



President's View:

End of Season Thoughts

As I write this, our fall season has ended and our Winter Indoor Training has begun. This is a natural time to reflect and take stock of what we have learned. Throughout this past season, I hope that:

Each player further developed his/her individual skills and knowledge of the game.

Each team learned much about the value of teamwork and the importance of supporting and caring for each and every player on that team.

Our coaches further developed their own skills and gifts as soccer coaches and mentors for the kids.

Each GRASA player, parent and coach exhibited good sportsmanship and respect for the referees and opponents at every game.

If these things occurred, then it was a successful season. We as a club must continually strive for these goals. They are what make for a truly successful and rewarding soccer experience.

Your Board of Directors wants to thank you for attending last month's annual general membership meeting. Your support and enthusiasm were very much appreciated. We enjoyed sharing our goals and vision for GRASA, and we will continue to update you on our progress as we reach those goals.

In the meantime, keep those comments and suggestions coming! We want to hear from you. This is OUR club, and we all share the common goal of making it the best club possible for our kids.

Until next time,

Laurie Wilson, USWilson1@aol.com
GRASA President



Concerning Equipment:

Various Reflections

If any of the spring teams are missing uniform items, please let me know.

When you are responsible for nets and flags, please use the sign-in/out sheet. Remember to return the nets and flags after your game. If you are unable to do so, please have someone on your team do it for you. We had at least three instances this fall of teams going to get the nets and flags and not finding them at the King's. The nets and flags showed up later. Please respect other GRASA teams by returning the equipment promptly. Thank You.

As we look to the future, our focus is on **player development**. Providing good coaching is a priority for developing players. Another part of this equation is having quality facilities to practice and play on. We are very aware of the shortage of available fields. We are working on a two-pronged attack to this problem. We are trying to gain access to existing fields and partnering to develop new fields. We cannot do this alone. We need help! If you know how to access any existing field or can assist in maintaining or developing fields, please let a board member know! Another way to help is to sponsor a team or place an ad in our newsletter. It is going to take a big commitment to get fields off the drawing board and into the dirt.

I invite everyone to check out the Metro Soccer Complex, at Brewer Park (84th Street East of US 131). It is exciting to see fields taking shape!

Something to remember;

Pele's family was so poor that, when he was young, he made soccer balls by finding a sock and filling it with newspapers and tying it together with string.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Mike Bart, PMSMBart@home.com
GRASA Equipment Coordinator



Referee's Call:

USSF REFEREE CERTIFICATION

This training is for people who want to become USSF certified referees, and thereby be eligible to referee select and premier soccer matches. The class will be limited to the first 31 individuals who are at least 12 yrs old. Send me your Name, Birth Date, Address, Phone Number, and Soccer Club with a check for \$43.00 (payable to Michigan Referee Committee) to:

John Corbett, 1630 Oxford SE, EGR, 49506

Once again, Jim Fuller has offered to host the training at the Sports XChange March 1, 2, and 3, 2002. Class times are 6-9pm, 8am-5 pm, and 12-3pm respectively. Your \$43 reserves a space in class, a copy of LAWS OF THE GAME, and motivating event-based instruction from Keith Miller. Upon successful completion of the written test, you will receive your grade-8 badge. You are expected to be in class, all 3 days, from start to end. If you have any questions, please contact John Corbett at: 245-4858.

These classes are not for Recertification!!!

John Corbett, JSCsails@aol.com
GRASA Referee Coordinator

Secretary's Desk:

Member Feedback

My oldest child is on the U10girls white team. We are learning as we go with GRASA, and quite frankly, I really like what I am learning! As a member of the Board, I have had the opportunity to get feedback from GRASA families that I have never met. I would like to share some comments that I received from a couple of coaches pertaining to Dan McAllister.

"The addition of Dan was one of the best decisions/acquisitions of GRASA. He has brought a lot of excellent training methods, experience, and knowledge to the table."

"First of all, I'm quite pleased with the way things have been handled this year. I think that Dan was a good addition to head up the coaches and he has done a very good job."

Board Age Reps recently contacted coaches and team managers for any concerns or comments that teams may have. I personally was very pleased to hear these comments. As I stated in the beginning of this article, we are new to GRASA....(our first select soccer club!) We really weren't sure what we were getting ourselves into as we allowed our daughter to try out and join the club. It is comforting to know that there is such a high level of knowledge, commitment and concern within our club. I know that when my daughter Kaely tells people that she plays for GRASA, she says it with great pride!

Sheila Schlosser, Schl89@aol.com
GRASA Secretary

Registrar's Read:

Fall Assessment

With the Fall 2001 season behind us, we begin the registration process for Spring 2002. In looking at GVSA requirements, the Team Scheduling Request Form is important. This Form is to tell GVSA about special scheduling problems that are specific to a given team. Coaches and Team Managers should look ahead and check school calendars, tournament conflicts, etc, now, so they will be prepared to complete this form in early January 2002.

GVSA will typically honor these requests:

- State Cup Game conflicts (always)
- Soccer Tournaments (always)
- Field availability (always)

GVSA will typically not honor these requests:

- Coach conflicts (coaching two or more teams)
- Play at specific times
- Request to play (or not play) certain teams
- Request to play certain teams on certain dates or times of the season
- Requests to play certain games at home (or away)
- Request made after registration deadline

Please note that in the Spring, GVSA schedules some weeknight games, since there are not eight weekends available.

Patti Masotta, pmasotta@att.net
GRASA Registrar

Tournament Update:

Tournament Clarification

As mentioned last issue, GRASA has elected to go to just one Tournament this Spring as a Cub, the Jr. Irish Memorial Day Invitational in South Bend. Your Team Mgr. has already been sent Hotel Reservation Forms and detailed instructions for guaranteeing you a room. You might want to check with them to assure they have done so. They were due in by December 1.

Also, we noted that we will not be going to Saginaw this year as a Club. A team is welcome to apply to Saginaw or other Tournaments if they would like, but registration and hotel reservations are handled at the team level. If you have questions, need help finding information, or suggestions for Tournaments for next year, please feel free to email me.

If you would like to see what tournaments are available in Michigan this Spring, check out MSYSA's web site, www.msysa.net. In the lower left hand corner you'll find "Tournaments". Scroll down, and listed are all Michigan Tournaments for Spring 2002.

Mary Brandon, maryb@asrcorp.com
GRASA Tournament Coordinator

Coach's Corner:

Coaching Youth Successfully

Below are four questions a focus group studied concerning coaching youth soccer. There are good reasons why coaches must keep the fun in the game from practice to state cup tournaments. Most players are competitive by nature and losing is not their goal. However, allowing them to grow through each loss will often teach them how to prepare for victory before they get so disillusioned by the game that they quit.

Why is it important to eliminate, elimination games, laps, lines, and lectures?

Players primarily participate in soccer because it is fun. In the above examples, most players do not perceive these examples as fun. Elimination games not only take away the fun for the least capable players, (they typically are the first to get "knocked out") but at least some of the most capable will not be challenged at their own level either. A University of Michigan survey of 26,300 10 to 18 year olds found that having fun was the most important reason they played and winning was the least of the 10 reasons.

Elimination games will usually remove the players who need the most amount of work first. This does not allow them the opportunity to feel a sense of accomplishment and can lead to discouragement and possibly quitting the sport. According to E L Thorndike's Law of Practice (his first principle of learning) a response becomes stronger and more likely to be observed with practice. The more opportunities a person has to repeat a behavior, the more automatic that behavior will become.

Basically, players will improve while having fun when they are participating and getting multiple repetitions, not sitting, running laps, etc. Children do not need any real fitness-only training that a coach may wish to gain from running laps and running laps is simply not fun!

One note, as to the standing in line exercises, is that according to the Social-Learning Theory, players have a strong capacity to learn from watching others. This Imitative Behavior states, that as a child sees behavior that is successful for another, they are very adaptive to trying it for themselves. Although this is increasingly evident in children in the Concrete Operational Period of development (7-11), it will also be evident, in a more simple way, in children in the Preoperational Period.

Children not only have limited attention span, they also learn best from imitating others, self-experience, and self-discovery. The noted philosopher and psychologist Jean Piaget said "Children have real understanding only of that which they invent themselves, and each time we try to teach them something too quickly, we keep them from reinventing it themselves." In general, players want to participate rather than sit out and they want activities that are fun, challenging, and yet successful. Fun is the key!

How do children process information?

Depending on the development of a child, their ability and way of processing information will vary. According to Jean Piaget's stages of development, players in the Preoperational Period are limited to dealing with one task at a time. They also lack the ability to think through a problem and solve it. They rather will tend to pretend or imitate as they deal with problems. Introducing "ideas" or offering "hints" gives players the opportunity within this group as well as the concrete operational group to imitate what you and/or other players may demonstrate. "Can you do this?"

As a player goes through the Concrete Operational Period their ability to think through a problem solving circumstance is noticeably improved. Despite this fact, they typically still learn best through experience. They are also more capable of classifying information and placing thoughts or objects into categories. They have the ability to think in reverse operation.

Generally though, they must still experience it to understand it. This is a great group to offer some types of games where you do not give them several restrictions, but give them problems to solve and let them think it through. Games, such as the retrieval game, are a classic example.

In the Formal Operational Group, players are able to problem solve without actually experiencing it. They also can imagine situations and develop solutions to these imaginary circumstances. They can and often do assess things taught before accepting them as fact. They have the ability to analyze much better. These players will need opportunities to solve more complex problems not only individually but also as a team. Team knockout can offer multiple problems to solve, especially utilizing the different variations. Also, team-tag requires several options.

What does egocentric mean and how does this apply to soccer?

Egocentric is someone who is self-centered or only thinks about himself or herself. Very young players are very egocentric and only think about themselves. This is why many games that may be an 8 a side game for young players may actually appear to be a 1-v-15, rather than an 8-v-8 game. Players simply want the ball for themselves and will steal it from their own player to get it. Also, once they get the ball, they are very unlikely to pass it to a teammate at least on purpose.

As we train players in these very early ages, games where each player has a ball will not only be a very effective way to increase their repetitions, it will also be fun for all the players. Working into two sharing a ball can encourage players to learn to "share" the ball with teammates without limiting their own fun. Games such as the various tag games, or dribbling through gates (how many different gates can you get through in 1 minute?) can accomplish many positive things.

Explain the implications of the early maturer and the effect on sport participation.

Children who mature early either mentally or physically will dominate early, but may likely struggle later as others catch up to their level and often surpass them. It is critically important to offer exercises that follow Mosston's Slanty Line Theory where these children can be challenged at their own level while the other teammates are challenged at their own level. This will offer the more appropriate way to keep players in the "flow" while at the same time challenge them to continue to improve.

Players, at all levels, have the need and desire to increase both, their skill level, as well as their self-knowledge of their sport. Many studies have shown that children participate in sports mostly to have fun, but also to improve their own competency, and achieving increased levels of success. It has also been shown that their idea of "level of success" has much more to do with the learning and mastering of skills, than it does with winning games or large events. If we allow these early maturing players to dominate play, other players, not yet as mature, will not get opportunities to participate.

Of the twenty million children who participate in organized sports, 73% drop out by age 13. Studies show that the primary reasons children between the ages of 12 and 16 quit include; not having fun, getting yelled at by coaches and parents, not getting enough playing time, not learning how to improve, too much emphasis on winning, and not having the basic skills they need. All the italicized comments could be created if coaches allow the early maturer to dominate play and constantly USE him/her to win games.

The dominant early maturer may also eventually become frustrated with his diminishing level of success as his peers catch up physically and mentally to them. What once was easy simply because of their dominate size, speed, or understanding of the game will likely become much more difficult for these players.

One positive aspect can be that for the players who have an early and advanced understanding of the technical and tactical aspects of the game, they can be great examples for the average maturers or late maturers to imitate. They can set good examples for others to learn from.

Dan McAllister, DMcall5553@aol.com
GRASA Director of Coaching

Try Outs:

Are You Ready?

If Try Outs were next week, would you be ready? You may not play Soccer year round like some, but are you staying fit, interested, or involved somehow? Even if it is just jogging, juggling and watching some matches, it may mean the edge for next June. Keep focused and remember, June will be here before you know it!!!

Player Eligibility:

MHSAA Notes

The Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) has strict rules regarding the eligibility of players on school teams. These rules have provisions that prohibit a player on a school team from participating on any other team during the school season.

These rules cover players on Varsity, JV, & Freshman teams. They also cover players on 6th, 7th and 8th grade teams, if they play against teams from other schools. The school season includes the time from team tryouts and practices to the last game, including any playoff games. During time, no player on a school team may participate on any other team, including practices, scrimmages, or games. This includes premier teams, select teams, recreational teams (including AYSO), indoor teams, or any other soccer team.

Note that a school player may be rostered on another team; they just may not participate with the other team during the school team season. Consider, for example, girl soccer players in high school. In Michigan their club season is in the Fall, during which they may participate with premier, select, or recreational teams. In Winter, they may play on indoor teams. In the Spring, many of these players play on high school teams, so there is very little organized club activity. As the school season ends, these school players may play with their club teams in tournaments.

As to when the season actually ends, it will depend upon the school team that the player is on. In spring 2002, the regular season should end by Memorial Day weekend, so players on freshman and JV teams should be finished. Girls on varsity teams, which are going on to district playoffs, will not be done until their team is eliminated. According to the MHSAA website, district playoffs are May 28 - June 1, regional playoffs are June 4 - June 8, and the semifinal and final games are June 12 and June 15, 2002.

Can a player on a select team (such as a GRASA or other GVSA team) also play on a recreational (AYSO, YMCA) team during the same season? Yes, provided several conditions are met. The player must have the permission of the coaches of both teams, and it must be understood by player and both coaches that the select team must have priority over the recreational team regarding practice and game conflicts.

Can a player on a premier team (such as GV Premier or GLS) also play on a select team during the same season? Again, yes, provided that several conditions are met. The player must have the permission of the coaches of both teams, and the premier team must have priority. In addition, there is a dual enrollment form, which must be filled out, signed, and submitted.

Ken Coviak, ken.coviak@home.com
GRASA Communications Coordinator

GRASA Winter Indoor Training Program - 2nd Session

As we look into the New Year with great anticipation, the GRASA WIT Program is certainly one area that increases our excitement. Our staff are ALL Nationally licensed, with reams of coaching and playing experience. This second session will include both skills training and tactical application. Here are our exceptional staff:

Aaron Dean – ODP Staff Coach, MSYSA Staff Coach, and Grand Haven HS Boys Coach. Played at Grand Haven High School and 4 years at Hope College.

Aaron Daane – ODP Staff Coach, MSYSA Staff Coach, and GVP Head Coach. Played on California ODP Program, and Semi-pro in Mexico.

Patrick Moran – ODP Staff coach since 1996, MSYSA staff coach since 1997, and former DOC of Tri-Cities Soccer Club.

Dianne Strawser – Asst Coach Cornerstone University, and Asst Coach Westmont College, CA (Nationally ranked in top 5). Played on Regional ODP Pool, California ODP Team, and 4-year player at UC Santa Barbara.

Randy Strawser – Head Coach Cornerstone University, and Head Coach Westmont College, CA. Played 4 years at a Div 1 College.

Dan McAllister – ODP Staff Coach since 1995, MSYSA Staff Coach since 1996, 3 years College head coach, 3 years high school, and GVP head coach 4 years. Played competitively in Michigan, Colorado, and California for 14 years.

Jeremy Thelen – ODP Staff Coach and Operates own Goal Keeping Programs. Played at Grand Haven HS and 4 years at Olivet-Nazarene College.

The WIT Program

The GRASA WIT Program second session will begin on Thursday, January 10, 2002 at the Sports XChange on 44th St. The program will be one hour per week for a 6-week session. The cost of each 6-week session is \$75. The following schedule will be followed:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>AGE Group</u>
5pm – 6pm	U9 & U10
6pm – 7pm	U11 & U12
7pm – 8pm	U13 & U14
8pm – 9pm	U15 – U19

To sign up, use the application below. Space is limited, so sign-up early. We may be able to offer additional days if the demands are there. Also, we expect to offer a total of 3 – six week sessions during the winter months for those who wish to continue. Session 3 will likely be offered as a Team Training Format to help our teams enter the spring season more prepared.

-----cut here-----

Space is limited. Cost for this session is \$75 – paid with application

GRASA “WIT” PROGRAM APPLICATION

NAME	ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP	
HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE		
E-MAIL	AGE	GRASA TEAM	MALE/FEMALE

Medical Release – Liability Release Information:

I, _____ the parent or legal guardian for _____ realize that a soccer camp has high physical demands and possible injuries from participation and hereby authorize the staff of GRASA and staff coaches to act on my behalf according to their best judgment in the event my child should require any emergency and/or medical attention. I hereby also waive and release the GRASA WIT Coaching Staff, the Sports XChange, or anyone involved with this camp in any way from any and all liability for any injury, illness, or other mishap incurred while at GRASA WIT Program.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

Please mail this form to with payment of \$75 made out to **GRASA** to:

Dan McAllister
13201 Shutter Dr
Lowell, MI 49331



Soccer Spot News:

New Bulletin Board

The Soccer Spot has invited GRASA to provide and maintain a bulletin board at their Kentwood facility. This will be installed soon, providing us with an opportunity to share news with the soccer community. With 12 sq ft of space we can get somewhat creative. In addition to the expected news and announcements, we would like to feature photos. This is your chance to show off some of your work to a larger audience. (We're thinking soccer related here, but hey, we're flexible.)

We would also like to do a series of presentations on GRASA teams. Pick a team and put together a display, perhaps with a few photos, maybe an article on the unique things about that team, perhaps an amusing story or two, etc. If every team participates, each team will have about a week in the spotlight. More likely, the teams that participate will have several weeks. So get your players involved. Dig up or take some photos, find out what's unique and interesting about your team, get creative and claim your place in the spotlight.

The bulletin board is maintained by Ken Coviak (email ken.coviak@home.com, phone 676-2873). Feel free to contact him with submissions, ideas or comments.

Did you know?

- You can have your next Birthday Party with your own private room at Soccer Spot?
- Schools and Home Schooled kids can rent the Soccer Spot building for special events or training?
- You could get together with other Moms and learn how to play soccer?
- There are scheduled activities for the holiday break at Soccer Spot?
- You can go to WWW.SoccerSpot.Net or call 464-1000 and see what other activities are available to soccer lovers?

For all this and more, visit Soccer Spot today!

Free Money:

Fundraising's Face

During the years of involvement in my children's sports, fundraising has always been part of the experience. As soon as my first son was old enough to play T-Ball, we became well aware of the financial needs that Orcutt Little League had by asking us to sell something. I don't think it had ever entered my mind before then, that the registration fees we paid didn't cover the whole ball of wax. But we were new, and zealous, and willing to see how many magazine subscriptions we could sell.

For every team thereafter, the ritual of fundraising was just part of the process. We didn't necessarily enjoy it, but we knew they needed the "extra" money that we helped to bring in. It wasn't until I saw first hand, just how important that "extra" money was. It was a few days before opening day. I stopped by JBA on my way home from work to exchange some batting helmets. I could hear voices from inside the equipment room.

As I walked in, there, surrounded by hundreds of old, worn out uniforms, helmets, and various equipment were the senior members of the organization, working. Some were sewing uniforms, stitching up old catchers mitts, repairing straps for batting helmets, whatever they could do, to get another season or two out of the equipment that they were repairing.

There they sat. Some were old, wrinkled men, now in their 60's who might have played when the league had first started. Some were men who had stopped by on their way home, still in their work clothes. And some were obviously wives of these guys. But there they were, sitting, working, and talking, trying to get enough of that broken down equipment ready for opening day.

As we scrounged around and looked for a couple of different sized helmets, I suddenly realized how much money it took to keep things going. Fundraising took on a whole new meaning that evening. It meant not only new equipment to replace old, but also cutting back on the hours these old-timers spent every year fixing it.

I ended up leaving that evening without the helmets I had come for, but also with a changed attitude. I had come feeling frustrated and shortchanged with helmets that were too big and too old. I left humbled and with a sense of being part of the problem. No longer would selling a few candy bars be a duty I did begrudgingly. It meant some badly needed equipment upgrades.

I say all this to give Fundraising a Face. It's those old people working late hours fixing broken equipment. It's people stuffing envelopes, folding uniforms, and doing stuff that saves our Club money. Just keep this in mind as we kick off our Spring Fund Raising, no matter what it is that we ask you to do. The helmets? I ended up going to the Sporting Goods store and buying them. I still have them.

John Hall, jhall@rbc.org
Fundraising/Sponsorship Coordinator

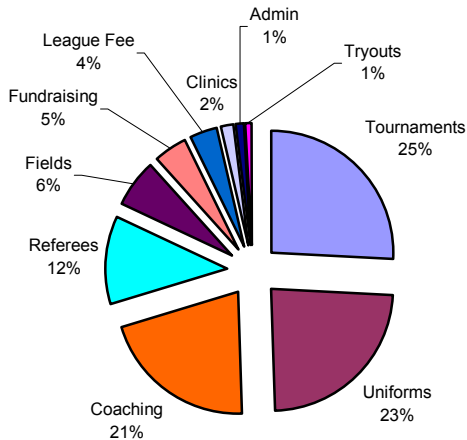
From the Treasure Chest:

GRASA is committed to providing a quality soccer program at an affordable cost to our families. A fair question to ask is, "Where's all the money go?" Fact is, we operate at a slight surplus in order to handle any unforeseen occurrences (e.g. field rental increases). Apart from this, every dollar is returned to the program.

As you can see from the following graph, very little (actually less than 1%) goes to office supplies, postage and administrative expenses. 99% goes directly into instruction, referee fees, field rental, tournaments, etc. We have no paid employees and only 1 person under contract, our director of coaching. We are committed to spending your money (and ours) on those things that directly benefit the players. We think this graph bears that out. As your treasurer I am more than happy to answer any questions regarding the Club's finances.

Paul Clemens, Paul.Clemens@53.com
GRASA Treasurer

GRASA Forecasted 2001-02 Expenses



Managing Managers:

A Salute to Our Great Team Managers!

The fall season came and went in a fury! I hope everyone had fun. My son Hunter played soccer this fall for EGR High School and my daughter Hope played basketball for the Middle School. This was the first time in 8 years that we have not had soccer games on the weekends. It felt very strange not being at a soccer field on Saturdays and Sundays!

We look forward to watching them play soccer this spring. Now that we have one season under our belt, please take a moment to e-mail me and let me know how your fall season went and if there is anything you need help with for your indoor games or the up-coming spring season. You have been great Team Managers – keep up the good work!

Claudia Judson, Claudiajudson5@home.com
GRASA Team Manager Coordinator

TOPSoccer of Grand Rapids

TOPSoccer, the outreach program for soccer, has come to Grand Rapids! It offers an opportunity for kids with physical and/or mental disabilities to play soccer and to be part of a team. It began last summer with a weeklong day camp at Aquinas, followed by an 8 week fall season. We are now starting an indoor season at the Soccer Spot to keep us fit for our spring season!

We currently have ten kids enrolled, and we are having a blast! The ages of the kids range from nine to fifteen, and that is always flexible. We also have ten talented and caring coaches, many being in middle and high school. We plan to always have a ratio of at least one to one, and hopefully even better than that.

GRASA has been kind enough to donate some of last year's jerseys. The TOPSoccer kids were so excited to receive their own jerseys! They couldn't believe it! They wear them to every practice, and they look terrific!

So thanks to GRASA for their continuing support. If you know of any kids who could benefit from this program, have them contact Laurie or Craig Wilson at 245-6973. We would love to have them!!

Communications:

Email List Anyone?

Have you checked the GRASA web site a few times, (www.eteamz.com/GRASA) but just don't think about checking it very often? Would you like to know when there's something new posted? Well, we have just the service for you.

We are putting together an email list to notify people of updates to the web site. Participants will receive periodic email notices describing updates. The email will just contain a short description of the items. If the items are of interest, you can then go to the web site for the full text. Notices will be sent immediately following the posting of major announcements, or periodically following a series of minor announcements.

To participate send me an email indicating that you would like to be added to the web site update email list.

Ken Coviak, ken.coviak@home.com
GRASA Communications Coordinator

World Cup Trivia:

Where and when is the next World Cup to be played?
Why is this Tournament the most unique of all past?
How many teams play in the World Cup Tournament?
and how many can you name that will be playing?
Which 3 teams have won the Tournament the most?
How many of the last 5 Host Countries can you name?
Who coached the US National Team in 1994, which team is he coaching now, and why is he famous?
Who are the top 4 teams going into this Tournament?
Which 3 teams does the US play in the 1st round?

Answers in our next issue



7220 Thornapple River Dr SE
Ada, MI 49301

To Our Friends At:

Current GRASA Board:

Member:	Position:	Age Representative:
Laurie Wilson	President	U16
Open	President-Elect	
Sheila Schlosser	Secretary	U11
Paul Clemens	Treasurer	
Patti Masotta	Registrar	U9
Ken Coviak	Communications	U15
Dan McAllister	Director of Coaching	
Mike Bart	Equipment Coordinator	U13
Mary Boettcher	Field Coordinator	U12
John Hall	Fundraising Coordinator	U14
Claudia Judson	Manager Coordinator	U17&U19
John Corbett	Referee Coordinator	U10
Mary Brandon	Tournament Coordinator	
Open	Try Out Coordinator	

Your Board Members are here to serve you! Feel free to email us with any Questions or Comments.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

GRASA will be collecting new and gently used soccer equipment (cleats, shin guards, goalie gloves, shorts, socks, etc.) to donate to the newly formed Grand Rapids Inner City Soccer league (GRICS).

These kids do not have the luxury of owning soccer equipment, and they would be very grateful to be the recipients of anything we can give them. If your family is like mine, we have many cleats, shin guards, etc., that our kids have outgrown and are just sitting in our attic and garage. We will clean them up and pass them along to kids who could really use them.

Please bring your donations to the Soccer Spot the next time you go there. There will be a collection box for you to deposit your things in. We will be taking collections between now and January, so please give to this very worthy cause.

GRASA families are the best, and this is a great opportunity for us to share with those who are less fortunate than us. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Laurie Wilson, USWilson1@aol.com
GRASA President

