

GRASA NEWS

PREPARED BY KERRY GORSUCH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 1999

This is an exciting time for GRASA players, coaches, and parents in a number of different

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ways. Our first full year under our new director of coaching, Abraham Shearer, is underway with 25 teams competing this fall. The new Memorial Day tournament in Libertyville, Illinois was a great success and once again GRASA had a tremendous showing in the Saginaw Township tournament. With the Women's World cup games in Chicago and their ultimate win in the finals, soccer is at an all-time high in the United States!

This fall we have a U-9 developmental league under Abraham's direction, new uniforms for the first time in 8 years, and the largest number of teams ever in GRASA.

The GRASA Board of Directors, along with Abraham and his staff, are working hard to make GRASA the best soccer club in West Michigan. To that end, please keep in mind that we are a volunteer organization for the most part and we welcome your comments, as well as your participation.

Have a great fall season and enjoy your kids! *Jim Teets*, President

GRASA BOARD MEMBERS AND CLUB COORDINATORS: FALL '99

President	Jim Teets	956-0246
President Elect	Gail Sutton	676-1952
Recording Secretary	Kathie McMahon	975-9906
Treasurer	Dave Cramer	957-7807
Registrar/Team Mgr. Coord.	J'Ann McEwen	942-6545
Director of Coaching	Abraham Shearer	517-627-9769
Newsletter	Kerry Gorsuch	957-7969
Field Coordinator	Les Kroemer	363-6499
Uniform/Equip. Mgrs	John & Gail Quinn	676-0702
Fund Raising Coordinator	Deb Pranger	956-7910
Referee Coordinators	John Corbett	245-4858
	Michael Kopinski	452-0189
Tournament Coordinator	Wendy Horner	676-0352
Tryout Coordinator	John Hall	676-1631
Banquet Coordinator	OPEN POSITION	Please Volunteer
Volunteer Coordinator	OPEN POSITION	Please Volunteer



GRASA MISSION STATEMENT

GRASA is a soccer association dedicated to the development of our players. Our mission is to be the community leader in soccer development by providing top level coaching and excellent organizational structure. The association will strive to reach this goal through continuous improvement while promoting sportsmanship, team play, and a healthy respect for others.





SOCCER NET

If you have a computer with internet access, you have a wealth of soccer resources right at your fingertips! Here are a few of the interesting sites I've visited. If you have a favorite site please let me know. I'll include it in the next newsletter.

- <http://swiftsite.com/rangers/ythsoccer.htm> This one is for West Michigan Soccer and includes many regional and national links. The GVSA can be accessed here!
- <http://soccer.com> Run by a company called Eurosport, this site offers a wide selection of soccer gear and apparel as well as links to international soccer sites.
- <http://soccerROM.com> Subscription site designed for coaches with easy to use practice planning utility with over 700 drills & exercises. Also team management software.
- <http://www.soccersupplies.com> Access to educational materials for youth soccer.
- GorsuchOne@AOL.com Not really a soccer site, send me e-mail if you have anything to place in the next newsletter!

Survey results: May 1999

Percentage denotes those in favor or with no opinion

Change A & B to White & Blue	95%
Enjoyed Libertyville Tournament	98%
Enjoy 'Family Tone' of GRASA	84%
Satisfied with Coaching	97%
Feel Board Represents Them	80%
Satisfied with level of competition	88%
Favor ONE Tournament EACH Season	86%
Feel their coach is committed	93%
Feel their coach is knowledgeable	90%
Happy with coach	84%

Action Based Upon Survey Results

- Teams A, B, & C are now White, Blue, & Gold respectively.
- GRASA will return to Libertyville next Memorial Day as a club.
- Abraham Shearer is continuing to find nonparent coaches (or support) for teams needing qualified coaches.
- This newsletter and subsequent ones will attempt to provide a better link between GRASA member families and their board. Please note that Board meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month and are open to all members. Feel free to attend and present whatever concerns (or kudos) you may have to the board. Alternatively, have your team manager send in your item. (Note: please let a board member know in advance so time can be allotted to discuss your issue).
- Abraham Shearer is working with individual teams with suggestions for more competition.

Thank you for your input! We are all working to make the changes needed to make your sons' and daughters' soccer experience the best possible while preserving those aspects that are so important. *Gail Sutton*

Embracing Change

Summer for GRASA Board members means reflection and looking ahead . . . followed by decisions. We strive to meet the needs of our players.

I would like to thank all of you who are enthusiastically "jumping in" to help raise money for the new jerseys, especially those who are first year GRASA members. Our players are very excited about the new jerseys! The kids didn't like the old jerseys much because the material doesn't 'breathe'.

What great kids you have! You provide an excellent example for your children when you show such support to their club and require them to pitch in and help themselves by raising money for their team!
Thank you all !!!

Gail Sutton, President-Elect

GRASA MAGIC