

At the 2010 Annual General Meeting, club results were reviewed. It was a good year for Hockessin Soccer as a result of the clubs focus on teaching soccer and emphasis on development at all levels. Here are a few highlights.

Representative Soccer:

- State cup and regional results were excellent. Details are outlined elsewhere on this page
- We had 42 Representative teams last year, approx 600 players
- Improvement individually and as teams was generally seen at all levels.
- We have a strong group of coaches and trainers. One of our trainers (Dave Scruggs) moved on to a Director of Coaching role in Norfolk. We added four highly skilled trainers this year.
- Our Developmental Academy was expanded to U11 this year and continues to provide excellent training to all level teams while minimizing costs.
- We had the largest numbers of children coming to tryouts ever and were able to form multiple teams at 11 of our 14 age groups through (U9 – U15) and a few older. In some age groups we formed three teams. At U9 we were able to form four U9 boys and two U9 girls teams.
- Our next focus will be on how to add and improve support for the college bound soccer player within our older age groups.

Instructional Soccer:

- Over a thousand children had fun playing soccer and learning new skills as part of the Hockessin Soccer Instructional Program (Fall 09 – over 1000, Winter 09 – 200+, Spring 09 – over 900 as well as those attending Top Soccer and 100+ 3-year olds).
- The program continues to focus on fun and skill development. We introduced more balanced instructional team formation and continued the initiative of improving: (1) coach support and (2) communication with coaches and parents. Visit our expanded website to get up-to-date information on season schedules and other important information!
- Trainer led sessions for U8s expanded to 2-3 sessions per season per team
- We continue to add interclub play opportunities, especially at older age groups.

Fields:

- Hockessin manages twenty-three fields in twelve locations. Hockessin continues to develop its fields improving grass density and reducing fertilizer use while realizing cost savings from wise management. All Hockessin fields improved and we continue to make effective use of the turf. Lower Tweeds and Upper Tweeds were used extensively this year as was North Star, lower HB, and Brandywine.
- Our philosophy of using all our fields for training does limit our ability to develop showcase fields, but we continue to think the tradeoff worthwhile.
- Our ongoing growth and success will place continued pressure on fields (we need to be looking for more).
- Thanks to Gary Lauderman and John Perrone for their help in managing and maintaining our fields.

Finances:

- Hockessin had a small positive cash-flow in 2009-2010 for the first time in many a year. This is a credit to our support from our families, our volunteers and the excellent cost containment efforts of all.
- Our critical improvement is to develop fundraising and capital planning to cover future large expenses.

Staff

- The club continues to enjoy excellent support from our Director of Coaching – Scott Mosier, Club Coordinator – Lindsay LoPilato and our Bookkeeper / Registrar – Melody McNulty.
 - Scott's development of trainers, coaches, curriculum and training has been crucial to the success on the field and the development of players at all levels.
 - Lindsay has worked numerous improvements in our operations and communications.

- Melody's work as registrar is appreciated by all every season, her role as bookkeeper has been a key part of the financial success above.

We signed Scott to a new five year contract as Director of Coaching.

Tournaments:

- HSC hosted four successful tournaments over the past year.
 - The 4th annual Spooktacular instructional 3 v 3 tournament was held in October 2009. It was the largest ever with over 70 teams participating from U8 thru High School age groups.
 - HSC was once again selected by DYSA to host the Kohl's America Cup instructional tournament. Kohl's, a 2-day event held in November each year, had 70 teams participate from U10 thru High School age groups. Everyone enjoyed great soccer within a fun festival atmosphere.
 - The Spring Classic representative soccer tournament held in March this year had over 120 teams from CT, DE, MD, NJ, and PA. This tournament continues to grow in both number and quality of participating teams. The Spring Classic earned Got Soccer 'Silver' level tournament classification.
 - Using the successful model of the Spooktacular, HSC held the first Springtacular instructional 3 v 3 tournament in May of this year. It was well attended with 58 teams from U6 thru U14 age groups participating. The addition of the U6 level was very well received and will be included in all of our 3 v 3 tournaments going forward.
- HSC continues to get rave reviews for how we run a tournament (thank you volunteers!). We are looking at adding a winter turf tournament to the schedule in 2011.

Communication and donations:

- The board, staff and volunteers continue to work hard to improve the way we operate and communicate:
 - Better use of community advertising to both communicate upcoming programs and to acknowledge successes.
 - More presence on web sites such as DE-preps to help communicate about HSC.
 - Formal and informal engagement with the county and out neighbors.
 - Improved use of email and of our own web site.

Volunteers:

- From our hardworking board to the person who lines a field, hundreds of people put many thousands of hours into making soccer possible for 1600+ children each year. Thank you all for your efforts.
- A special thanks to the generous donations of the many companies that support our club through the banner program. Please support our partners displayed on banners around the turf field. Fund raising remains an area of opportunity for the club and will be needed if we are to achieve some of our long term goals.
- Your board managed a strong year as well as dealing with some unexpected events such as the issue of temporary lights in late fall on the turf field.