

October 2007 Newsletter



Welcome

Communication is critical to the success of our club and so we welcome you to the first issue of the HC Storm Club Newsletter. My goal for the newsletter is to share information and provide a resource for our parents, players and coaches to improve the operation and success of our teams. Please feel free to send comments and suggestions to me (president@hcstorm.org) and help us make this tool the best it can be.

Introductions

Many of you have been associated with the HC Storm Soccer Club for several years and have seen it grow from an idea to the large and successful organization that it is today. For those who are new to HC Storm, I would like to give a brief overview of the club. Currently our club has 21 teams and over 300 players. We have teams for boys and girls ranging from age 8 through 18. The club is organized as a non-profit organization and is staffed entirely by volunteers. The administrative operation of our club is handled by the board; which is selected from volunteers and approved by our coaches. Each board member has a specific area of focus and together we work to keep logistics running smoothly so our coaches can focus on their players and teams. For more information about our board, please visit the club website (www.hcstorm.org).

Our club is directly affiliated with national and global Soccer organizations. We are part of the Utah Youth Soccer Association, which is part of US Youth Soccer, which is part of the US Soccer Federation which is part of FIFA. Within the Utah Youth Soccer Association our AA teams play in District 5 which includes all of Utah County. Our AAA teams play statewide competition and are included in the State Cup competition.

Success of our Club

With about 2 weeks to go in the Fall Competition Season, our Club teams have accumulated a record of 90-39-14. If you want to check the latest scores and standings please visit the following websites: For AAA (http://www.uysa.org/comp_scores.html) and for AA (<http://www.uysadistrict5.com>). And let's not forget our HS Girls Soccer team which is 11-3.

Fields and Facilities

As the popularity of Soccer has grown in Utah, the programs available to our youth players have increased. Currently Mapleton, Springville and Spanish Fork are offering City Recreation Soccer programs and the popularity of these programs is exploding. This popularity, mixed with needs of other sports, causes pressure on the available field resources for practices and games.

The HC Storm Soccer club has been very fortunate to have a good working relationship with our cities and with the Nebo School District. This year we have been able to utilize Ira Allen City Park, Mapleton Elementary, Hobbie Creek Elementary, Nebo Learning Center, Diamond Fork Jr HS, Springville Jr HS and the privately owned Spencer Field. Because of this cooperation we have been able to provide all of our teams with adequate practice and game time access to fields.

One of the most important things that we as a club can do to show our appreciation is to help keep the fields clean. After games and practices, please take a few minutes to look around and pick up any trash that may have accumulated around the field. This will help ensure our continued access to these resources.

We have received a request from the Nebo School district that we do not park behind the two elementary schools. At both Mapleton and Hobble Creek Elementary, it is possible to drive behind the schools and park next to the field. The district has asked that we NOT do this and instead park in the school parking lots and make the short walk back to the fields.

Coaches - The backbone of our Club

Our coaches are an awesome group of dedicated and talented people who deserve our appreciation and applause. Please join me in thanking these volunteers for their time and energy in helping to develop our players. Let's also thank those who are helping as assistant coaches and the parents who are helping with team manager duties. We appreciate everyone who helps make our teams successful.

If your personal schedule permits, please speak to your coach about helping the team.

Referees

A key component to successful sports programs is the availability of qualified and willing referees. Soccer is no exception and there is a growing need for referees in our area. Referees are compensated for each game they work. Compensation depends on the age and level of the game and ranges from \$15 to \$40 per game worked. This is an excellent opportunity for both parents and players to get more involved in the growth of soccer and to make a little extra money too. In order to referee a UYSA sanctioned game, you need to complete the UYSA referee course. It is a classroom experience that takes about 18 hours to complete. These clinics are generally held in the Spring and Fall. The next clinic is tentatively scheduled for mid-January 2008.

Sportsmanship

Another key component to the growth of our sport is the level of Sportsmanship demonstrated by our teams and our fans. Please make sure that we are setting the example for our players and demonstrating the highest level of sportsmanship. Our club has a good reputation for sportsmanship and this is something we should be proud to continue.

Duplicate Copies of the Newsletter

I know that some parents have received duplicate copies of this newsletter. I apologize for this and I know that in this age of unwanted "spam" mail, duplicates are frustrating. We are using our online website system to send these messages and right now we do not have a way to remove duplicate email addresses. So those parents with multiple players in the club or who listed the same email address for both parents during registration will receive duplicates. We are working to improve this system and remove this in the future.

Contributions are Welcome

If you have some information or ideas to make our club a better experience, please don't hesitate to submit that information directly to me (president@hcstorm.org) or to any of the club board members. Together we can make this a premier soccer program.

Regards,
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