

Kenmore Soccer News

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Kenmore/Tonawanda, New York

September 2011

Kenmore Soccer Men's and Women's Teams Capture Titles

The 2011 summer season saw adult teams from the Kenmore Soccer Club capture several league titles and trophies.

On the Men's side, the Kenmore Devils won the Wood Cup in the Buffalo District Soccer League by defeating Elbow Soup from Depew. It was 0-0 at the half of the championship game, and there had not been many chances by either side. The second half saw the Devils go up 1-0 on a header near the goal line that was punched in the air by the keeper only to come down just shy of the goal when Tim Mack dove and headed the ball in. A second goal came not long after on a good break to the net with a one-two pass. Tim Mack netted his second in the corner of the net. The Devils missed a penalty kick, and Elbow Soup had a few chances go just wide in the second half which would have made it a much different game. The 2-0 final led the Kenmore Devils to their 1st Wood Cup.

On the Women's side, the Kenmore Express completed a double by winning the Premier Division of the Upstate Women's League with a record of 9-1, and by capturing the Upstate Cup, which represents the open championship for the western New York area. The final of the Upstate Cup was an "all Kenmore" affair, with the Kenmore Ambush finishing second. The Ontario Division of the Upstate Women's League saw the Kenmore WB team as the champions, with a final record of 10-0. The team, which is mostly former Kenmore West players, finished with 46 goals, while surrendering only 10. On a combined basis, our 4 women's teams finished with a composite record of 39-7-2 for the summer.



The Kenmore Express - winners of the 2011 Upstate Cup

Kenmore Ambush Capture Under 12 Girls League Title

Starting the season with 7 consecutive victories usually means that a championship is within easy sight, but such was not the case for the Under 12 Girls Kenmore Ambush. In a highly competitive division, and with Akron and Cheektowaga keeping close pace behind, it took a win in the final game of the season before 1st place was assured.

With 3 games remaining in the season, the Ambush clung to a 1 point lead over Akron. Anchored by Krista Tomizzi, Kayla Romanini, Josie Michaels, Emily Sinclair, and Claire Coughlin on defense; and with Cate Saeli in goal, the Ambush stifled scoring chances by Cheektowaga, Tonawanda, and Buffalo SC in the final three games. With scoring from Haylee Ensminger, Gabby Krajewski, Brianna LoTempio, Ruth Riggie, and Emma Mack; and strong midfield play by Julie Graves, Camryn Barsch, Emma Rehrauer, Lauren Krug, and Sarah Luraschi, the Ambush responded with 3 consecutive wins.

Congratulations to all of the girls, for a fun and exciting season.

Indoor Training to Begin in November; Schedules to Post by mid-October

We hope everyone is enjoying their brief respite, although those playing scholastic soccer are already several weeks into their daily training regimen. Although Kenmore Soccer programs are dormant for a while, the staff is busy finalizing rosters and player registrations, and preparing for indoor training.

We expect to publish the November-December indoor training schedules to the Club web site by mid-October. Training will commence in mid-November for younger teams, while some of the older teams will not begin until January.

The Kenmore Soccer Academy will begin in December and continue on a weekly basis through next June. While the Academy is free to all travel players, you must register so that we know how many will be participating this year. We will continue to utilize the Brazilian Bola training balls, which can be purchased for \$15 at the initial session for anyone who is new, or whose ball from last season is not longer useable.

We know everyone is excited to get underway, but enjoy the brief break while many of our older players and our coaching staff are involved with the school and college soccer season.

Registering for 2011-2012 with Kenmore Soccer



Registration is already well underway for the 2011-2012 season. Current players wishing to return can re-register under the "Join Kenmore Soccer" link at www.kenmoresoccer.com. This year, you can also register for the Kenmore Soccer Academy at the same time through the same link.

The basic travel fee for next season will remain at \$140 for those who pay by September 30th. There may be an increase after that date, which we will determine once we have the league fee schedule for 2012.

Teams that move into the new Nike uniform kit will have an additional charge of \$65. At present we expect that the Under 10 Boys Thunder, Under 10 Girls Talons, Under 11 Girls Ambush, Under 12 Boys Flames, Under 13 Boys Lightning, Under 13 Girls Ambush, and Under 16 Boys Panthers will move into the new kit. Payment for new uniforms is not due until they are ordered, which will be in the late fall.

Kenmore Soccer will continue with its policy of not conducting formal tryouts, since we believe that does not allow for coaches, players, and parents to best determine if a team is the "right fit". Instead, we will continue to invite interested new players to attend training sessions to see if Kenmore Soccer is a fit for them. We encourage our existing players to invite interested friends to register on-line, and we will invite them to attend upcoming team training sessions. Questions regarding our programs can be directed to Ken Voght, our Operations Manager, at 837-1627.

If you have not already done so, we ask that you re-register as soon as possible if you plan to return, so that we can quickly determine the number of teams we will have, and try to place everyone on an appropriate team.

Sobering Statistics About Youth Sports and Injuries

by Dr. David Geier, Special to The Post and Courier

More young athletes are playing sports than ever before. The National Council of Youth Sports estimates that 44 million kids play at least one organized sports activity. And while this surge is encouraging for so many reasons, it has also contributed to one worrisome trend. Injuries are skyrocketing.

As a sports medicine physician and orthopedic surgeon, I, and others like me, certainly can treat injured athletes. But as I have mentioned previously in my columns, I believe that part of our responsibility to athletes is to try to prevent these injuries in the first place.

Just over one year ago, the American Orthopedic Society for Sports Medicine partnered with many other healthcare and sports organizations to create the STOP Sports Injuries campaign. When Safe Kids USA, one of the founding organizational supporters of the campaign, asked me to participate in an upcoming event, I enthusiastically agreed.

A short column like this one doesn't give me nearly enough room to discuss all of the possible injuries and their ramifications, let alone to offer prevention strategies. Instead, I want to offer some frightening statistics that suggest that we are confronting a real and serious problem.

--Sports injuries account for 4.3 million hospital emergency room visits annually in the United States. (Center for Disease Control and Prevention).

--Nearly 50 percent of all injuries sustained by middle school and high school students during sports are overuse injuries. (American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons).

--Approximately 50 percent of overuse injuries in children and adolescents are preventable. (The American College of Sports Medicine).

--Girls involved in organized sports have an estimated injury rate of 20 to 22 per 100 participants per season, while boys have a risk of 39 per 100 participants per season. (National Athletic Trainers' Association).

--Surgeons are seeing four times as many overuse injuries in youth sports compared to five years ago. (Dr. James Andrews, orthopedic surgeon).

--Approximately two out of five traumatic brain injuries among children are associated with participation in sports and recreational activities. (National Youth Sports Safety Foundation).

--21 percent of youth athletes say they have been pressured to play with an injury. (National Youth Sports Safety Foundation).

--62 percent of organized sports-related injuries occur during practices rather than games. Despite this fact, one-third of parents often do not take the same safety precautions during their child's practices as they would for a game. (National Safe Kids Campaign).

Zach's Law' Makes Soccer Safer for All Kids

by Danielle Gensburg of the Daily Herald

The memory of a 6-year-old Vernon Hills boy who died in 2003 after a soccer goal post fell on him will live on in a new law aimed at preventing other children and their families from suffering the same tragedy. With the boy's family looking on Tuesday, Zach's Law or the Movable Soccer Goal Safety Act as it's formally known was signed into law by Gov. Pat Quinn at the Waukegan SportsPark.

The two-pronged piece of legislation, named after Zachary Tran, requires all movable soccer goals manufactured and sold in Illinois to be properly anchored and tip-resistant, among other safety criteria.

"It's a very emotional day for us," Zach's mother, Michelle Tran, said at the signing ceremony also attended by Zach's father, Jayson, and three siblings. "We thank you for passing this law. It's important and wonderful in a way that it can help others." Also on hand were two of the bill's sponsors, state Sen. Terry Link, and state Rep. Carol Sente. "This is a special type of legislation when it has a personal meaning to it," Link added. "Finally we can say to Zach, 'We got it done!'"

Under the law, all movable soccer goals, both in and out of play, must be secured down through a number of measures, including spikes, permanent in-ground systems, locks, and weights. Weighted backbars can be used to prevent tipping. "Zach was a person with boundless energy, very involved, and he believed in sports. The tragedy that occurred was a wake-up call," Quinn said.

Mary Jane Bender, executive director of the Illinois Youth Soccer Association, said the organization has always had goal safety awareness and policies that addressed the issue.

"After the Zach Tran case, the penalties were increased," Bender added. "Any coach or entity who is responsible for a field or game where the goal is not anchored will be fined \$1,000."

Hugh Orlicz, volunteer tournament director for the youth soccer association, said he visits different tournament sites regularly for safety checks and discussions. "We have mandatory tournament meetings with directors and referees about goal safety," he said. "But we really haven't had any issues in the last couple of years."

Terry Ruff, president of the Palatine Celtic Soccer Club, said all of the program's goals are staked into the ground to prevent tipping. "We recently purchased four movable goals for our new turf fields and they are being fitted with counterweights to prevent tipping," Ruff said. "Any legislation that creates awareness and prevents injury is a positive in my book," he added.

Before the new legislation was signed into law Tuesday morning, South Elgin village board members approved a policy outlining guidelines concerning the use and storage of movable goals. Village Administrator Larry Jones said staff members also recommend the guidelines extend to any outside groups, like soccer clubs, that use village parks.

While the Trans were thankful for the legislation, they said that it is only one of many steps in the right direction. Since Zach's death, they have worked to improve soccer goal safety nationwide and have seen similar legislation passed in Arkansas and Wisconsin. They also founded a group called Anchor For Safety, which connects families that have experienced similar tragedies.

"This is just the beginning," Jayson Tran said. "People still need to do the right thing. We'd like to expand it to the federal level." "If we need to take it state by state, we'll do whatever we need to do to keep it moving," Michelle Tran added.

Editor's Note: Kenmore Soccer utilizes ground anchors at the fields we use. We have encountered difficulties with other organizations removing those anchors and moving goalposts. In such cases, we reinstall them as soon as we are aware of the removal.

Youth Sports Are For Fun, Not Anger

from the Daily News Leader

Parents can get pretty frenzied watching their children playing sports. This fact was documented Saturday when Augusta County Sheriffs deputies arrested Gregory E. Jones of Waynesboro for allegedly assaulting a soccer coach during a match between 8-to-9-year-olds. As ugly and repugnant as such "parents behaving badly" spectacles are, they have become prevalent at U.S. youth sporting events.

Why is this so?

Could it be that since the day youth sports were instituted into the national psyche they have been run the same way as the pros do, with standings, championships and all-star teams? Ask children the main reason why they play a sport and they will say it's to have fun. Unfortunately, many parents have taken that fun from their children by their sideline ranting at coaches and referees.

Although competition is healthy, it can get out of hand when we create an environment where we have emotional outbursts by parents who are vicariously living through their children. For some reason, many of them have the perverted notion that a child's sports success enhances their own feelings of self-worth. Such parents really need to get a life and realize that youth sports are for the children, not the adults.

Despite the obvious health benefits, youth sports afford terrific opportunities for kids to learn plenty of life's lessons. Children learn to work together as a team to achieve a common goal. They are taught how to win with dignity as well as how to lose with grace, while making friends and enjoying the bonds of camaraderie. They proudly wear the uniforms and obtain a sense of belonging. But it's the parents who mess things up. We feel for the children who had to witness Jones' alleged attack on the soccer coach. Kids can be traumatized by witnessing such violent confrontations and many decide to look for other things to become involved in. That would be a travesty.

When parents lose control by screaming and yelling, children are not only embarrassed but can perceive that acting like that is the way to solve problems.

Kids must be taught that there is adversity in life and that life isn't always fair and things won't always go your way. The bad thing is that these lessons are supposed to come from the very role models who are demonstrating such poor behavior. Luckily, such individuals are in the minority. Our local youth sports providers do a great job educating parents about the goals and objectives of their programs. Parents must critically examine their own beliefs in regard to what the actual goals of youth sports are that have been articulated and adhere to them.

Yes, it is very exciting to watch your son or daughter playing a sport. It is easy to get caught up in the excitement of wanting them to do well and have fun doing it. But there is a fine line that can be crossed when tempers flare and things get out of control. If you cannot keep your emotions in check, stay at home.

Better yet, be there for your children and learn to just let them play. Don't keep them from obtaining all the positive aspects that youth sports have to offer.

Your kids will thank you.

The Game Belongs to Those Who Play

from the Globe and Mail

Sometimes parents are better seen than heard, as anyone who has ever stood on the sidelines at a youth soccer game can attest. Bad sportsmanship seems more likely to involve the adults beside the field than the children on it. Shouting at referees, cheering wildly even when scores are run up to 10-0, 15-0 or 20-0 - even when the losing side has too few players to field a full squad - these are not unheard-of events. And why would coaches allow their teams to run up such demoralizingly lopsided scores? Welcome to the not always wonderful world of youth sport.

But now silent soccer has come to Canada, after being adopted as an annual event in, of all places, the boisterous United States. Last week, parents and coaches of players in the Aurora Youth Soccer house league north of Toronto were barred from bellowing instructions or imprecations from the sidelines; the parents were permitted only to clap, the coaches to give instructions from the bench.

Could we put in a plug for a week of silent hockey?

The idea is not really to deprive parents or coaches of their freedom of speech. It's to stimulate some thought about how adults can play a positive role. (It's hard to think while shrieking.) And perhaps to show that young people can still have a good time and figure out when to run or kick or tie their shoelaces without their every move being subject to attempts at choreography from the sidelines.

Organized sports are not always a force for good in young people's lives. That is the thesis of a recent report on "the power of soccer for youth development," written by Jean Côté of the Queen's University kinesiology school. They can be good or bad, depending, in part, on how the adults behave. Young people may feel excessive pressure to win, see themselves as weak players, feel unattached to their teams and vulnerable when with their teammates. "Many sport programs designed to foster positive youth development are in fact doing just the opposite," says a 2005 study co-authored by Prof. Côté.

He appears to be a heretic in the church of organized youth sport, this Prof. Côté. Of coaches, he writes that their most important job "is to keep soccer enjoyable for all athletes." To put this heresy in another way: "The best indicator of an adequate role played by adults in an organized soccer program is the enjoyment that the players experience."

The obligatory silence is a useful reminder that children's sports, institutionalized though they have become, still belong to the children.

Trivia Question

(answer on page 8)

Name the only professional sports team to have won a playoff championship without ever winning a playoff game.

Trivia Answer - from page 7

The WNY Flash in 2011. Although they captured the WPS championship in a penalty kick shootout, the official score was 1-1.



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in Kenmore



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and supporting our
youth soccer teams

Submissions Anyone ??????????????

We want this to be your newsletter. We also want you to be a part of the Club web site. So, we are looking for your ongoing input—articles, pictures, match highlights, team and player recognition, etc. Each team should consider having a designee that can channel information to the Club for inclusion in the newsletter or web site.

Send your submissions to us at voght@msn.com. Pictures are welcome, but should be in a jpg or gif format.

Soccer Puzzle

SOCCER WORD SEARCH

PENALTY

CORNER KICK

SOCCER

RED CARD

GOAL

WHISTLE

REFEREE

OFFSIDE

YELLOW CARD

WORLD CUP

C	I	S	L	Z	I	G	W	E	V	Y	K
I	O	Y	O	N	I	O	E	L	K	E	P
O	H	R	T	C	R	Z	D	T	I	L	G
D	P	B	N	L	C	R	E	S	P	L	O
K	K	A	D	E	A	E	K	I	B	O	A
M	A	C	I	C	R	N	R	H	D	W	L
E	U	O	D	Y	N	K	E	W	F	C	Y
P	Q	E	F	L	W	K	I	P	S	A	Q
F	R	E	F	E	R	E	E	C	L	R	J
N	L	Q	L	R	V	G	U	J	K	D	Z
G	K	Z	C	L	Q	C	R	E	I	Q	F
A	L	K	T	B	E	D	I	S	F	F	O

Kenmore Soccer Club Goals

- To be the best club in our community
- To recruit and retain the finest youth soccer coaches in Western New York
- To continually evaluate and revise our coaching curriculum to insure that all of our players are participating in practice sessions that are challenging, interesting, and fun
- To encourage our players to develop healthy and responsible goals of their own

The Kenmore Soccer Club belongs to all of us, and we encourage you to bring your contributions and expertise to the club. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please speak to your child's coach or contact us directly at your convenience.

Fund Raising

The Kenmore Soccer Club is able to conduct fund-raising, but each activity needs to be approved by our Board of Directors.

If your team wants to conduct any fund-raising, just e-mail us at voght@msn.com with the details of what you propose, and the eventual use of the funds raised. We will get back to you promptly.

Contacting Us

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Our thanks to M.J. Peterson for helping sponsor our teams

