



Oswego Youth Soccer Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 5155
Oswego, NY 13126

President's report – 11/2/06

2005-6 Activities and Accomplishments

- During the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the Oswego Youth Soccer Association completed the final stages of the concession stand / rest room / storage area at the Richard J. Benjamin Soccer Complex. A certificate of occupancy was granted during the summer of 2006, prior to the expiration of the temporary certificate issued last year. Volunteers completed the vast majority of the final work on this project.
- Our house league program continues to thrive, with spring house league registrations reaching the highest level in the history of the organization (440 players). Fall 2006 house league registrations remained high at 419.
- There was a renewed emphasis on player development during the 2005/6 fiscal year:
 - o An eight-week developmental training program was provided in November/December 2005 at the Armory by John C. Kane and John R. Kane.
 - o Susan Michaud successfully organized and coordinated the first Red Bull MLS soccer camp in Oswego in June 2006.
 - o Many OYSA players participated in the college soccer camp organized by Bob Friske in July 2006. Bob Friske also provided training to the U19B team in the spring of 2006.
 - o Pete Lautensack provided spring, summer, and fall player development clinics in a variety of age divisions.

New initiatives

- Plans are underway for additional winter indoor training.
- Susan Michaud has been working to renew interest in indoor soccer travel teams in U10 through U19 age divisions.
- TOPSoccer pad for wheelchair and walker soccer should be developed.
- Ramp for handicap access to fields should be considered (if funding permits)

Challenges ahead

Now that the construction is completed, the board needs to continue to focus its attention on coach and player development.

House league – We have successfully offered youth modules to house league coaches in 4 of the past 5 years. This needs to be continued and expanded to offering higher-level certification courses locally. We need to offer more coach development opportunities to coaches, so that they may provide better opportunities for player development. We still see far too many coaches having players wait in line to take turns shooting at a goal. Coaches cannot provide adequate technical and tactical training if they have not been exposed to appropriate training techniques. This is an area in need of significant improvement.

Travel leagues – The performance of our travel teams remains generally weak. There has also been a precipitous decline in travel team participation over the past 3 years.

- In 2004, we had 8 teams, with 150 players.
- In 2005, we had 5 teams with 89 players
- In 2006, we had 2 teams with 36 players

This is primarily the result of:

- instability in the position of travel program coordinator (tonight, the 5th travel coordinator in three years will be elected)
- a failure to fully follow the procedures passed by the board in the fall of 2004 to prevent the problems that led to the rapid turnover in travel program coordinators
- too few training opportunities provided to players

OYSA/CNYJSA/NYSW registration, rostering, and insurance policies

During the past several months, we have witnessed several serious violations of OYSA, CNYJSA, and NYSW policies concerning player registration, team rostering, and insurance. This has put the assets of both this organization and CNYJSA at serious risk. Such behavior should not be tolerated by this organization.