

Mansfield Soccer Association

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

APRIL 2015

From the President

Tim McCann



Welcome to Volume 1 Issue 1 of the inaugural edition of the Mansfield Soccer Association newsletter. In our continuing effort to provide a higher quality family experience we have decided to publish a newsletter from time to time. Our initial plan is to publish quarterly. The newsletter will improve our communication with you and will also allow us to provide helpful educational articles. It will provide a means for us to share what distinguishes us from other associations, our **Mission, Vision, and Values** which

help to distinguish us from other Associations.

We believe that our newly identified Mission, Vision, and Values will guide us in our actions and help you understand what we believe is important to developing the character of your

children and the goals we set for MSA.



Our Mission is: *To develop a life-long love of the game.*

This mission is true for the children, parents, coaches, and administrators. If families are having fun and are seeing their kids develop into the young adults that they wish them to be, they will continue to come back and they will love the game for life.

Some of the items from our Vision statement are:
To provide a High Quality

Soccer

Experience, and be **Family Oriented**. We wish to put **Families first**.

We wish to be **community oriented**. We want to develop the **character** of children; not just soccer skills. We want to develop **behaviors** that will help them be better individuals such as how to deal with adversity, how to be a good sport, how to address conflict, how to accept criticism, and what it means

to be a team player.

We look forward to sharing more of our Mission, Vision, and Values, and goals with you in the future. We certainly want to hear from you as well. Please take the time to read the newsletter and give us your feedback.

Tim McCann
President, MSA



*"Unless you feel
good about what
you do everyday,
you won't do it
with much
conviction or
passion."
Mia Hamm, World
Cup and Olympic
Champion*

Meet Your Commissioner's

The commissioners are volunteers and many of them also coach teams. They are responsible for team formations and they lead their

respective lottery selection for players in the draft pool. They are your first line of contact for questions and issues that affect your

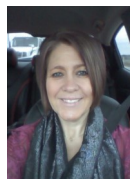
age group. In addition to volunteering as commissioners, some of them coach and perform Board Member on Duty each soccer weekend.



U5 Boys
Chuck



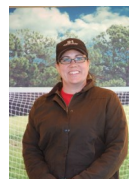
U6 Boys
Evelyn



U7 Boys
D'Ayn



U8 Boys
Duane



U9/U10
Jen



U11 Up Boys / Girls
Jason



Brad

U5 Girls



Marco

U6 Girls



Valerie

U7 Girls



Marlon

U8 Girls



Kendra

U9/U10 Girls



Beth

Dynamites

Meet Your Executive Board



President
Tim



1st VP
A&D Chair
Debbie



2nd VP
Awards / Schedule
Johnny

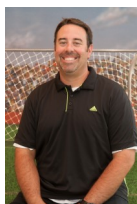


Treasurer
Anke



Secretary
Dave

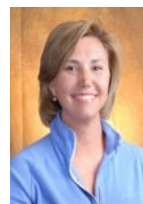
Meet The Other Board Members



Director of Fields & Games
Ben



Director of Referees



Registrar
Office Manager
Traci



Web Master
Jason

Coaching Director / Referee Director



Referees are part of the game

many coaches feel that yelling and screaming will accomplish something. Those coaches are right, they accomplish something, but not what they want-

ed. All they usually do is get themselves in trouble. Here are some suggestions to help you get along with your referees.

--- DEALING WITH REFEREES ---

1- Most important, remember

that referees are human, and will make mistakes. If you go into the game **knowing and understanding that you will not agree with every call that is made**, then you will do 100% better.

2- If you disagree with a call, think about where you were, where the foul was, and where the referee was. More than likely, the referee had a different view of the events than you did, and may have seen something that you couldn't see.

More on page 4

REPRINTED from "The Pitch"

Referees are definitely a large part of the game, and therefore, coaches need to know how to deal with them. Too

Why I Stopped Yelling

When my son played rec basketball, I was one of those parents that constantly yelled instructions to him. "Get to the middle", "you are not hustling", "That's your man" "You should have been there" When he was on the floor, I was yelling. One day I was talking to him about basketball and asking why he isn't doing this or doing that like I said. In that moment, I

learned a hard lesson about me and my son's fun meter. I was taking the fun and his ability to learn the game away with my actions on the sidelines. He said "Dad you make me nervous". He went on to say when you are yelling at me I can't think, I just hear you and the yelling makes me nervous so I can't concentrate because I am nervous and afraid I am going to disappoint

you. The lesson I learned is that when I'm yelling it may be my attempt to help him get better. My intentions were good but my delivery was bad. What I learned that day is to give him encouragement from the sideline like "good play", "way to hustle" but give him the constructive criticism when the emotions of the game is done and we can talk and he can ask questions.

"Kids stop playing sports because adults take the fun out of the game"

Fields are closed due to wet field conditions....

This season in particular we, soccer parents, have seen that email more than we would like; especially on game day. But why does a "little rain" cause a problem? Kids, cleats and clothes are washable, just let the kids play! Right?!

A better way to look at the field closure notification is to replace the word "wet" with either of the following words "poor" or "unsafe". That completely changes the issue for most parents. The

truth is a little rain will not close the fields. However, if there is standing water or the fields are saturated then the field status must be carefully reviewed. This is done, here at Mansfield Soccer Association, by our Director of Fields and Games walking the fields with the City of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Specialist. The city is evaluating the fields to determine if the cleats and field traffic will rip the turf to the point that repairs will

need to be made. Not only is the city personnel looking at the turf, but also how the understructure will be affected. If the field will be "rutted"; then they will not allow play.

MSA looks at the fields from a safety point of view. Is the turf going to "hold" as players try to make "cuts and turns" or is there a chance a player will

More on page 5

Referee Director / Coaching Director

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Referees are part of the game

Also, remember that it works the other way as well. There is no humanly way possible that the referee can see everything that happens in a game. They don't have 360 degree vision, nor do they have x-ray vision. So, next time you start to get upset, try to think about the angle that the referee had on the play.

3- Don't raise your voice to, or touch a referee. Either one can be taken as trying to intimidate the official, and that will only get you in trouble. Remember to fol-

low the Golden Rule and before you act, try to think about how you would want to be treated.

4- If you have a question about a call, use half-time, quarters, or after the game, to POLITELY ask the referee why the call was or wasn't made. Keep your self calm and polite. Also, once the referee has answered your question, don't try to argue your point or criticize the referee. It will do you no good to argue because once a call is made, there is nothing that can be done to change it.

"Do you ever wonder where our referees come from? A large majority of them are our own sons and daughters. Next time, before you yell at that referee, ask yourself; would you be yelling if that was your own daughter? How would you feel if that was your son out there listening to the screaming coming from your sideline? Would it seem abusive if it was your child on the receiving end? Let's be positive for our children!"

Tim McCann

See the chart on the next page showing the number of Referees that register and don't return the following season

C stands for Coaching - not Criticism

Criticism - constructive criticism - is an essential part of coaching but it needs to be done in the right way.

If you constantly nag at a player: "Joe, I've told you too many times, "aim at the corners of the goal when you shoot", or you can be even more harsh with them: "Lucy, that's a terrible pass", they will carry your words like a millstone around their neck on match days.

Joe will be too scared to shoot at all and Lucy will be tempted to kick the ball anywhere rather than attempt, and fail again, to make a decent pass.

The Praise/Coach/Encourage (PCE) method

Instead of jumping straight in with a critical comment ("Joe, you need to shoot at the corners of the goal, not straight at the "keeper") use the PCE method instead and try to help the player come up with their own solution to the problem.

For example:

Praise: "Joe, you're getting into some great positions in front of goal."

Coach: "Where do you think the goalkeeper would find it hard to save a shot?"

Joe: "In the corner of the goal?"

Encourage: Yes, the corners. Try to aim at the corners next time you get a chance to shoot - you'll score more goals that way!

Lucy's coach could take her aside and say:

Praise: "Lucy, I love the way you're always looking to pass the ball instead of losing it."

Coach: "Why do you think some of your passes don't reach the person you're trying to pass to?"

Lucy: "Because I don't hit the ball hard enough?"

More on page 5

Coaching Director

Continued from page 4

C stands for Coaching—not Criticism

Yes, sometimes you don't hit the ball hard enough. Would you like me to show you how to hit it harder?

["Yes", followed by a quick demonstration by you]

Encourage: "That's much better! Now let's see if you can pass the ball like that in a match."

Always:

A) Focus on what a player does well rather than what they are not so good at.

B) Help them to get better by Praising/Coaching/Encouraging, not criticizing.

Positive Reinforcement (PR)

Alternatively, don't criticize or even use PCE.

Instead, ignore behavior that you don't want to see (mis-hitting passes, failure to control a ball properly, not spotting an opportunity to shoot, etc.) and use positive reinforcement.

PR involves giving a "reward" - such as praising a player in front of their team mates - for good behavior, following training instructions or performing a skill.

By creating an association between good behavior and positive feelings, your players will wish to receive further rewards and will continue to exhibit the desired behavior, be it passing/shooting effectively or simply listening to your instructions.

For example:

You want your midfielders to run back and help out defenders when the other team has the ball. One of your midfielders is clearly not keen to put the effort in. Instead of criticizing that player or offering PCE, ignore them and praise the players who are getting back to help in defense.

It won't be long before he/she is trying to get back into de-

fense to receive some nice PR too.

Conclusion

Children play soccer for fun, not to be criticized.

Whether they use PCE, PR or another method, a thoughtful coach will find ways to encourage or improve their player's skills/behavior without resorting to demoralizing statements such as "that was a terrible shot!" or useless criticism such as "why don't you hit the ball harder when you pass?".

Fields are closed due to wet field conditions....

Continued from page 3

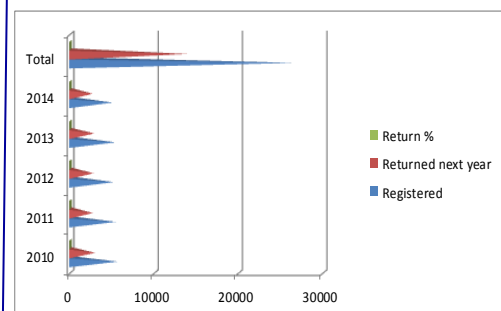
have their feet go out from underneath them? Will the ground become uneven to the point that as a player is looking up for the pass, they will not see the rut, hole, divot, or other turf issue that will cause them to lose their footing, putting them off balance thus creating a potential unsafe condition for them or the players around them?

MSA will always put player safety

first and while we cannot foresee every problem and issues, we will always strive to ensure that games are played in a safe and controlled environment.

So while this has been a very frustrating season, this too will pass, this is after all Texas and eventually we will all complain that we need rain and the fields are too hard.

Statistic of returning refs





Mansfield Soccer Association

2363 Hwy 287 North, Suite 206

Mansfield, Texas 76063

MSA Message Line = 817.473.1177

Fax Number = 817.473.7786

MSA Game Day Status Line 817-473-1177

E-mail: registrar@mansfieldsoccer.org

Office Hours

Monday-Morning	10:00am - 1:00 pm
Monday-Evening	5:00pm - 7:00 pm
Tuesday	10:00am - 1:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00pm - 1:00 pm
Thursday	10:00am - 1:00pm

Edna



Office Support
Staff

We are about whole family fun not just the individual

www.mansfieldsoccer.org

Women's World Cup Watch Party here in Mansfield



THE WORLD IN OUR OWN **BACKYARD**

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP 2015

**USA VS SWEDEN
WATCH PARTY**

FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH 3 PM-9:30 PM
KATHERINE ROSE PARK, MANSFIELD

Bring your chairs and blankets

Come Enjoy fun and games

Make it a family event fun for all ages

- ⚽ 5K RUN-1 MILE WALK ⚽ SPEED KICKS
- ⚽ SOCCER GOLF ⚽ SOCCER CROQUET
- ⚽ SOCCER POOL ⚽ SOCCER VOLLEYBALL
- ⚽ **108 SQ. FT SCREEN**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE MSA OFFICE AT 817.473.1177
OR VISIT WWW.MANSFIELDSOCCER.ORG WWW.MANSFIELDREVOLUTION.COM