



RAY'S SOCCER REPORT

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF ROSSVILLE AREA YOUTH SOCCER

SUMMER 2007 ISSUE

Special Thanks

Mark Genda of Bodine Funeral Home who supplied the tent during camp

Presidential Address...

by Randy Long

We have a full and successful season of spring travel soccer behind us. We fielded 4 teams and combined with Carroll County Youth Soccer for another. We also had 2 teams in the Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance. Those 7 teams provided approximately 90 players with the opportunity to have fun while developing and improving as soccer players. We also experienced some difficulties that one should expect when growing and trying new things. I appreciate the hard work and diligent efforts of all that helped and the patience of those that struggled with us.

Our goal for travel soccer this fall is a U-10 girls and U-10 boys in Lafayette, U-12 girls, U-12 boys and a coed U-14. This will require more coaches, additional uniforms and more work from a group that is already stretched thin. What we need is more people volunteering their time and effort. Most of the stumbling blocks in this past season could have been avoided with more help. Of course, we will also have our fall Rec. program which will provide an additional 150 players with growth through soccer. In addition to all this, we provide support to the Rossville High School Soccer program. They will have Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys teams this year. They need your support too.

Our organization is strong and determined. I believe that if we focus on our successes and learn from our shortcomings, with your help, we can continue to provide the youth of this area with the best opportunity for mental and physical development.

Fall Recreation League Deadline Approaches ...

Blink, Blink.... Wow, how did that happen??. I blinked twice and summer is almost gone.. Did you blink too?

Hard to believe, but fall, yes fall, is rushing toward us full steam ahead. Registration for fall soccer recreation league is in full swing and will close registration on August 18th. There may be additional spots available after that date but registrations will be accepted on a first come-space available basis and will cost \$40.00 per registration.

The fall league will kick off the first week of September and end October 13th. Soccer picture day is scheduled for September 8th and we will have the annual parent/player game that day as well. We expect that practices for the Fall league will begin the week of August 20th as the initial team rosters are completed and coaches can schedule practice times with their teams.

With the expanding interest in soccer and the

additional players that sign up each year, Rossville Area Youth Soccer is always in need of interested individuals to offer their time and talents as coaches, assistant coaches and league coordinators. Please consider if you could dedicate a few evening and weekend hours to assisting a team this fall. If you have interest or just want to find out more information about what is available, please contact Kirk Saylor at gofigure@getel.net.

Fall League Registration runs through August 18th - Sign up Now!

Lastly, this fall season we are considering a short end of season tournament for teams

U-8 and above for those that are interested in participating. The focus of the tournament will remain on 'fun' as it is for the recreation league in general but the tournament is a way to give the players a small taste of a tournament atmosphere. Details of the end of season tournament will be announced as the regular season winds down.

Summer may have gone fast, but we looking forward to enjoying the fall!

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Mark your Calendar! Important dates to remember

- Aug 11 – Coaches Clinic at Rossville Town Park
- August 13 – First week of fall rec soccer practice
- August 18 – Last day for “Early Bird” fall rec registration
- September 4 – Fall Rec games begin
- September 8 – Fall Rec Soccer Pictures and parents/kids game
- October 13 – Last day for Fall Rec games

To Travel or Not to Travel - The question

by Coach Wilson

Formula for Success

It takes many parts

Each year literally hundreds of Rossville Area youth are given the opportunity to play, learn, compete and most of all have a great deal of fun being involved in soccer. But not only is playing soccer great fun, it provides a great number of benefits for our youth as they develop into community minded adults. Steve Duncan of Montana State University, who has a doctorate in family studies, sees great value in extracurricular activities such as soccer. "Recent research confirms that involvement in extracurricular activities is more than just child's play," Duncan wrote in Family Matters: What is the Role of "Extracurricular" Activities? "School extracurricular activities and involvement in community clubs and organizations are important in fostering the strengths of youth, strengths that help young people steer away from undesirable behavior."

As an organization RAYS works to offer a wide range of opportunity for the aspiring soccer player. Through its recreation league each fall the organizations provides an opportunity for any youth player to become exposed to the game in a non-competitive environment. The focus is about learning the basics of the game, all while having a great time playing soccer. In many instances this league is the first exposure that a player and his/her family has to the game of soccer. The league tries to offer information to players, parents and spectators about the basics of the world's most popular sport. The United States' love for Basketball, Baseball and American Football creates a bit of a learning curve during the introduction to soccer, as many of the fundamental tenants of the game differ from their American sport counterparts.

RAYS also invests time and resources in creating the opportunity for players to advance their level of skill and their exposure to increasing levels of play and competition by offering Travel Soccer.

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You may have noticed that RAYS has added travel soccer teams for younger age groups this past spring and fall. You may also be asking: "Why? Don't we have a great recreation league?" Yes we do. I am excited to see it grow, adding new players each year. However, as Rossville Area Youth Soccer continues to grow, we need to keep focused on providing opportunities for our youth to increase their soccer knowledge and skills. This is where travel soccer is important.

The majority of our coaches in the Rossville Recreational league are parents volunteering to coach. We greatly appreciate their dedication and hard work. We would not have a successful league without them. In our travel soccer program, RAYS recruits coaches with more soccer experience, especially with the older age groups. One reason we do this is to provide players with additional instruction and skill enhancement that they will need to compete in a travel soccer league. Another reason is RAYS is a member of Indiana Youth Soccer Association which requires travel coaches to meet minimum coaching standards. This benefits both our organization and the players. By requiring additional training for the coaches, we not only develop our players but our soccer program as well.

But why do we have to travel? Can't we just have these coaches coach in the recreational league? We could. However, recreational soccer is just that: recreational. It is a low pressure soccer environment where all skill levels can compete and enjoy the game of soccer. It is a

great way for players to get introduced to the game and get involved with soccer. Travel soccer on the other hand involves playing at a higher level of competition. Travel teams play in a specific division based on their abilities. They play against teams with similar or slightly more soccer experience. This provides an opportunity for players to challenge themselves and advance their own game. For a player, it requires more dedication and a mindset that "I am here to improve my individual skills and soccer knowledge." The rewards are many, as players see and experience better soccer. This can only be achieved by playing against teams outside our community.

Travel soccer is not necessarily for everyone. It costs more and involves traveling to games on the weekend. However, if you compare RAYS travel soccer cost to similar soccer clubs you will notice the benefits to our up-and-coming club. We want to provide every opportunity for our players to improve. We have a great recreational league to get our younger players interested. We have started a Recreational Plus program to get our 10 year olds introduced to playing against other community teams. We need to continue to build our travel program to get our 12 – 18 year old players the experience they will need to compete at the high school varsity level.

It all begins with a soccer ball. BUT, "the potential of our teams depends directly on the potential of each player." (Jerry Yeagley, hall of fame and former IU soccer coach) 🏆

A Special Thanks to a few of our sponsors



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Ball Control - The first step to arrival

by Coach Wilson

The following is the second part of a five part series provided by one of the top collegiate soccer coaches in the nation: former Indiana University's head coach and hall of fame coach Jerry Yeagley. Enjoy.

Ball Control

In the last issue Coach Yeagley asked "What is YOUR potential? FIND OUT!!" Only through repetition can you find the "touch" you will need in the beautiful game of soccer. The following are some training exercises that will lead you, the dedicated player, down the right path.

JUGGLING – Warm up

- A. Consecutive touches on feet
- B. Consecutive touches on thighs
- C. Consecutive touches on head
- D. Around the world: Ten consecutive touches on each body part as follows: right foot, right thigh, head, left thigh, left foot, and back around = 1 lap. How many laps can you do? (If you do at least one, Coach Wilson will give you a pair of soccer shorts!)
- E. Functional Juggling:
 - a. Juggle on the move varying speed and direction.
 - i. feet
 - ii. thighs
 - iii. head
 - iv. any combination
 - b. Three taps low – one high
 - i. Receive and continue juggling
 - ii. Receive and dribble ten yards – repeat
 - iii. Utilize all body parts including shoulders, outside of foot, etc.
 - c. Same as above except jump to meet the ball while receiving.
 - d. Ball lifts – create your own, challenge yourself
 - e. Partner/Group Juggling

- i. Vary the number of touches
- ii. Play HORSE
- iii. Mirroring – must receive with the same body part that passed the ball
- iv. Soccer tennis/volleyball

FAST FOOTWORK

- A. Coerver exercises (see www.dprsports.com/drills/moves.htm)
- B. Step ups: stationary (1 minute bouts – count the touches)
 - forward (20 yards)
 - backward (20 yards)
 - sideways (20 yards)
- C. Pendulum: passing the ball from the inside of one foot to the other
 - forward (20 yards)
 - backward (20 yards)
 - sideways (20 yards)
- D. Rollover: sole of the foot
 - inside (20 yards)
 - outside (20 yards)

DRIBBLING, MARKING AND TACKLING EXERCISES

- A. Keep away – one on one – one minute concentrated repetitions
- B. One on one to a goal – count the number of goals. (The goals can be any objects t-shirt, line, box...)
- C. Creative dribbling – concentrate on change of speed and change of direction. Develop deception with body fakes and ball fakes (Coerver moves). Use imagination be creative.

KEYPOINT

Remember the game of soccer breaks down to many one on one situations in all parts of the field. The team that wins the majority of these confrontations generally will win the game. Challenge players to 1 v 1 who are better than yourself and when you no longer can find any better players you have arrived! 🤖

Coaches Clinic

watchrossvillesoccer.com

RAYS is planning a coaches clinic for REC coaches on Saturday August 11th. There will be two sessions, 10am – 12 noon focused on teams in the U-8 age group and below and a second session from 1-3pm focused on the older age groups.

This session is free and should be attended by all Recreation League Coaches. Watch rossvillesoccer.com for more details.

The clinic will cover:

- the goals for player in each age group
- example lessons/demos
- Requirements for coaches
- Information on coaches kit

Eagle Scout Project to Benefit Rossville Park - Soccer

On August 4th construction for a new concession stand and storage facility at the Rossville Town Park will begin as part of the Eagle Scout Project for David Hughes. David has been playing soccer as part of the RAYS league for many years and has helped the organization as a referee, a concession person and generally stepping in anywhere needed. As a member of the Mulberry Boy Scout Troop #336, David has combined his love for both organizations into a project that will greatly benefit RAYS and the community park as well.

The structure is planned to about 20' by 10' by 10' and will serve as the concession stand for park field events and as a secure storage facility during the off season. The materials are being supplied for this project at cost by Kramer Lumber but even at cost the project is expected to tip the scales at a little over \$1,200.00.

You Can Help! There are two ways you can help this project. First, despite calls and letters to RAYS supporters there still is a large gap in the funds donated and the cost of the project. If you have the ability to contribute financially, your support would be appreciated. Also, all those interested in helping with the construction on August 4th, your time and talents would be of assistance to the project.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact David at 765.379.9336. 🤖

A Special Thanks to a few of our sponsors



Soccer Exchange

Now available on rossvillesoccer.com - RAYS Soccer Exchange. The goal of this area is to re-energize gently used soccer equipment (such as shoes, shin guards, soccer balls, cones, practice jerseys, etc.). Many terrific pieces of soccer equipment are sitting around bored because their current owner has out grown them. They long to find a place where they can 'fit' in, play and be involved in the game they love. The soccer exchange is made for helping this lonely equipment. Current equipment owners can list their equipment and either give, give with a request to make a donation to RAYS or sell the equipment they have. Those looking for equipment can look through what is available and contact the owner of the equipment if they find something they like. All you need is to sign up for a free account with rossvillesoccer.com to post equipment you have. You need nothing but internet access to browse the equipment that is there. So please, help put joy back in your soccer equipment's life! Visit the RAYS Soccer Exchange. 🌟

British Soccer Challenger Camp a Success

This year's British Challenger Soccer Camp was a huge success. We had 69 campers ranging in ages 4 to 15 participate in the week long camp. 5 young men from Great Britain conducted the camp. Coach Stuart from Scotland, Coach Carl from Wales, and Coaches Ed, Andy, and Charlie from London. Local families hosted the coaches in their homes.

Mark your calendar for next year's camp which will be the 3rd week of June.

Congratulations to this year's essay contest winner, Hunter Darlin. Hunter's essay and picture won him a free week at camp. Second place went to Nathan Price.

Thank you to Mark Genda of Bodine Funeral Home who supplied the tent during camp. 🌟

Sponsors + You = Success

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As mentioned by Coach Wilson in his article on Travel Soccer "as Rossville Area Youth Soccer continues to grow, we need to keep focused on providing opportunities for our youth to increase their soccer knowledge and skills." Through sponsoring and working with other leagues to field teams of varied skill levels, the hope is to provide players and teams the best opportunity to reach their potential.

RAYS has also committed to working with the Rossville Consolidated School District over a multi-year period to support efforts to introduce and establish a firm foundation for a High School Soccer Program.

By focusing on this three tiered level, Recreation, Travel and High School Soccer, RAYS is able to make sure there is a continuum of opportunities for youth at most any skill or desire level.

Across the globe, Soccer has been a positive influence on countless youth, and RAYS believes this is also an important opportunity for the Youth of Rossville.

To take this broader perspective frankly takes more resources: more time, more talent, more financial support for the organization. Rather than recruiting and providing training opportunities for a single focus league, the league must consider a curriculum that gradually exposes participants and volunteers to increasing levels of involvement, expertise and education about the sport. It must be designed to allow folks to continue their climb until they are ready to 'step off' and remain at their desired level.

But this approach is different than creating random hit or miss opportunities for our players and coaches and requires planning and sponsorship of events that, while needed, are not self supporting. Simple things such as tracking the varying requirements for coaching, playing and refereeing in multiple levels of play requires more logistical support and sophisticated information systems as the league develops. We must secure resources to supply equipment to support hundreds of youth and nearly 40 teams in one recreation season, yet sustain the longevity of an almost year round season for a few teams

in the travel and more competitive leagues. The coordination of equipment such as nets, balls, practice gear, uniforms, flags, goals, etc. is an almost year round position for the organization's board.

Yet with these expanding needs, we also recognize that the cost of play for all levels of players MUST remain reasonable to provide the maximum level of participation.

To accomplish this, RAYS has been blessed with a group of loyal and committed businesses and individuals who each year support the organization financially through annual sponsorship for the organization. These sponsorships literally make the league, from recreation to competitive opportunity, possible for our community. They make it possible for the many volunteers who coach, referee, serve on the board or organize the play to have the equipment, resources and affordable play to work with so many youth.

The start of the Fall Season also signals the kick off of this year's sponsorship drive. Would you, the business you work for or the business that you run or those that you do business with like to consider supporting the league's efforts? We have created several levels of sponsorship for you to consider that not only provide needed resources for the league but also give you a tremendous opportunity to get your business name and services in front of hundreds of parents, fans and players of soccer in the Rossville Area. RAYS has worked to create value for sponsors by providing opportunities for them to be highlighted in our publications (such as this newsletter, on our field, on the team jerseys and on the organization's frequently used website. Each of these opportunities are outlined on in the sponsorship area on rossvillesoccer.com.

If you have an interest in RAYS sponsorship please visit us at rossvillesoccer.com, write us at Rossville Area Youth Soccer PO Box 121 Rossville, IN 46065-0121 or call Ric Brown at 765.379.2653. 🌟

RAYS 2007 Fall Recreational Soccer Registration

To register your child for the 2007 RAYS Fall Recreational League, you may complete this form or go online at www.rossvillesoccer.com and complete the online version. If completing this form, please complete it and return it, along with a check or money order for \$35 and a copy of your child's birth certificate to: RAYS, P.O. Box 121, Rossville, IN 46065 by the end of the day on Saturday, 18 August 2007. Registrations received after Saturday, 18 August 2007 will be accepted on a space available basis, but will require a payment of \$40. There is a \$70 cap for families with multiple children playing for those registered before the August 18th deadline.

Parents that volunteer and become a coach are eligible to receive a \$10 refund for each team they coach. To receive this refund, the coach must attend the coaches meeting, complete the IYSA disclosure, and complete the online Youth Module. Don't forget to sign the bottom!!!

Name and Contact Information

Child's Name: _____ Parent's Name: _____
Address: _____ Parent's Name: _____
City: _____ Email: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____ Child's Date of Birth: _____
Phone: _____ Child's Gender: Male or Female
Comments: _____ Child's Shirt Size: YS YM YL AS AM AL
_____ Child's Age as of 1 Aug 07: _____
_____ Number Years Playing Soccer: _____
_____ Alternate Phone: _____

Special Requests

While we try to accommodate special requests, please remember we try to make the teams as even as possible and some requests may not be honored.

I would like my child to play on the team with the following:

Child: _____
Coach: _____
Sponsor: _____

Select one day you or your child might not be available for practices and games:

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Volunteers Our league's success depends greatly on its volunteers; from its board members down to its coaches. We are always looking for parents interested in playing a bigger role in their child's love for soccer. If you are interested in becoming more involved in RAYS, please indicate which position(s) you are want to learn more about. A board member will contact you to answer any questions you may have.

Board Member__ ? RAYS Coordinator__ ? RAYS Coach__ ? RAYS Referee__ ? RAYS Sponsor__ ?

I, the undersigned parent or legal guardian of the registered player named on the other side, hereby give my consent for this player to participate as a member of the Rossville Area Youth Soccer League. I certify that the player listed above is in good physical condition as required by the United States Youth Soccer Association. I understand that Rossville Area Youth Soccer (RAYS) does not carry health or accident insurance. I will not hold RAYS, its board members, its coaches, volunteers and referees responsible for any injuries during or in route to practices, games or tournament play. Furthermore, I agree not to hold Indiana Youth Soccer Association, the Central Indiana Youth Soccer League, G.I.R.L.S., or any of their agents responsible for any injuries received in conjunction with participation in the program.

I also understand from time to time RAYS or other participants will take pictures during games, practices and other organization activities. I hereby grant RAYS the permission to use the registered player's likeness in a photograph in the organization's publications, including website entries, without payment or any other consideration. I hereby irrevocably authorize RAYS to copy, exhibit, publish or distribute this photo for purposes of publicizing RAYS programs.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

We Need You!

Rossville Area Youth Soccer is a volunteer organization working hard to create the opportunity for as many youth in the Rossville area to participate in soccer and be as competitive as they are able and willing. With several hundred youth participating in recreational and travel soccer each year, we need your help. There are many, many ways to become involved in the RAYS organization. Whether it is working with youth as a coach, assistant coach, or team helper; working with the organizational communication by helping with posting information to the website, assisting with publications such as this newsletter; or providing much needed financial support for the operations and facilities of the league, if you are willing, we can find a place for you to help. Please take a moment and consider how you might get more involved to assist the youth in the Rossville area.

If you would like to discuss how to become more involved please drop us a line at the address below or complete the volunteer form at rossvillesoccer.com.

Rules of the Game

by Jeff Quinton

While play is in the penalty area in front of the lead assistant referee, that assistant raises the flag with a waggle. When the referee on the far side of the penalty area blows the whistle, the assistant walks to the corner flag and stands at attention. What is the assistant referee signaling?

What is the call?:

- A. A corner kick.
- B. A foul has been committed by the attacking team.
- C. A foul has been committed by the defense in its own penalty area.
- D. He has to go to the bathroom.

For the answer, log on to rossvillesoccer.com/july_rules_of_the_game



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