



The Falcon Force

Letter from President; written by Rhonda Cashion

Whew! We made it through the fall season kickoff. Our kids (and, we, as parents) are back into the swing of juggling the many facets of life: school, homework, practice, games, and hopefully the non-structured time of just being a kid.

This year's start was met with some ups and downs. Three KSC teams participated in the MILD

Cup tournament over the Labor Day weekend. The club presence was felt as the teams and their families provided support, interaction and camaraderie on and off the field. The outcome was a definite "up" for all who participated.

Field circumstances resulted in a temporary "down". Due to a record rainfall, a weekend of games in the rain drastically changed the game of

soccer into more of something like...say water polo! The Kentwood Soccer Club and other clubs using these fields, continue to work together to minimize the overall impact. But, in true Kentwood Soccer Club fashion, everyone has worked through this adversity with grace and composure.

about our club, and demonstrated the true meaning of community. As in the words of Benjamin Franklin, "words may show a man's wit, but actions show his meaning".

As we make our way through the second half of the season there may be a bump or two in the road.

But, I am confident the final result will be a positive experience

for all. The actions I have seen to date reinforce the fact that we have a great soccer community. I encourage all to remember that the reaction to a situation can directly impact the outcome. I encourage everyone to be supportive, positive and most importantly –

be involved!

"Words may show a man's wit, but actions show his meaning."

Benjamin Franklin

The board said goodbye to some long standing members. Their presence and contributions will be missed. But, these voids have been filled by equally competent people, passionate about the game of soccer and the kids who participate.

The "down" of a sick member was offset by an extraordinary outpouring of love, caring and encouragement. This response speaks volumes

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Upcoming Events

October 14	Board Mtg, 7pm, Fire Station #3
November 6	U15 & up Boys Tryouts, 6:30pm Woodland Sports
November 3	Winter Training begins, 4:30--6pm, MVP
November 11	Board Meeting, 5:30pm, Kentwood Library
November 11	Boys Registration, 7-9pm, Kentwood Library

Be sure to check for further details on our website at:
www.kentwoodsoccer.com

Board Members

Name	Position	Phone	Email
Rhonda Cashion	President	455-5198	cashionrs@comcast.net
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Dave Seidel	Coach Representative	281-1696	lester1960@comcast.net



Equipment & Merchandising News

Thanks to all players and parents for being patient with the ordering of merchandising. We have had a few mistakes on sizes and personalizing and appreciate your understanding. The latest order from Picture Day was sent to our distributor and should be back soon. If you are interested in ordering merchandise for Christmas gifts, Please send me an order by October 15. Simply mail it to:

5535 Brattleboro, Kentwood
49508. Thanks.

The Equipment Exchange has been going quite nicely. Thank you to Dorothy Vanderwall for all your help! If there is anything you'd like to pass on to someone or there is something you need, let me know. We have quite a few pairs of shoes! Thanks to all who have donated!

THANK YOU
Kentwood Fire Station #3
For generously offering your
conference room for our monthly
board meetings.

Severe Weather Policy Brewer Park Fields



The position of the AYSO National Referee Commission regarding severe weather is as follows: All games must be terminated and all players must clear the fields immediately upon hearing thunder or seeing lightning. No Exceptions!

"If you can see it—flee it; If
you can hear it—clear it!"

Tryouts—Boys U15 & up



Spring season tryouts for boys U15 and up will be held at Woodland Sports, 2100 28th Street, on Thursday, November 6 from 7pm-9pm. Registration begins at 6:30. Go to the KSC website to download a Medical Release Form and for important details about registration.

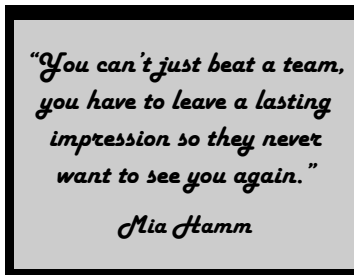
Tournament Talk

This past June, 10 of our 14 teams participated in the Portage Soccer Classic and 2 in the Gaylord tournament.

At the Portage tournament, the U11 Girls Black team, coached by Carl Warfield and Alan Fricke and the U11 Girls Red team, coached by Travis Dunbar, Mike Willerer and Ron Dunbar found themselves competing against each other in the Championship game. Although the U11 Girls Black team ultimately took the title, we consider both teams Champions! Way to go girls!

The U13 Girls Elite team, coached by Ken Kozachik and Terry Christo-

pher tried to defend their 2007 Championship title but unfortunately were shut out from the Championship game due to a 1 goal differential by Vardar Walker, a premier level team.



The U14 Boys coached by Dave Seidel and the U14 Girls coached by

Kelly Conlon made the 3 hour trip to participate in the Gaylord, MI tournament in June. Braving stormy weather and lots of rain, our U14 Girls agreed to a co-Championship title as they were unable to complete their final game due to weather.

In September, three teams participated in the Mild Cup tournament in Holland. The U10 Girls, coached by Kelly Conlon won all three of their games. The U12 Girls Red, coached by Travis Dunbar put up a good fight but were ultimately defeated in the Championship game 0-1 against Georgetown Elite.

Congratulations to all!!

Winter Training Available; U9 & U10
Nov 4-Dec 19, 4:30-6:00pm, MVP
\$85
More details to come

Juggling: A Homework Assignment for Every Kid in our Club

written by John Conlon

Laura Heyboer, from Hudsonville, is a freshman at Michigan State University and she currently leads the nation in scoring. She could become the first freshman in 20 years to win the national scoring title. When Laura was 11 years old she already could juggle into the hundreds. Mainly because her parents and her coach at that time really pushed her to increase her ability to keep the ball in the air. As a college player, the ball seems to be on a string when she has it. She flicks the ball, makes it jump over defenders, takes balls out of the air with every part of her body, and simply does magical things that very few players can do. I am a big believer that her ability to juggle played a huge part in that self-confidence and technical development.

As a child, Jacob Orao (my best friend) and I had daily juggling competitions against one another. We had observed a couple of trainers, Mike Garrett (CEO of Soccer Zone) and Neil Ridgway (Kalamazoo TKO) put on juggling exhibitions at their camps. Mike juggled a thousand times in front of us and Neil juggled over 400 times on his head. Jacob and I set a goal to be able to replicate both of those things. By the age of 13 I was able to juggle a thousand times and could also juggle over 400 times on my head. I credit this practice to really developing my ability as a player. My confidence and comfort on the ball, was increased significantly by simple backyard practice and daily competitions against my brothers and my friends.

My advice to parents is to send your kids outside in the backyard on those bright sunny days when they are inside playing with their PS3 or Xbox 360. Set monthly goals for them in terms of juggling and make them juggle with all parts of their body. The kids should start with the ball in their hands and then try increasing their number with whatever part of the body they are juggling with. Also, have them play soccer tennis with friends at the Tennis courts. This is a great way to practice your juggling and increase your touches on the ball. Sit down at the computer and have your children watch juggling videos on UTube. Watch Zidane, Cristiano Ronaldo, Ronaldinho and Ibrahimovic in their training sessions. The tricks they do with the ball all began when they were kids juggling in the streets or in their backyards.



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