir. of Rec Soccer the previous 2 years and didn’t even have children in WWPSA, but he stepped up to fill the vacant Dir. of Rec position and plan the fall season in response to our calls of desperation when the Dir. of Rec resigned from the Board early in the year. While we on the Board may not always agree, healthy discussion and debate makes for better-prepared and higher-quality programs and events and Bill regularly contributed to not only Rec Soccer but to many other initiatives as well. I wish him the very best of luck in his future endeavors. On behalf of our entire Club, thanks, Bill! You did great and you will be missed!

Regards,

Justin D. Stein
Chairman, WWPSA Board of Directors