

# Ohio Premier Newsletter



**Issue Date: August 26, 2008**

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**[www.opsoccer.com](http://www.opsoccer.com)**

# DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT

## BY: RUTH RUDIBAUGH

**OP INVITATIONAL:** For those of you that might be new to the Club, we are busy preparing for the 10th Annual OP Invitational soccer tournament which will be held September 13-14 at both Darree and Avery Parks. This is our Club's largest fundraiser and we need a great deal of volunteers to make it a success. OP will host 142 teams, largely from outside the Columbus area, drawing teams from St. Louis, Knoxville, Pittsburgh, etc. Please mark your calendar to help as a tournament volunteer. We will be sending out information regarding online sign up soon so please give generously of your time!

**FUNDRAISING:** Our program ad fundraiser has ended. For those of you that sold ads, your credit will appear on your online player account in October. I will also be adding the first installment of scrip credits at that time. Kudos to all of you that have been purchasing scrips! Sales are up roughly 15% compared to this time last year. At OP, we are happy to offer these programs to help you offset your player fees. Also, if at any time you would like to know your scrip credit balance, please email me and I will gladly supply you with that information. I can always be reached at [admin@opsoccer.com](mailto:admin@opsoccer.com).

**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** We are very proud to report that our Ohio Premier players have been busy taking part in community service events throughout the summer. We had several kids participate as 'buddies' in the Miracle League program, helping youngsters play baseball at our local 'field of dreams' at Darree Park and we also had a group of kids and parents work with the Hope Street Kids campaign at the Columbus Zoo. On behalf of OP, thank you for reaching out and helping others! We will also plan to have a holiday food drive this fall so watch your OP email for more information.

**FEES:** Lastly as a reminder for the professionally coached program, your second fee installment is due September 1st.

If you are in need of a copy of the fee schedule, please let me know.

Have a wonderful,  
safe and successful  
fall season!

**GO OP!!**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **BY: MIKE ZAZON**

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. While most of the club was on hiatus, we still had many things happening. As you know by now, Willie Gage accepted a position on the coaching staff of the Charlotte Women's soccer team. Chris King and Kevin Dougherty are now our Directors of Coaching. Kevin is focusing on the U9 – U14 age groups while Chris is working with the older age groups. We also have added several new coaches to our staff which will allow both Kevin and Chris to visit with many more teams so your daughter can benefit from all of their technical and tactical soccer experience.

Another exciting change we have been working on this summer occurred in our relationship with Ohio State Sports Medicine. We are developing a collaborative effort with their new strength and conditioning coaches to work with our staff and players to enhance on field performance of our teams. This effort will include weight training, aerobic conditioning, ACL injury prevention, sports psychology, and nutrition. All of this will also include OSU working with us at our indoor facility. Stayed tuned for programming announcements as they develop.

Lastly, I want to welcome all of you that are new to our club and thank all of our parents for allowing us to be part of your daughter's soccer development. As parents, we all play a huge part in our child's growth as soccer players as we show them good sportsmanship through our behavior on the sidelines as well as helping them understand our coach's long term development plan for them and their team. During matches, be great cheerleaders but let the coaches coach. One of the things that make us the great club we are is the focused approach to developing our players into being the best soccer players they can possibly be. It involves a long term vision that our coaches work very hard to keep intact for each player and team. Patience from everyone is crucial in the success of this game plan. Please keep the bigger picture in mind as you watch your soccer matches this year and as you dialogue with your daughter on her development with her soccer skills. We are truly blessed with one of the best coaching staffs dedicated to the development of our girls as soccer players and their growth as individuals.

Enjoy the year. Go OP!

# **DIRECTORS OF COACHING REPORT**

## **BY: KEVIN DOUGHERTY**

OP Parents and Players,

Welcome to a new year with Ohio Premier Girls Soccer club! The summer was very productive and busy for the Directors. We added many new faces to the coaching staff, and each has unique coaching qualities that will add to our training methodologies. Please welcome the following coaches to the OP family: Goalkeeper coach, Chad Prickett; U9 White coach, Melissa Henn; U9 Black coach, Carrie Weigand; U11 Black and U12 Black, coach Fabyan Saxe; U14 White coach, Joe Bonvillain; and U14 Black and U15 Black coach, Keith Scarlett. Please make them feel welcome when you see them on the field. The OP family would also like to welcome back Chris Baer, as coach of the U13 Green team. It is great to have him back! We will add one or two more faces to the staff in the upcoming months.

Chris King has been elevated to Co-Director of Coaching with his responsibilities focusing on high school age teams and the WPSL Women's team. Chris is excited about his new role with the club and looks forward to improving our services to these players.

The Fall Season at OP is always a great experience for the staff as we see new faces and start the yearlong journey. In short, we spend a great deal of time making our players technically proficient with the ball. We are asking the players to get out of their comfort zones and try new things on the field. It is a great time to experience soccer by taking risks in the GAME! The players are encouraged to be creative and to not fear failure. The staff understands this might lead to awkward moments on the field, but they are patient and know that long term the players will become more efficient and skillful as the demands of the game increase.

As we begin the journey with your daughters please provide and encourage patience, enthusiasm and at times comfort to the girls as they find their way on the field. As our teams take the field, it is important for you to be positive and cheer for them when they try new things regardless of their success rate. I will say that as we travel around the city, state and country, OP is always well received and thought of as a classy organization. Let's continue the good work on the sidelines and not get caught up in the moment and let your emotions take over.

## REMINDERS FROM THE DIRECTORS OF COACHING

OSU Trainer Maggie McGinty will be available out at Darree around 7 pm each Tuesday for our players. She is there to help with diagnosis and to give further direction, if needed, on injuries. She will be overseeing rehab and assisting in getting the injured back on the field as well as keeping our players healthy.

New this year: Maggie will also be providing talks on some common injuries, treatment protocol, as well as other topics.

These will be on the calendar soon. If you have time while waiting to pick up your daughters, stop by and learn something about injuries and injury prevention. Maggie has been a huge asset to OP and she really enjoys being around our players. OSU provides Maggie to our club and continues to offer educational opportunities to the staff and to our parents. We look forward to another great year with OSU Sports Medicine.

We will be offering skills sessions on Sunday nights at Darree Fields shortly. Please check the website and your emails for dates and times.

The OP Invitational is around the corner. We are in need of volunteers.

Information will be sent out soon to sign up online to volunteer your time. The event is always a hit with the teams who come due to OP having many people who go out of their way to make the weekend a success.

OSU has a few dates where they are in need of ball girls. I will be receiving dates and times of the remaining home games and pass this along to our Parent Administrators. OP shirts are often seen in the crowd or on the field in OSU media releases.

Darree and Avery are in great shape. It would go along way if you could contact the City of Dublin and thank them for providing exceptional playing surfaces for our girls.

*OSU Night is September 5<sup>th</sup>. The OSU Women will be taking on the Charlotte Women's soccer team, where past OP Directors of Coaching, Jon Lipsitz and Willie Gage will now lead their team into the Jesse Stadium against our Buckeyes. Jon and Willie were instrumental people to OP and it will be nice to see them again, but let's be sure we cheer our Buckeye's onto victory. The Buckeye Women are great role models for our players and love having them at the games. We will be tailgating before the game and hope to have EVERYONE from OP in attendance. Details to follow!*

## **UNIFORM COORDINATORS REPORT**

### **BY: KATHY SCHLEMITZ**

Another successful uniform cycle is coming to a close. About 2/3 of the Clubs uniforms have been delivered. Apparel AND spirit wear has not been delivered, but will be here in time for the cool days of fall.

If anyone is in need of extra socks, shorts or warm-up pants, simply head over to Soccer Plus in Westerville, off Cleveland Avenue North. Let them know that you are with OP and you will receive the items at OP pricing (if they are in stock).

Here is to a great Fall/Spring Season!!

## **OSU NIGHT**

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 7:30 PM**

#### **OSU WOMEN'S SOCCER VS. CHARLOTTE WOMEN'S SOCCER**

PLEASE LET YOUR TEAM PA KNOW BY WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27  
HOW MANY TICKETS YOU NEED. THEY ARE \$3 PER PERSON!  
WE WILL BE PURCHASING THEM AS A CLUB.  
YOUR PA WILL PICK THEM UP AT WILL-CALL AND  
DISTRIBUTE TO THE TEAMS.

**WE WILL BE TAILGATING BEFORE THE GAME...DETAILS COMING SOON!**

## **PUBLICITY REPORT**

### **BY: ANGIE WEBER**

It is great to be kicking off another year of soccer! Time to get back into the swing of soccer schedules and games!

If you have any pictures that you would like to have submitted to the local newspapers, I will be happy to do that for you. All you need to do is send me the photo (preferably in JPEG format), and send me the following information:

- Names, in order, of the kids and coach in the photo
- The cities the kids are from, so I cover their local area
- Name and location of the tournament
- The score of the final game and the opponent

Please send the information to [\*\*angie.weber@att.net\*\*](mailto:angie.weber@att.net).

**SUPPORT OUR CLUB WITH THESE  
FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES**

**SAVE THE DATE:  
OCTOBER 18TH**

**OP WILL HOST THE FIRST ANNUAL  
CASINO NIGHT**

**BLACK DIAMOND CASINO WILL LEAD THE EVENT  
WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE INDOOR FACILITY.**

**DETAILS TO COME SOON, WATCH YOUR EMAIL!!!**

**PLAN TO ATTEND THIS ENTERTAINING EVENT TO HELP SUPPORT  
THE CLUB AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!!!**

**HELP SUPPORT**

**The OHIO PREMIER GIRLS SOCCER CLUB!**

**When you purchase AT&T services through the process below,  
AT&T will give up to \$225 to the OP GIRLS SOCCER CLUB!**

Call **1-866-538-2148** to order.

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# Ohio Premier Juniors Academy Fall 2008



## WHAT IS THE JUNIORS ACADEMY?

The Ohio Premier Juniors Academy is an exceptional co-ed soccer program. The goals for the Ohio Premier Juniors program are:

### FUN, TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT and SPORTSMANSHIP

**FUN** comes first, because when children enjoy soccer, learning takes care of itself – they want to come back for “more”.

**TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT** is vital, for without basic skills, players are limited in their athletic expression and their enjoyment of soccer is reduced. The OP Juniors aims to instill a solid technical base in each player, so that they are ready for U9 travel soccer.

**SPORTSMANSHIP** is crucial. Soccer is a team sport, so players must absorb the basic elements of **SPORTSMANSHIP**: teamwork, cooperation, listening, basic work ethic, and attention to instruction. Even if a player does not continue with soccer, these elements of **SPORTSMANSHIP** will serve them well in school, work and life.

## WHAT AGES IS THE JUNIOR ACADEMY FOR?

U5 and U6 (players born between Aug. 1, 2002 and July 31, 2004)  
U7, U8 and U9 (players born between Aug. 1, 1999 and July 31, 2002)

## WHAT DO THEY DO DURING A SESSION?

Players meet once per week to work on various individual soccer skills and play small sided games.

## WHERE IS THE JUNIORS ACADEMY HELD?

Sessions will take place at Darree Park in Dublin.  
If there is bad weather they will be held at the Ohio Premier Sports Complex.

## WHAT IS THE COST?

**\$0 (FREE) for all DSL and DMTSO players**  
**\$40 for all others**

Includes 8 on-field practice/game sessions and OP Juniors Training T-shirt

## WHAT ARE THE DATES AND TIMES?

<p>U5 and U6 FALL SESSIONS Sundays, 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM</p> <p>September: 7, 14, 21, 28 October: 5, 12, 19, 26</p>	<p>U7, U8 and U9 FALL SESSIONS Sundays, 6:15 PM to 7:30 PM</p> <p>September: 7, 14, 21, 28 October: 5, 12, 19, 26</p>
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## HOW DO I SIGN MY CHILD UP FOR THIS GREAT PROGRAM?

You can register on-line at [www.opsoccer.com](http://www.opsoccer.com)

**EVERY CHILD NEEDS TO BRING THE FOLLOWING TO EACH SESSION: WATER, SHINGUARDS AND A BALL**