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ON & OFF THE PITCH

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WOMENS LEAGUE

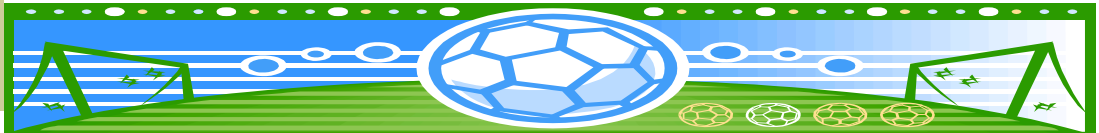
There has been a great start to our woman's league. So ladies please come out to Sportspark on Thursday evenings from 7-9 pm. For complete details check the league website under **Woman's**.



SUMMER SOCCER SEASON



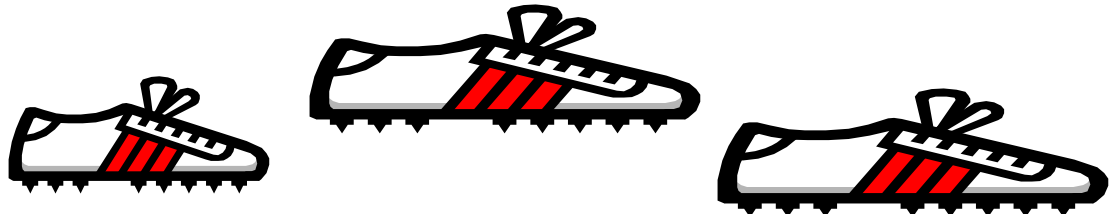
Our summer season has a great start. Thank you to all Team Reps for organizing your team. The 2nd Midsummer Meltdown is just around the corner in August. If your team is interested in participating check the league website for details under **Tournament**. Please let's remember to keep NWASL safe and fun for all players and for the ones watching. Keep up the good work Team Reps. See you out on the pitch!



CALENDAR CORNER



Thursdays: Women's league from 7-9 pm. Sportspark. Check website for details.
Time change: So there will be no bye weeks we are adding a 10pm game to the schedule.



REFS CORNER



As I watch the World Cup and listen to the announcers, it occurs to me that they are propagating a few myths:

1. There is no such foul as a "hand ball" in soccer. The foul is actually "deliberately handling the ball". This indicates that a ball bouncing into the hand is not a foul. Now, if a player's arms are over their head or out to the side, both unnatural positions, and the ball makes contact with the hand, arm, or outer portion of the shoulder, this would be a foul for deliberately handling the ball. As I recall, a hand ball is small, hard, blue rubber ball.
2. There is no such thing as "passive off sides". A player can be in an OFFSIDE (not off sides, no s) position and not be penalized if the player does not interfere with play, interfere with an opponent, or gain an advantage while in that position. This called is based on the opinion of the referee with input from the Assistant Referee. A player is penalized and the opposing team is given an Indirect Free Kick if the player is in an offside position AND she/he interferes with play, interferes with an opponent, or gains an advantage by being in that position.
3. We don't have a "box" or a "goalie" in soccer. These are both hockey terms. The area on the field which is enclosed by a rectangular shape, 18 yards by 26 yards, in front of the goal is the PENALTY AREA. The player that is allowed to use his hands to stop the soccer ball within the penalty AREA is the GOALKEEPER. The accepted truncation of GOALKEEPER is to say KEEP or KEEPER or PORTERO.

I bring these points to you so you understand that the announcers are not well versed in the nuances of the "Beautiful Game." These issues are covered in Basic Referee courses. My greatest concern was with the comment made by one of the announcers regarding the referee for the USA vs. Italy game.

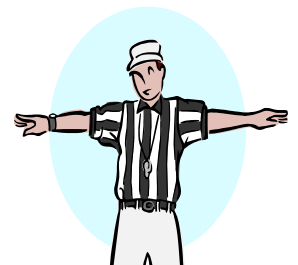
4. The announcer made the statement that "There are two kinds of referee, bad ones and worse ones." He followed that statement by saying that this particular referee was the worst one. I watched the game and almost all of the other games with an eye toward the referees management of the games. The referees are charged with the responsibility to keep the game safe and fair.

The referee for the USA vs. Italy game did that by sending off 3 players, 2 from the USA and 1 from Italy. All three send offs were within the technical interpolation AND spirit of the Laws of the Game. All three centered around serious foul play and violent conduct which caused injury to the other players in two of the three send offs. Most of the referees are using their presence and voice as well as their whistle and cards to maintain a safe and fair match. The commentators fail to point out the subtleties of the referee managing the game with their presence and voice before they go to the whistle and cards. I suspect that the commentator would not be happy if someone intentionally elbowed him in the face and did not send off the player.

I want to end by saying 98% of the players in our league understand that the Referee Team (Center, 2 ars, and 4th official) is there to provide a Safe and Fair game. I believe that 100% of all referees are there to provide a safe and fair game. Please try to keep that in mind when a call is made that you don't agree with. Remember when you distract a referee by dissenting a call, you endanger the other players on the pitch by drawing his attention away from play.

The referees enjoy officiating these games and hope that it is a pleasant experience for the players as well.

Frank Duarte
RRA
NWSL



MIDSUMMER MELTDOWN



August 25-26 2006

Tournament Date: Friday August 25th and Saturday August 26th

Tournament Time: Friday 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm / Saturday 8:00 am - 10:00 pm

Fields: Arthur Pack –1&2, 5, 6 and 7 {may also include fields 3 and 4 on Saturday}

Teams: 16 teams

Now is the time to get serious about organizing your team for the tournament. We would like to get a good idea as to how many teams are going to be participating since there is limited space. Check the league website for further info and updates. If there are any questions please contact the Board at www.board@nwasl.org.



June 23rd Schedule



	Desert Vista	Sportspark
6:00 PM	LUCKY CHARMS	MATRIX
	O2	JAVELINAS
7:20 PM	PUMPS AND HOSES	SILVER BULLETS
	COOL ARROWS	ADRENALINE
8:40 PM	TEAM X	STRYKER JOE'S
	FLASHBACKS	CALVARY
10:00 PM		CF ARMY
		OZONE

CHECK THE LEAGUE WEBSITE THE DAY OF YOUR GAME TO MAKE SURE THERE HAVE BEEN NO LAST MINUTE CHANGES TO YOUR GAME TIME. WWW.NWASL.ORG. UNDER SCHEDULES.



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