



CORNER KICK

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April 2009 Issue

From The Pitch – Mike Nelson

As president of the Fairport Soccer Board, I would like to welcome you to the inaugural issue of “Corner Kicks,” a new newsletter providing members with information about the Fairport Soccer Club.

I hope you find the articles included in this issue, and subsequent issues, both interesting and informative as we attempt to keep you updated on a more regular basis about the events and achievements of FSC and our teams.

This year should be very exciting for the club. We started our indoor season out on a high note with an announcement that Gianni (John) Bussani has joined the club as FSC's Player Development Director.

As most of you may know, John is the Fairport Boys Varsity coach and brings a wealth of knowledge and talent that will surely pay large dividends for our teams and coaches. His main objective will be to improve the consistency of soccer training across FSC. There is more information within the newsletter about this appointment.

Also for 2009, one of our main goals as a Board, is to increase the amount of communication between the Board, our coaches and families of FSC. This newsletter is intended to be a 10-minute read with articles capturing the most important issues from across our soccer community.

We intend to highlight club announcements

(tournament, registration, general, etc.), soccer tips, highlight some of our countless volunteers, club store items, teams - really the list goes on and on – all with the goal of driving information directly into the hands of our parents.

To make this as valuable as possible, we welcome any comments, questions and feedback on how we can not only improve this newsletter, but the club in general. Please direct your comments and article ideas to fairportsoccerclub@yahoo.com.

We are already looking ahead to our next issue, and more importantly, to a great year of soccer in Fairport.

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Special Points of Interest:

- FSC is fielding 19 boy's teams and 13 girl's teams in 2008-2009
- Last year, four teams came in first place, two teams came in second and four in third out of 23 teams playing in competitive divisions
- Both boy's and girl's high school soccer teams were section V champions and girl's varsity competed in the NYS finals

RDYSL Zero Tolerance Policy

The RDYSL has implemented a new zero tolerance policy for any physical or verbal abuse. The league's policy applies to all coaches, players, parents and other supporters and referees effective immediately. It states that, “Abusive and obscene language, violent play, vio-

lent conduct, fighting and other behavior (including but not limited to sarcasm, taunting, etc.) deemed detrimental to the game between the above mentioned groups will not be tolerated. Ultimate responsibility for the actions of coaches, players, and spectators resides

with the member clubs.”

To read the full policy, please go to the following website: <http://rdysl.com/RefLib/>.

FSC managers will also be communicating this policy to all FSC teams and we expect the entire club to follow these guidelines.

Bussani Joins FSC

In an effort to improve the consistency of soccer training to all FSC players and coaches, and offer the best soccer experience possible, Gianni (John) Bussani has joined FSC as Player Development Director.

In this role, Bussani will coordinate and implement a new Player and Coaching Development Program for FSC. This will include developing, overseeing, and supporting our coaches, developing player development coach's manuals, and

training plans, and conducting player and coaches clinics. He will also assist the Soccer Development Committee and FSC Board in executing certain club soccer development activities.

His soccer accomplishments and experiences are many, including being named to the First Team All-



Conference and First Team All-American while playing collegiate soccer at Buffalo State. Bussani also played professional soccer in the Canadian National Soccer League for St. Catherine Roma.

John has many years of coaching experience for FSC and other local youth teams. He has also coached the boys varsity team at Fairport High School for 14 years where he is also a teacher.

FSC Tournament—Volunteers Needed

This year's Fairport Soccer Tournament has been scheduled for July 10-12, 2008.

Last year was a record weekend for FSC. We had more than 100 teams participate from not only Monroe County, but also as far away as Illinois and Canada.

There are many compelling rea-

sons to host a tournament. Not only does it help defer dues costs for FSC families, it also provides a tournament for our teams to participate in without incurring any additional costs.

In order to organize the tournament, volunteers are needed to serve on the Tournament Committee.

The group is comprised of between 35-40 people who meet once a month to handle logistics for one of the area's premier travel soccer club tournaments. If you would like to serve on the tournament committee, please contact Eric Rand at 2009fsctournament@gmail.com. For more information.

Soccer Tip Of The Month—Speed of Thought

Soccer players have a great deal to concentrate on. Their senses are constantly being blitzed with information, which they need to quickly decipher. Here are some examples:

- Where opponents are positioned
- Actions of their teammates
- What's in front of them and their peripheral vision
- The conditions of the pitch and the weather
- The noise from teammates,

crowd, coaches and opponents

- Their tactical position and the strategy of the team

So, what can you do to help coach these key speed of thought principles?

Speed of thought - enable players to make their own decisions, that means give them lots of opportunities to make choices. Condition games so that it

forces them to think.

Play soccer games with them, don't just do drill work. By playing games they will also gain experience which help build their database from which to draw on.

Keep them motivated, players will not think unless they are motivated and stimulated to do so. Finally, let them be free of any fear and stress of making wrong decisions.

