

Blaine Striker

A newsletter for members of the Blaine Soccer Club and surrounding community.



A Note from the Board of Directors

The Blaine Soccer Club (BSC) has had a very busy and productive year as many of the projects we have been working on for many years have finally come to completion. Many of the website upgrades and programming have been completed! You can now register for most of our programs on-line and pay for them with your credit/debit card at www.blainesoccer.org. The first time on the system you will need to enter your information, but after that registration will be a few simple clicks and all the forms will be printed and sent to the people who need them. In 2009 our referee scheduling will also be going to an on-line system. This program will be ready to go prior to the indoor season and will improve our communication with our referees and referee assignors. Referees please look for more information in the coming months.

After nearly 4 years of diligent work, the new concession and restroom building (blue building) has now been completed at the Blaine Soccer Complex. A special "Thank You" goes to the City of Blaine Park Board, Blaine City Council, City of Blaine staff and to the BSC Building Committee and all of our members for their efforts in getting this very large project completed! The BSC donated \$128,000 to the City of Blaine Park Fund to help in the financing of the project and we have purchased all of the concession equipment in the building.

This building will be an asset to the community, other youth sports organizations as well as the Blaine Soccer Club for many years to come.

The BSC has grown over the past few years and last year was no exception. We continue to add more teams and players to our soccer family and with these increases come more programs. This increase has made it possible, and necessary, for us to hire a part time employee to assist our full-time staff with the day to day operations of the BSC. This allows us to centralize all of our paperwork and information at the BSC office. This centralization along with the on-line registration will streamline and eliminate some of the hurdles we have had in the past.

As we move forward into the 2009 season, your Board of Directors will continue our work to make the Blaine Soccer Club the soccer club of choice in the northern metro. There are many more projects and improvements on the horizon. Quality camps, upgraded communication, great tournaments, real bathrooms! dedicated employees and volunteers will get us there. See you on the field!

Coaches and Player Development

The 2008 season was another successful year for Blaine Soccer Club's players and teams. Thirty Six travel teams competed this past summer and thirteen competed this past fall.

This fall the club had secured training space for the winter months at the newly renovated National Sports Center's Sports Hall for our teams and players to play and train. This is proving to be very popular. In November and December at the NSC, seven travel teams signed up for seven weeks of indoor training.

Additionally we offered programs for Jr. Little Kickers, U10-U12 Scrimmage, Goal-keeping, U5-U10 Foot Skills (that filled very quickly), and a U13 Winter Select program in partnership with the Coon Rapids Soccer.

Beginning in 2009, we will be offering various training programs for players and coaches and we encourage you to regularly check the clubs website www.blainesoccer.org for details on all upcoming programs. Programs that are currently being planned for 2009 include:

2009 Speed, Agility, and Quickness Program:

Jan/Feb 2009. A speed training program for Blaine Soccer Club players aged U10-U18 on Tuesday evening's at Westwood Elementary School.

Winter Travel Team Training Program:

Jan/Feb/March 2009. Travel team training sessions at the National Sports Center Sports Hall. Fifteen travel teams, U9-U16, have already signed up for these sessions. Other interested coaches should email scottsoccer2@hotmail.com for details on remaining available times.

Referee Certification Courses:

Mid-February 2009. Continue to improve your knowledge of soccer by learning the Rules of the game and how they are applied. Recommended for all players (11 yrs of age and older), coaches and parents. More details coming soon to the web site.

PACT Coaches and Parents Training:

March 2009. An excellent program developed by MYSA in conjunction with the University of Notre Dame. MYSA/PACT helps coaches and parents realize their unique roles in fostering athlete intrinsic motivation, developing character, optimal performance, well-being and satisfaction. This program helps develop the potential of youth soccer to all it can, and should be! This is open to all BSC Coaches and Parents and is FREE to attend. scottsoccer2@hotmail.com to sign-up

MYSA 'E' Certificate Coaching Course:

March 2009. Recommended for all summer 2009 Travel Coaches. More details coming soon

MYSA 'Y' Module Coaching Course:

May 2009. Recommended for all summer 2009 Recreational Coaches. More details coming soon

Summer Travel Team Training:

April – June 2009. All U9-U16 travel teams will receive one training session each week of the summer travel season from a professional trainer as part of their registration fee. Sessions will begin in early April 2009 and will be conducted by trainers from Coerver Coaching.

2009 BSC Summer Camp:

June 2009 at the Blaine Soccer Complex. Registration forms and further information will be available soon.

2009 BSC Fall/High School Camp:

August 2009, in partnership with Blaine and Spring Lake Park High School's soccer programs. Registration forms and further information will be available soon.

2008 Summer Traveling Soccer League

The 2009 summer traveling season starts the beginning of May and many teams have already started training and practicing at various indoor facilities. The Blaine Soccer Club is going to field 32 teams next summer. All players should have now been placed on teams and contacted by their coach. If you attended try outs and have not been contacted please call Scott at the BSC office. There are also a couple teams that are currently looking for players to fill out their rosters in the following age groups:

U9 Girls, U9 Boys, U12/U13 C3 Girls, U15/U16 C3 Girls, U16 C3 Boys, U18/U19 C1 Girls.

If you are in one of the above age groups and are interested in playing on a travel team next season, please contact Glenn Stafford, Traveling Director, to get the latest availability.

Uniform try-on for registered travel players and coaches has begun at Soccer USA. Be sure to get in and get your sizes written on the forms before the deadline of January.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER THAT ALL BSC TRAVEL PLAYER FEES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 1st 2009.

Over the past few years, professional training services have been contracted through Coever Coaching. Coerver focuses on improving individual and small group play. We will again be working with them to provide the weekly team training this upcoming summer season for all U9 – U16 teams.

2008 Summer Results (as reported by teams)

U-11 Girls C-2 Coach Marthaler

Apple Valley Invitational 2nd place
Blaine Breakout 2nd place

U-11 Girls C-3 Coach Perzel

USA Cup 2nd place
North American Challenge Cup 2nd place
MYSA League Champions -
Qualified for the 2008 State Tournament

U-14 Girls C-1 (Coach Veth)

Blaine Breakout 1st Place
MYSA League Champions -
Qualified for the 2008 State Tournament

U-14 Girls C-2 Coach Stratton

Wings Invitational 1st place
Qualified for the 2008 State Tournament

U-15 Girls C-1 Coaches Evertz/Stafford

Woodbury Summer Classic 1st place

U-15 Girls C-3 Coach Turk

Blaine Breakout 1st place
North American Challenge Cup 1st place
Apple Valley Invitational 2nd place
Rochester Fest 2nd place
Qualified for the 2008 State Tournament

U-12 Boys C-1 Coach Xiong

Blaine Breakout 1st place
Sentry Soccer Classic (WI) 2nd place
MYSA League Champions -
Qualified for the 2008 State Tournament

U-13 Boys C-1 Coach Fletcher

Eau Claire Tournament 1st Place
Qualified for the 2008 State Tournament

U-13 Boys C-2 Coach Strand

North American Challenge Cup 2nd place

U-14 Boys Premier Coach Macleod

North American Challenge Cup 1st place

Concession Building Update

After nearly four years of working with the City of Blaine, the "NEW BLUE BUILDING" is complete, including the purchase and installation of the new concession equipment. The new building has public restrooms, a much nicer concession operation, meeting space and a larger storage area. It will serve as a functional facility for our organization, as it can be used for coach's clinics, team picture's, a tournament headquarters, storm shelter plus many other potential uses. The Concession Building was granted an occupancy certificate on August 29th, 2008.

The years fall soccer and football season proved to be very successful for the concession's operation, confirming that we did indeed miss not having the concessions open for our two tournaments and summer soccer season this past summer.

Here is a breakdown of expenditures of the construction of the building.

Original Contractor Bid- \$386,272.00
Final completion cost with all change orders- \$457,211.64

Funding of the Concession Building:
City of Blaine Capital Improvement Plan- \$300,000.00
City of Blaine contingency-\$29,211.64
Blaine Soccer Club- \$128,000.00
TOTAL \$457,211.64

The BSC Board of Directors would like to thank all of our great members for all of their hard work the past four years at our tournaments & fund raising efforts. We were proud to be able to present a check for \$128,000.00 to the City of Blaine Park Board at the November 25th meeting. We are now in discussions with the City of Blaine regarding the possibility of moving our office operations into the new building to better serve the membership. More meetings ahead!!

2009 Spring Indoor Recreational League

Snow on the ground means it is time to signup for the always popular Blaine Soccer Club's Spring Indoor Recreational League. All games are played at Fogerty Arena in Blaine. The ice comes off and the turf goes on! Playing opportunities exist for all kids ages five to sixteen. Playing at Fogerty is very popular with the kids as the "boards" result in more touches and a fast-paced game. As a recreational league the emphasis is on fun and skill development.

New this year is the online registration option at www.blainesoccer.org. Alternatively, walk-in registration will

be available at the Club office on Tuesday, January 20 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Registration forms can also be mailed to the Club. A registration form is enclosed with this newsletter and can also be found on the Club's website.

Registration Deadline is January 22nd. Late registrants will be placed on a waiting list and will only be accepted to fill team rosters if openings are available.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: In addition to obvious need for volunteer coaches, the Club needs 10 age-group

commissioners for this league. Parents with kids in our traveling soccer program automatically fulfill their entire volunteer hour requirements for 2009 by being a commissioner. Commissioners help build the teams, handout uniforms and rosters, and distribute awards at the end of the season. If interested, contact the Club or e-mail Chris Anderson at bscanderson@comcast.net.

2009 Blaine Soccer Club Tournaments

Mark Your Calendars!

BLAINE BREAK OUT TOURNAMENT May 1-3, 2009

The Blaine Soccer Club is excited to present the 20th Annual Blaine Break Out tournament, May 1-3rd of 2009. The Break-Out is one of Minnesota's first scheduled tournaments of the outdoor season. The purpose of the tournament is to provide teams' through-out the state an initial opportunity to test themselves as they prepare for their upcoming summer league games. Teams in the Under 9 – Under 19 age divisions are invited to participate.

All teams in the event are guaranteed a minimum of three games over the weekend against similar level teams. The tournament will conclude on Sunday with championships rounds for the U11-U19 age divisions and final games for the U9-U10 age groups.

Last year, the Break Out grew to an all-time high of 284 teams participating. Many teams from Blaine last year started their season off with a championship in this event and then continued the momentum through-out the 2008 summer season. We look forward to Breaking-Out into the 2009 season!

BLAINE'S NORTH AMERICAN CHALLENGE CUP June 26 – 28, 2009

The Blaine Soccer Club is again proud to host our 5th Annual Blaine North American Challenge Cup tournament, June 26-28th of 2009. This exciting late-season event is open to both Boys and Girls Under 9-Under 19 teams and features both an A-Flight and B-Flight for competitive travel teams at all levels. All teams are guaranteed a minimum 3 games in their initial group play with top teams advancing to the finals.

The 2008 NACC tournament had teams representing Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, as well as teams from all across Minnesota.

NEW for 2009: We will also be scheduling games for our Blaine Recreational League Teams to participate on this weekend as well, thus giving them a taste of a larger soccer experience. We hope that our competitive teams and players will take the time and watch and cheer for their "Up-and-Coming BSC Stars of the Future". Remember, you were once a U8 player too.

Look for additional information on both events coming soon on our website.

Thank you to all the volunteers and tournament staff who helped out at either one or both the tournaments this past year. You are a large reason to why these events were as successful as they were this past year. We hope you will set a side these weekends in 2009 and join us in our effort to continue on improving these tournaments for the future.

Do you want to become a Referee?

QUESTION: I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A REFEREE, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

Answer: Those interested in becoming a referee need to attend a referee certification clinic. The Minnesota State Referee Committee (SRC) holds the certification clinics through-out Minnesota beginning in January. Their website with a listing of clinics can be found at www.minnesotasrc.org The Blaine Soccer Club has requested to host the following clinics in mid-February of 2009 here in Blaine. More information will be provided on our web site as it becomes available.

Entry Referee - Level 8

This is the entry level course for new referees or those young referees with playing experience. As a Grade Level 8 Referee, one may serve as the Referee or Assistant Referee (Linesperson) on any USSF match. Per MYSA rule no youth referee may serve as the Referee in any match in which he or she would be age eligible to play without permission from the SYRA. Minimum recommended age 14.

Recreational Referee – Level 9

This is the course intended by USSF to be the entry level course for young referees (under--14) or those with no

playing experience. Graduates of this course will be qualified to officiate on most of BSC Recreational League games, officiate on any U-12 or younger competitive league match,, and be an Assistant Referee (Linesperson) on any competitive match up to under-14.

Referee Bridge Course - Level 9 to Level 8

The bridge course is designed for referees who hold a Grade 9 badge and would like to upgrade to a Grade 8 Referee. It is a fast-paced course designed for referees with some practical experience.

Additional materials are located at this US Soccer web page: <http://www.usoccer.com/laws/index.jsp.html>

Jr. Little Kickers – Spring Indoor Program

The Jr. Little Kickers Soccer program is designed to provide 3 and 4 year olds their first opportunities to experience the very basic skills of soccer taught through 'Adventure Soccer' activities rather than formal scrimmage games. The spring session runs on Friday evenings March 27, April 3, 17, and 24 on an indoor turf surface at Fogerty Ice Arena in Blaine. We hope you will join us as we kick off the 2009 season.

You may register your child at the open walk-in registrations (see calendar in this issue), at City of Blaine or Spring Lake Park Recreation Departments, at the Blaine Soccer Club offices or by mail (form is available on our web site).

It is recommended that you register early, as there are a limited number of openings available. If you have questions regarding this program, please call Blaine Soccer Club at (763) 792-7369.

Cost: \$55.00 includes a soccer t-shirt, a trophy, and training (without a soccer ball)

If you wish to purchase a soccer ball there is an additional \$5 fee. Please note – all players must bring their own size 3 soccer ball for training purposes.

Registrations Deadline is February 18, 2009 or until full.

Special Thanks to our Recreational Program Coaches and Assistant Coaches

MCALLISTER, JIM
BLACKWELDER, DEAN
WOMACK, DAN
BLOCK, NATE
JACOBS, ROB
BEETHE, MARK
LACHINSKI, DAN & CATHY
ETUKO, STEVE
ERICKSON, BRIAN
MCLELLAN, CORINE
CATLIN, MARK
PAQUIN, DAVE & CHERYL
GERMAN, MIKE
SNYDER, VAN
RICHMOND, MICHAEL
HANSON, GREG
CHANTHAMONTRY, JOHN
HAIK, PAT
FEHLEN, LAURA
SILLMAN, BRAD
EILEFSON, BRENT
GRENGS, LISA
KYTTA, TY
GRESETH, JAYMI
BRANNON, TIM
TANDESKI, GARY
MEYERS, TED
JOBIN, DAN
MILLER, CRISSY
TARIQ, ZEESHAN
WATERS, KEVIN
MCAULAY, CHIC
PEARSON, JIM
SOCZYNSKI, ADAM
BENSING, JIM
NEGRETE, JORGE
WINTERS, SCOTT
WICKS, LANCE
WATTS, EMILY
WANNA, LEON
ALBERS, ROGER
SMITH, PAUL & KATHERINE
JENKINS, NANCY
BUZZELL, NICOLE
BAHGAT, SARA
HARLAN, TED
DRESHAR, TOM & EMILY
JOHNSON, ROSS
LEIER, ROB & STACY
JOHNSON, MIKE
GERZIC, ANEL
HAUGEN, BRYAN & DANIELLE
CORNEJO, BRENDA
NGENE, IYKE
ECKMAN, ANDREA
JOHNSON, JOSH
STEIL, KORY
THOMAS, JIM
PETERSEN, MIKE
FREDRICKSON, ANDI
PEARSON, ROB
OBERLE, JOE
ZENK, LEONARD
TALLEDO, IVAN
BONDE, JUSTIN
HRUBY, STEVE

SWICA, HENRY
BROSS, TINA
CIBUZAR, ROBERT
FRIENDT, KOREEN
HUFF, CASSIE
BROZ, MICHELLE
WENSEL, MARK
ANDERSON, TAMI
BESEMAN, JAMIE
OLSRUD, DAVE
SOLHEIM, PAUL
FRANTZ, WENDY
OLSON, PAUL
DIETZ, FRANK
PIKUS, GENE
STOY, JOHN
BARUTH, JOHN
DIEMER, CHRIS
PALMER, CHRIS
SCHMITT, DAVE
TOWNSEND, JOHN
MAHLE, GARY
MYOS, THERESA
BOEHRS, JILL
BAYER, JULIE
BURDICK, ERIN & MATT
HEYDA, KONI
GLANZ, STEVE
BLOMMER, SCOTT
KLIMISCH, KEVIN
BURNES, CARISSA & JOHN
TRAFFIE, LEANN
HOFFMEYER, MARK
ZEHMS, JOHN
BOSTROM, NEIL
GANNON, TIM
FELTON, JAMES
RIPKEN, BRIAN
HENNEN, AMY
KRIEGLER, TOM
MULLEN, KATHERINE
ANDERSON, CRAIG
MARSOLEK, DOUG
SINHA, ATUL
CARRIOLANO, ERIC
PELOQUIN, TOM
HANSEN, PAUL
SAKR, MOHAMMAD
BAUER, DAVE
HEALY, DAVE
PETERSON, ERIC
OLSON, DAVID
BEAMS, TED
GLOWACKI, JIM
FINN, PATRICK
PERZEL, DAN
DAAS, DENNIS
KABAKA, LYDIA
GOBENA, ISRAEL
PATTY, KEVIN
LEFAIVE, LAWRENCE & CINDY
HEATH, BRENDA
SARAZIN, REGINA
LAU, CHAD
BRAZONES, STEVE
GEORGE, DEAN

DAS, PRAD
FEDORAVICIUS, ERIC
SCOTT, JEFFERY
BRITTON, JASON
RODRIGUEZ, SALVADOR
DELVO, MARY
OLSON, CHRIS
BARNES, SUZY
HADSALL, BRAD
JOHNSON, JAYCE
KESSLER, DON
THOREEN, BRAD
TAYLOR, MATT
MERCIER, MARVIN
GLASSER, STEVE
SPENCER, MIKE
NEWBY, JASON
BEDNARCZYK, DAVID
SYLVESTER, CHRIS
BUDZYNSKI, JUSTIN
STEINMETZ, TOM
GREEN, TINA
GUTENBERG, STEVE
TART, JOSEPH
GRIEBEL, MARK
WITTE, VALLI
JOHNSON, CRAIG
MCGOWAN, MICHAEL
VANDANACKER,
LARGAESPADA, DAVID
ZOSCHKE, JILL
REIMANN, DAN
BAILEY, BRIAN
YAHN, MIKE
KROUTIL, ED
BURKETT, SEAN
STREETER, JEFF
DORFF, CHRIS
HALVA, ROB
SOUKNHINDY, KHAMMONE
OMAN, MARK
DELICH, LISA
EICHSTAEDT, PAUL
LINDSAY, CHAD
FOX, RICK & BRANDON
ZARAGOZA, TAMI
HAATAJA, BRIAN
SAYLOR, SCOTT
HECTOR, MITCHELL
ROBICHAUD, CHRIS
KRABER, DENNIS
RODINE, ROB
SOVEREIGN, SCOTT
HERLOFSKY, PETER
GROW, CHRIS
ZELLER, JOHN
TEWALT, SEAN
THOMPSON, MARK
OLSON, SHAUN
HANSON, RANDY
FABOZZI, TODD
JOHNSON, GLENN
GREENBERG, JORDON
FREIMUTH, DAN
FINTON, STEVE
SCHLINSOG, ANN

PASCHKE, ROBERT
JOHNSON, JANE
MCLAFFERTY, TIM
MUELLER, SHELLY
BOOTH, WENDY
TREECE, MICHAEL
PAULSON, LIZ
MILLER, STEVE
HEDLUND, JON
BORMANN, DAVID
DRISTE, BRIAN
SLAVIK, STEVE
OLSON, TODD
HOWE, MIKE
BROPHY, PATRICK
THERRIEN, BRANDON
SZYPERSKI, PAUL
SMITH, SCOTT
COHOON, JENNIFER & BRIAN
DIGGS, RICH & TERESA
HART, TONY
SCHAFFER, JAMES
BRUDER, JEFF & LIZ
WALLACE, JOHN
HALUPTZOK, CHRIS
JACOBSON, JERE
WIEGE, KRIS
MARSZALEK, MARK
SHIELDS, JACK
HOUSTON, KARA
DONNELLY, JIM
FISKEWOLD, JEROMEY
VOSBURG, CLIFF
TERHAAR, KEITH
JACOBSON, PATTI
MULROONEY, MARK
CARLSON, PAT
HOFFMAN, JOE
REINERS, WHITNEY
YOCUM, DOUG
SCHENK, BRIAN
KURTZ, CRAIG
LUNDBERG, SANDY
MILLER, GERRY
FRITZ, BRIAN
GAHR, TOM
LARSSON, LEIF

Thank you to all the participants and parents for your support with the Blaine Soccer Club. If you want to be more involved with the recreational program and/or traveling soccer program, please contact the Blaine Soccer Club Office at 763-792-7369.

Visit the club website at www.blainesoccer.org to keep up to date on activities, check registration dates, training opportunities and watch for upcoming online registration opportunities!

Guidelines for Parent Behavior

From the July 5, 2006, issue of The Technical Area

The following is a list of points of emphasis from a handout given to parents with children in the Mount Laurel (N.J.) United Soccer Association. This handout is designed to minimize and eliminate sideline coaching from parents. We hope that you can adapt some or all of these guidelines in this form or another to your coaching situation.

1. Be positive. Be supportive. Cheer for the team. Encourage all of the players. Keep negative comments to yourself, especially those directed at another parent's child. Remember that the players are doing the best that they can and that playing good soccer is more difficult than it looks.

2. Do not coach. Let the coaches make adjustments as they see the need. Many times the instruction from a spectator is exactly the opposite of the instruction given by the coach. Allow the players the freedom to make their own decisions and learn from their mistakes. Spectator statements like "Stay Wide," "Clear It," "Pass The Ball," "Get Rid of It," "Move Up," "Move Back," etc., tend to undermine the need for players to communicate with each other.

3. Never address players on the other team, except to encourage.

4. Treat the officials with respect. All officials make mistakes. All humans make mistakes. Let the officials be human. Let the coaches approach the officials if they feel the need. The referee may be wrong, but not as often as you are? Have you ever seen a referee change his mind because a parent shouted at him or her?

5. Do not engage in game-related discussions with parents from the opposing team. We will be playing these teams for many years to come. We want to be known in the soccer community as an organization that has class whether we win, lose or draw. The game score will not be remembered. The argument or inappropriate remarks will be.

6. Leave the game on the field. When the game is over, no amount of comment, question or discussion with the players, officials or coaches can change the outcome. Regardless of the outcome, the coaches will evaluate the performance, reinforce the good things and work to correct the things needing improvement.

7. Keep the game fun. Winning is more fun than losing, but each player should enjoy playing because they love the game. Avoid offering bribes or "pumping up" your child. Allow them to become self-motivated. Make sure that you take time to enjoy the game yourself. I have heard comments from some of the team that they dread it when their parents start shouting at the referee. It is noticeable that when some parents get more and more agitated, their child gets more and more withdrawn during the game.

Think about your own job. If you have someone who you knew was going to shout at you every time you made a mistake, wouldn't you stop putting yourself in the position to make the mistake? That is what happens with some of the players on the team. They would rather not have the ball than risk having it and making a mistake!

The Six Things You Should Say To Your Child

Bruce Brownlee, Atlanta, Ga.

A lot of soccer parents with good intentions give a 30-minute lecture in the car on the way to each match. Too often this lecture is filled with all their child's supposed deficiencies while including tons of playing advice. They arrive far off their optimal mental state and dread the critique they are likely to hear, whether they want it or not, on the way home. Kids who are massaged in this way tend not to play badly; they just tend not to play, possibly to avoid making mistakes.

Parents should memorize and use the following six simple phrases:

Before the match:

1. I love you.
2. Good luck.
3. Have fun.

After the match:

1. I love you.
2. It was great to see you play.
3. What would you like to eat?

Volunteers Come Through Again!

By Deb Bennett
Volunteer Coordinator

Blaine Soccer Club has now completed the second year of our volunteer program. I'm pleased to announce that our volunteering has increased substantially over the past two years. We were able to keep our tournaments, recreational and traveling programs, and other events well staffed with our parent volunteers. With great pride, we were also able to open our new, much anticipated concession building this fall to eager customers with the help of more great volunteers!

The number of volunteer hours needed to conduct our programs successfully is somewhat astounding. This past year, we had 268 out of 401 traveling team families volunteer at least their required minimum number of hours during the year. That comes to 67% of our families who completed their volunteer hours. Since the goal of the volunteer program is to get our families involved, a 67% completion rate certainly shows that we are accomplishing our goal! This past year, traveling team parents logged in excess of 1675 hours of volunteer time. Based on an hourly rate of minimum wage, that comes to about \$10,000 worth of time donated to our soccer club! GREAT JOB!

We were able to take our volunteer program to new communication heights this past year by adding a Volunteer page on Blaine Soccer Club's website. If you haven't

discovered this great addition yet, be sure to check it out. On the site you can access the Volunteer Commitment Form, making it easier for you to turn in your paperwork and deposit check to your team manager. (These are due by March 16, 2009.) Another document called Volunteer Program Guidelines helps in determining what volunteering activities count toward the required volunteer hours. The third document accessible on the page is the Volunteer Hours Completed Form which can be printed off and used to report hours to your team manager. Of course, the best part about the Volunteer page is that we are able to use it to post new volunteer opportunities as these become available. Keep an eye on this page as new volunteer opportunities which will count towards the 2009 volunteer requirement will be posted within the next month.

New for the 2009 season will be a Volunteer Program Administration Guideline that will be posted on the Volunteer page for team managers' use. We will also be implementing a new method for returning checks which will hopefully get the volunteer deposit check back in your hands much sooner after completing your volunteer hours.

As the year draws to a close, I have been able to take some time to reflect on the events of this past year. My heart is warmed by the thought of the wonderful, kind parents we have in the Blaine Soccer Club. It has been a true joy to work with you and volunteer along side of you during the past year. Although the true sentiment is difficult to express, I want to take the time to tell all of you wonderful volunteers how very much you and your commitment to our children are truly appreciated! THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU GIVE OF YOURSELVES FOR THE LOVE OF SOCCER!!



2009 Important Dates to Remember

Jan 4	6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting at BSC office	Apr 1	Blaine Break Out Registration Deadline
Jan 5	Traveling Team Registration fees & forms was due to BSC	Apr 2	Spring Recreational Program Photos & Summer Recreational Program Walk-In Registration 5:30 - 8 pm
Jan 7	Manager's Meeting - All Traveling Team – 7:00 PM City of Blaine	Apr 5	6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting at BSC office
Jan 20	6pm - 9 pm Spring Recreational Walk-in Registration at BSC office	Apr 9	Summer Recreational Commissioners Meeting – 6 pm at BSC office
Jan 22	BSC Recreational Spring Indoor program Registration Deadline	Apr 21	Summer Recreational Coaches Meeting – 6 pm at BSC office
Jan 29	6:30 pm Spring Indoor Recreational program Commissioners Meeting at BSC office	Apr 25	MYSA Mandatory Coaches Meeting – time & location TBD
Feb 1	12 - 3 pm – BSC Board of Directors Meeting at BSC office	Apr 28	BSC Traveling Coaches Meeting – 6 pm at Fogerty
Feb 6-7	MYSA Winter Symposium at MN Convention Center	May 1-3	Blaine Break Out Tournament
Feb 24	Spring Indoor Recreational Coaches Equipment Pickup 6pm - 8 pm	May 4	MYSA League Play may begin
Mar 1	6 pm – BSC Board of Directors Meeting at BSC office	May 8	6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting at BSC office
Mar 9	Travel Team Coach/team submittals due to MYSA	May 22	North American Challenge Cup Registration Deadline
Mar 16	Traveling Teams Volunteer forms and fees due to BSC	Jun 5	Summer Jr Little Kickers Program begins
Mar 18	Spring Indoor Recreational Program begins at Fogerty Arena	Jun 6-7	Summer Recreational Program Photos
Mar 27	Spring Jr Little Kickers program begins	Jun 7	6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting at BSC office
Mar 30	Spring Recreational Program Photos & Summer Recreational Program Walk-In Registration 5:30 - 8 pm	Jun 15-19	BSC Summer Soccer Skills Camp (9:30 am - Noon)
Mar 31	Spring Recreational Program Photos & Summer Recreational Program Walk-In Registration 5:30 - 8 pm	Jun 26-28	Blaine North American Challenge Cup Tournament
		Jul 11	Summer Recreational League ends

- Jul 12 6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting
at BSC office
- Jul 13 MYSAs Travel League Play Must End
- Jul 16-20 District Play (rain day: July 21)
- Jul 17-19 USA Cup Weekend
- Jul 21-25 USA Cup
- Jul 21 Fall Recreational Program Walk-In Registration
6 pm - 8 pm (& Deadline) at BSC Office
- Jul 23 Opening Ceremonies for MYSAs State
Tournament: Location TBD
- Jul 24 MYSAs State Tournament Begins
- Jul 28 Fall Recreational Program Commissioners
Meeting 6:30 pm at BSC Office
- Jul 31 State Tournament Ends (rain dates: Aug 1-2)
- Aug 2 6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting
at BSC office
- Aug 10 Fall Travel Team/Coach/Player submittals
due to MYSAs
- Aug 13 Fall Recreational Coaches Meeting at BSC
Office 6 - 8 pm
- Aug 16 Tryouts for U14 – U16 Age Groups - TBD
- Aug 27 MYSAs Mandatory Fall Coaches Meeting
- Sep 3 6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting
at BSC office
- Sep 11 Fall Jr Little Kickers program begins

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- Sep 12 Tryouts U9 - U13 Age groups - TBD
MYSAs League Play may begin
Fall Recreational Photos
Fall Recreational League begins
- Sep 13 Tryouts U9 - U13 Age groups – TBD
Fall Recreational Photos
Fall Recreational League begins
- Sep 14 Tryouts U9 - U13 Age groups – TBD
- Sep 28 BSC Annual General Meeting (AGM)
- Oct 4 6 pm - BSC Board of Directors Meeting
at BSC office

BSC Board Members

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