

AYSA Spring 2008 Newsletter

Welcome to Spring Soccer in Amherst! In our great community, we have more than 800 children between the ages of 4 and 14 participating in the Amherst Youth Soccer Association. That is an impressive number! Equally impressive are the number of volunteer coaches that dedicate their time to teaching sportsmanship, foot skills, proper ball handling and team work to the children. We have the parents on the side line cheering for their favorite team in every kind of weather and always providing the young players with energy replenishing snacks after the game. The referee is the most underappreciated part of soccer, yet the ref holds a key role in keeping our children safe during the game. Together the players, coaches, parents and referee can make participating in an evening of soccer, a fabulous way to spend an afternoon in Amherst, Ohio.

New to AYSA! We now have an exciting web site in which to check out AYSA happenings. We encourage you to bookmark this website as one of your favorites and log on to see what is going on in Amherst soccer. Thank you, Scott Rakare for creating this website and encouraging coaches to send information to keep it up to date. Check out www.aysaohio.com

Coaches, when you need to update your registration with Kids Safe at www.oysan.org please use the following code: **45878** instead of your credit card. AYSA board is covering your \$5.00 fee.



From our president: On behalf of the Amherst Youth Soccer Association, I would like to welcome everyone to our monthly meetings held every third Thursday of the month at 8:00pm at the Nordson depot. We are in need of volunteers and workers for our upcoming fundraisers; our annual golf outing in August and our annual steak fry after the fall season. Any way you or your team can help directly benefits your team with funds to off-set costs for in-

door play, uniforms, foot skills or tournament play. For further details contact me at 213-7394. ~Mark Varouh, AYSA President

LCSL: The Lorain County Soccer League is a recreational youth league for age groups U7 through U14. The league's definition of recreational indicates that the use of tryouts and selective recruiting of players based on talent or ability is not allowed. League rules require that each player play at least one-half of each game except for reasons of injury, illness or discipline. Currently the LCSL has teams playing from 11 communities all located in Lorain County. The Amherst Youth Soccer Association is currently sponsoring 26 LCSL teams with 320 children registered.

Recently the county league adopted new format rules. Starting with the 2007-2008 season, the U9 & U10 age groups have changed to a 6v6 format with smaller roster sizes and smaller fields. Starting with the 2008-2009 season the U8 age group will change to a 4v4 format using no goal keeper with a maximum roster of 8 players. These changes have been mandated by the Ohio Youth Soccer Association North (OYSAN) which is the leagues sanctioning organization. Fewer players on the field helps the kids develop better soccer skills because they get more touches on the ball and they get more involved in the play both offensively and defensively.

Additional information about the LCSL including team schedules and standings can be found on the league website at www.loraincountysoccer.org. To find out more information about OYSAN, visit www.oysan.org.

If you have questions or comments about the county league, please email or phone me. ~ Dennis Hoven
djhoven@centurytel.net Amherst Rep - LCSL, 440-984-3858

NOGSL info: There are 9 Northern Ohio Girls Soccer League teams this season in Amherst. The packets for fall team registration will be here soon, so teams may want to think about tryouts, bracketing requests, etc. for next year. June 16th is the team registration date.

Change ---- This fall, NOGSL will have all 12 year olds as 8v8 teams. In the past they had the option of 8v8 or 11v11.
~ Pam Prieto, Amherst Rep - NOGSL

FYI - there is "talk" of merging AASL and NOGSL into one league.
Interesting...more to follow as info becomes available...

Summer Soccer Camps

How about extra soccer training this summer? Are you aware of camps right here in Amherst?

In June the Amherst Steele Comet Soccer Boys team is holding their annual youth soccer camp. A form can be downloaded by going to www.amherst.k12.oh.us, click on "Steele high school" click on "sports" and you will find the link to the registration information.

The second camp offered is for girls only and is offered by the Amherst Steele Lady Comet Soccer team in July. The registration information for this camp is attached to this newsletter.

Attention Coaches! Registration info! All teams should register their current team as a whole (in-house-County or any travel not needing tryouts). We are trying to prevent walk ups that currently play to avoid placing on new or other existing teams. As an incentive, every coach that registers their existing team in full will be given an extra **\$50.00** for indoor use, for the upcoming season. For registration, each coach will need to get a current roster of players, make copies of registration forms (found at the OYSAN.org web site) have them filled out by parents and returned to reps by June 1st. New players can request coaches, but only if numbers warrant will they be placed accordingly. Costs will be 60.00/In-house and 85.00/LCSL, AASL, or NOGSL. Checks made payable to AYSA. Anyone making the move from in-house to county (LCSL) or county to travel should contact their rep for registration details (birth certificates and Pictures).

Interviews with the Players

Gracie Semon - LCSL U8

Coaches - Chuck Barnes and Jeff Hornyak

What I like about my coaches: *I like my coaches because they are funny and they are fun too!*

My favorite thing we play at practice: *The game where we all dribble around the center circle and one girl tries to kick the ball out. The last person who has a ball left wins!*

Favorite position: *I like to play goalie because I can run, slide and dive, and even run up and down the field sometimes!*

Gracie's best soccer memory: *The last game was great because we ended up tying 3 to 3 because I got the ball and kicked it really hard to the other side. Then someone kicked it in and we scored at the last second!*

Cadence Myers - LCSL and NOGSL U9

Coaches - Allison Bescak and Mike Brosky

What I like about the coaches: *They give us lots of playing time and they don't yell at us when we do something wrong. They tell us about it and then show us what to do next time. They say "nice try" and cheer us on.*

Fun thing about practice - *we divide up and scrimmage*

Best position - *Midfield because then I can do the corner kicks and free kicks.*

Favorite Memory - *I got a great goal with my left foot in the high corner!*

Patrick Barrett - AASL U10

Coach - Dave Salinas

Favorite soccer Memory - *I scored my first Header goal! I've had two header goals! One this year and one last year.*

Best Position - *Midfield because I can score and stop people from scoring.*

Fun game at practice that Coach lets us play - *World Cup*

Taylor Wright - LCSL and NOGSL U12

Coaches - Carlos Pina, Carolyn Hamm, Jeff Deel,
Michael Kossow

What I like about the coaches - *They're really nice and they're good at explaining things*

Favorite position - *goalie because it involves lots of diving, especially when it's wet!*

Best game to play at practice - *Power and Finesse*

Great soccer memory - *Last Wednesday when it was really wet and I had lots of action and lots of diving!*

**Amherst VFW
AYSA Coaches Training in
Basic First Aid and CPR**

What: How to put together an emergency plan for your team, emergency cards, CPR and AED training, & basic first aid review.

When: September 2008

Time: To be determined
(Lunch will be provided)

Where: Amherst VFW (Cleveland Ave.)

RSVP: August 1st

This course is being sponsored by the Amherst VFW. Every coach will be given an emergency first aid kit for their teams, and training in CPR, basic first aid, and AED units for the fields. This is a non-certification course for 3 hours. If you would like to be certified please let us know when you sign up. If we get 10 coaches interested we can offer the certification course as well. That course is 5 ½ hours long.

If you are already certified in CPR and first aid you will not have to participate in the training. You will have to provide us with a copy of your certification card on the day of training and pick up your information. If you participated in the spring training session for Amherst Athletic Association you are covered for soccer in the fall.

**To sign up please contact, Misty Kelley at
988-2004 or cometkelleys@aol.com.**

Amherst Youth Soccer Association Golf Scramble

When : Saturday August 2ndth 2008

**Where : Thunderbird Hills South Course
Corner of Rt. 2 and State Rt 13
Huron, Ohio**

Time : Shot-Gun Start 8:00am

Format : 4 – Man Scramble

Cost: \$70.00 Per Person Which Includes; 18 Holes of Golf w/Cart, All the Beverages you can drink, Lunch at Noon and a Steak Dinner upon Conclusion.

Contact : Mark Varouh 213-7394, Jim Ferguson 522-8114, TJ Harris 610-9416

Misc: Cash Prizes,Door Prizes, 50/50 Raffle Prizes, Skins Game, Closet to Pin, Longest Drive...ETC.

**Amherst Youth Soccer Association
183 Alexander Ave.
Amherst, Ohio 44001**

To whom it may concern,

We are the parents of the Amherst Youth Soccer Association, and as part of a fundraising committee for an 18-hole golf scramble, we are actively seeking individuals and businesses that can either:

1. Donate an increment of (\$50.00, \$100.00, \$200.00...etc.) to be a hole sponsor. The donations are **tax deductible** and will determine the size and wording of you or your business message in our pamphlet for the outing. Special recognition will be given to those who donate \$500.00 or more. **Make Checks payable to A.Y.S.A**
2. Prize Donations: This can include Gift Certificates, Merchandise, Apparel etc.
3. Golfers: 4 per team scramble format.

The outing will be August 02, 2008 at **Thunderbird Hills – South Course** with a shot-gun start at 8:00am. Cost per golfer will be \$70.00, which includes eighteen holes of golf w/cart, lunch at the turn and steak dinner after 18. This is our seventh, and hopefully with generous support an annual event for the Soccer Association. The size of our leagues has nearly doubled in the last 5 years and we need to add and maintain new fields, equipment, uniforms and various other necessities. We would appreciate any way you as an individual or your business can assist our organization. All proceeds and profits benefit the Amherst Youth Soccer Association. **Please respond by July 19, 2008** with donations and if you would like to enter a foursome for golf so that we can plan our program guide and prize distributions. Any questions or comments we can be reached at the address listed below or call **(440)213-7394 Mark**

**Amherst Youth Soccer Association
c/o Mark Varouh
183 Alexander Ave.
Amherst, Ohio 44001**

Sincerely,
Mark Varouh