

The Piscataway Soccer Club Newsletter

Important Dates

October 16 - Board of Director's Meeting @ 7:30 @ Kerwin's

November 20 – Board of Director's Meeting @ 7:30 @ Kerwin's

President's Message

Dear Parents and Players,

First I want to thank all Travel and SYSL parents for their hard work and volunteering at the tournament. We had just a little bit of bad weather, and we were able to get all the games in except for the 300 pm games on Saturday and 2 games on one field on Sunday. We had a record 248 teams in attendance and turned away approximately 18 teams.

We are still crunching numbers and we have a post tournament wrap up meeting later this month. After that meeting I will be able to report the final amount of funds raised for the club. These funds are used to offset registration fees, helping us keep our registration fees amongst the lowest in the area. Recently, we purchased 4 additional light towers at a cost of almost \$48,000.00. We are currently exploring additional light towers. The towers also need to be maintained and fueled regularly. We also purchase and donate seed and fertilizer for the Witherspoon and Conackamack Fields for the BOE to spread yearly.

The Recreational Soccer Season is off to a great start. I have been in attendance for the first 3 weeks and I have seen many smiling faces of the young children in our program thoroughly enjoying the game of soccer. Recreation games start at 900 am every Saturday and run until 330 pm. We have launched a Pilot Program for Girls Only Teams in Rec, and at the younger ages they are a success. We hope to grow the program in the Spring. Our own Chuck Myers has Tri-County 5v5 Festival Series, in partnership with several local clubs and sanctioned by NJ Youth Soccer. These fun, small-sided events are open to U7–U8 boys and girls (birth years 2018–2019) and are a great way for young players to enjoy the game in a festivalstyle atmosphere. Members of the Festival Series are Piscataway Soccer Club, Watchung Hills Soccer Association, Westfield Soccer Soccer Club and the Cranford Soccer Club, with each club hosting a festival for future travel players.

I want to now turn to two serious subjects:

- 1. Use of Foul Language and/or Discriminatory Language. This has no place in our club. As you know, Piscataway Soccer Club does not condone language or behavior of this nature. It is explicitly against our Code of Conduct, which every player and family agrees to when registering for the program. Respect, inclusivity, and sportsmanship are central to our mission, and racial or discriminatory remarks have no place in our club. NJYS has seen an increase in this type of language and has issued guidelines for coaches on how to deal with it. Violations may result in disciplinary action, including suspension from practices or games.
- 2. **Referee Abuse.** Once again, this has no place in our club. It is explicitly against our <u>Code of Conduct</u>, which every player and family agrees to when registering for the program. Our Club and the main league we play in MNJYSA does not tolerate Referee Abuse. US Soccer, our governing body, has issued harsh sanctions this past March. We are in a Referee shortage, many long-time referees are not continuing and many young players are not becoming referees. Think about how you would want your child treated before you object to a Referee's Call.

New US Soccer Policy - Click Here Sanctions include:

NON-PHYSICAL ABUSE

- Level 1: Verbal Taunting Minimum twogame suspension (Examples: offensive, insulting, belittling, insinuating, taunting language).
- Level 2: Harassment / Intimidation Minimum four-game suspension (Examples: harassment, intimidation, retaliation, abusive language, non-physical threats).
- Level 3: Threats / Derogatory Language Minimum six-game and/or 6-12 months suspension (Examples: aggression, attacking, derogatory, doxing, physical threat, cyber bullying).
- Level 4: Offensive or Discriminatory Acts Minimum 10-game and/or 12-24 months suspension (Examples: comments about race, skin color, ethnicity, nationality, social origin, gender, disability, sexual orientation, language, religion).

PHYSICAL ABUSE

1. **Level 1: Minor or Slight Touching** – Minimum three-game and/or 1-6 months

- suspension (Examples: minor or slight deliberate touching).
- 2. **Level 2: Physical Confrontation** Minimum 10-game and/or 6-24 months suspension (Examples: pushing, grabbing, pulling, squeezing, pinching, slapping, use of object in a non-striking manner, property damage).
- 3. **Level 3: Violent Contact** Minimum 12-month suspension to lifetime ban (*Examples: hitting, punching, elbowing, kicking, biting, spitting, choking, tackling, kneeing, headbutting, throwing object in striking manner*).

Thanks, Mike Majorczak President - Tournament Director

Recreational Program

The recreation season started with a bang and great weather. Here are some photos from the first weekend.













Travel Program

It was a beautiful start to the travel season. Here are some shots of the Santos home opener.







New PSC Social Media Intern

The SCA is pleased to have junior Jayden Pemberton of Piscataway High School join the PSC team as our to Social Media Intern. His resume is impressive in terms of knowledge and community service.



Tournament by the Numbers

The club hosted the 44th annual Fall Classic Soccer Tournament on September 6-7. It took months of careful planning, and we think it was our best tournament yet. Here's some statistics that might interest you:

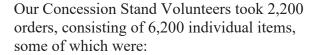
- 2 days of games, 10,119 Spectators
- 24 Fields, 96 Corner Flags
- 47 Clubs, 248 Teams, 3,373 Players,
- 73 Referees, 496 Game cards
- 290+ Volunteers, 2,000+ Volunteer hours 6



- 3 field paint robots
- 130 gallons of field paint
- 1 Rain Storm 📅
- 26 games cancelled X
- 2 broken tents, and 1 broken flag
- 440 Champion Medals given
- 438 Finalist Medals given
- 17 Third Place Medals given 5
- 1,065 Participation Medals given (U8-U10)
- 2,486 Goals scored
- 63% of games were very competitive $\stackrel{\bullet}{=}$



- 3% of games involved excessive scoring
- 2,000 pounds (a TON) of ice used



- 601 orders of French Fries
- 470 Hamburgers , and 375 Hot dogs



• 432 orders of chicken tenders



• 464 breakfast sandwiches



- 1,794 bottled drinks
- 141 Cups of Hot Coco
- 240 Bagels sold

• 416 watermelon cups , and 57 oranges (sliced)

Want to see some tournament pictures? They are available on the website, under Fall Classic > Fall Classic Photos & Videos. The Direct link is

https://www.piscatawaysoccer.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1028513

Also, a big thanks to Nicholas Bastille, coach of the PSC Fire. Nicholas' company, Mixed Media Concepts, donated 24 sets of field number banners used on the tournament fields.

Tournament Pass Back Items

From this year's tournament, we collected 75 pairs of cleats, 100+ jerseys, 20+ soccer balls, plus cones, training bibs, goalkeeper gloves, and more generously donated by visiting teams. These "Pass Back" items will be shipped to Mali, which is a country in West Africa, where they will be distributed to youth players.





Uniform Update

We know many of you are waiting on travel uniforms, and we appreciate your patience. Our provider, SCORE, has experienced unexpected delays that have affected orders nationwide. While our sales rep has been working hard to help, most travel teams will not receive their full kits until sometime in October or November.

For recreation families, uniforms should already be in hand by the time you read this.

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as we work through this. We know it's frustrating, but please know the club is doing everything possible to keep players outfitted and ready to play.

All-Girls Sessions Debut in Recreation

This Fall marks an exciting first for the PSC Recreation program: the launch of several all-girls teams. While PSC has long had all-girls teams in the travel program—currently three are competing—this is the first time the club has been able to offer the same opportunity at the recreation level. For Fall 2025, PSC has formed two Kindergarten & 1st Grade all-girls groups and two Little Kickers all-girls groups. These teams were only possible thanks to families who registered early, giving the club the ability to organize and balance the groups in advance. This step reflects PSC's commitment to encouraging more girls to play soccer and feel comfortable developing their skills in a supportive environment. The

club hopes to continue and expand allgirls sessions in future seasons as interest and registration grow.





Premier League Partnership with NJYS

While we provided info about this in the last newsletter, NJ Youth Soccer just posted this article in their Monthly Newsletter. We love the shoutout to our club for hosting both the Coaches' Workshop and Player Training Sessions. It was an awesome experience.

In a partnership between the State of NJ, the English Premier League, NJ Youth Soccer and the Piscataway Soccer Club, the PSC recently hosted 3 exciting events in July. Premier League Community Coaches flew into NJ and provided a youth soccer coaching workshop, and two training sessions for players. This partnership was a first of its kind. Here's how it happened.

In late May of this year, Claudia Locricchio, Assistant Director of Marketing & Operations for the New Jersey Sports & Exposition Authority, contacted the New Jersey Youth Soccer (NJYS) office regarding a community initiative tied to the upcoming Premier League Summer Series Tournament in New Jersey.

In her message, Claudia stated:

"The State of New Jersey is partnering with the English Premier League to host community events this summer. We're looking for the opportunity to partner with a few soccer programs and conduct a coach's training codelivered with the U.S. Soccer Foundation and

Premier League."

At that time, the U.S. Soccer Foundation had just entered into a 3-year agreement with the Premier League. This collaboration aims to develop more than 500 local soccer coaches and provide critical coaching and sports development resources to over 10,000 youth players from underserved communities across New Jersey. NJYS CEO Evan Dabby followed up by reaching out to Chuck Myers, who serves on both the NJYS and Piscataway Soccer Club (PSC) Boards of Directors, to help identify a suitable host club. Chuck recommended PSC, recognizing the club's existing partnerships with the Township of Piscataway, the Board of Education, and the YMCA at the Piscataway Community Center. These relationships gave PSC a strong foundation to secure suitable facilities on short notice that met the Premier League's site requirements.

While the original plan was to host a singleday event, the program quickly expanded. PSC ultimately hosted **three training events over two days**, which included:

- Premier League Community Coaching Workshop A training session for up to 40 coaches, provided free of charge.
- Two Player Training Sessions Designed for U11 and older players in Piscataway, each session accommodated up to 40 participants. Both sessions were also free of charge for all attendees.

These sessions were scheduled for Monday, July 21, and Tuesday, July 22, due to the Premier League team's subsequent travel plans (the following days were already scheduled for events in the Bronx and Kearny).

The resulting experiences, for the 80 players who attended, were truly unforgettable. Players left the training sessions with smiles after participating in 3 different stations, each led by a different Premier League coach. They also received a PL logoed: size 1 ball, string bag, and water bottle.

During the 2-night Premier League Coaching Workshop, the 25 attending coaches received valuable insight on how to be a better coach as well as a set of training exercises. The NJ youth

soccer coaches also received a Premier League logoed jersey and shorts training kit, which everyone wore on the 2nd night on the field. In total, **Piscataway Soccer Club received a priceless experience** through this unique partnership, which included professional-level coaching sessions, valuable training experiences for both coaches and players, and donated equipment.











Tri-County 5v5 Festivals Kick Off with Strong Start



Did you know that Piscataway SC is a founding member of the newly formed Tri-County 5v5 Soccer Festivals? The PSC has been hosting Festivals since 2021 when it started its FUTURES program. On Saturday, September 27, Chuck Myers was with the Cranford Soccer Club as it hosted the first in a series of U7/U8 festivals designed to give young players from town clubs the chance to experience fun, low-pressure competition against local opposition. The first festival brought together teams from across the region for an exciting and successful afternoon of soccer. More than 180 players participated in three short 5v5-format games over the course of an hour—leaving with sweat on their brows and smiles on their faces. Upcoming festivals that the **PSC FUTURES** program will participate in, include:

- Westfield October 11
- Piscataway October 25

• Watchung — November 1

Festivals are designed to be low-cost, focused on fun, with no referees, no standings, and no coaching - just a positive soccer experience. For more information please contact: Chuck at PSC.soccer.coach@gmail.com





NJYS MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

New Jersey Youth Soccer is pleased to share with you our monthly membership newsletter to keep you informed of the latest news and happenings around our soccer community.

SOCCER FORWARD FOUNDATION BRINGS 'FUN OF THE GAME' TO MORRIS COUNTY

We had such a fun time with our soccer community earlier this month at Soccer Forward's Play Day ahead of the U.S. Soccer Men's National Team match with South Korea at Sports Illustrated Stadium. Sending out a huge thanks to USMNT players Max Arfsten and Sebastian Berhalter for making it such a special event for the players in attendance! *Read more*.

PREMIER LEAGUE PARTNERSHIP BRINGS COMMUNITY SOCCER EVENTS TO NJYS CLUBS

Over the summer, the Premier League brought a series of community events to local clubs during its Summer Series. Taking part in this groundbreaking initiative were Piscataway SC and Kearny Thistle United, two NJYS member clubs that hosted player clinics and coaching workshops led by Premier League Community Coaches. *Read more*.



NJYS PARTNERS WITH HITCHECK TO ADVANCE PLAYER SAFETY AND CONCUSSION DETECTION

NJ Youth Soccer is proud to announce a strategic partnership with HitCheck, a leading mobile app that monitors athletes' cognitive performance and screens for signs of concussion. Through this partnership, NJ Youth Soccer and HitCheck reaffirm our shared commitment to athlete safety, equipping trainers and healthcare professionals with real-time data that supports early detection, objective decision-making and effective return-to-play protocols. *Read more*.

SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR GOAL AND SAVE OF THE YEAR

New Jersey Youth Soccer encourages you to send us your best goals and saves to be considered for our NJYS Goal of the Year Powered by the New York Red Bulls and NJYS Save of the Year Powered by Gotham FC. Winners and finalists will be celebrated at the NJYS Annual Awards Dinner Presented by RWJBarnabas Health in early 2026, along with being highlighted at a Red Bulls or Gotham FC home match at Sports Illustrated Stadium.

- <u>Submit your Goal of the Year nominations.</u>
- Submit your Save of the Year nominations.

DAVID SAMSON MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING SUPPORTS TOPSOCCER

NJ Youth Soccer is deeply grateful to the David Samson Memorial Golf Outing for its generous support of TOPSoccer. The outing honors the life of David Samson (Sammo), a beloved soccer trainer in New Jersey who passed away in 2016 due to a heart condition. David began his coaching career in Scotland with Ayrshire Sportsability, an organization dedicated to giving children with disabilities the chance to experience sports. The connection to TOPSoccer in New Jersey reflects David's passion and values, and the generosity of the outing's organizers and his family helps ensure

that his commitment to inclusion continues to make a difference. *View photos*.



Parents Informational Video

Parents, please click on the link below to view the Fall Parents informational video prepared by our Director of Coaching Chuck Myers.

Click Here

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mike Majorczak at mw.majorczak@gmail.com

PSC at the Rutgers Women's Soccer Game

On Friday, September 12, 2025, members of the Piscataway Soccer Club Fire and Pride girls' teams attended the Rutgers Womens' Soccer match against the Michigan State Spartans. While the game ended in a 1-1 tie, the girls truly enjoyed their experience at the game from watching a riveting match to playing a scrimmage against one another at halftime to getting autographs by the Scarlet Knights players after the game. Coaches Basile, Sy, Shilling, and Shah enjoyed having their players see a professional match and were able to reinforce concepts taught by the Red Bulls trainers during training session. More importantly, the girls were able to enjoy each other's company and develop camaraderie which will help them as the season begins. Both PSC Fire and Pride are grateful to PSC and Rutgers Athletics for providing such an opportunity for our players and their families.









PSC at the Red Bulls

This weekend of October 4, PSC players and parents went to Sports Illustrated Arena to watch the men's Red Bulls soccer team play their last home match of the season. It was a very fun night. Thank you Red Bulls!















Elks Soccer Shoot

The Piscataway Elks Soccer Shoot Out was held on September 26th at Piscataway HS. It was a wellattended event. The event was open to all children up to U16 (ages 15 & under), whether the child was currently in the Piscataway Soccer Club or not. The Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee of the Elks intends to bring every Elk State Association on board and increase participation in soccer on every level. The Elks program includes a Local, District, State and Regional Shoot Out. The Elks work with local Soccer Associations & recreation Departments to increase Elk participation. The Soccer Shoot Out program consists of two different contests that test different level of skills at different ages. The first place winners at our Piscataway Soccer Shoot will advance on to the Elks Central District Soccer Shoot to be held on October 24th. The winners from Piscataway Elks Soccer Shoot were as follows:

U8 Girls Princess Nwodim took 1st place, Fatima Valdiviezo took 2nd place & Aayra Meshram took 3rd place.

U8 Boys Julian Cucalon took 1st place, Israel Sarpong took 2nd place & Jayden Hernandez took 3rd place.

U10 Girls Morgan Villanueva took 1st place, Niharika Sankar took 2nd place & Kamila Cucalon took 3rd.

place.

U10 Boys Joel Cotto Jr took 1st place, Gustavo Mendoza took 2nd place & Leonardo Jimenez took 3rd place.

U12 Girls Anika Sarma took 1st place & Bani Kaur took 2nd place.

U12 Boys Kaiden Pineda took 1st place, Emilia Garcia took 2nd place & Saharsh Junuthula took 3rd place.

U14 Girls Mia DeSantis took 1st place, Taylor O'Farrell took 2nd place & Adriana Abreu took 3rd place.

U14 Boys Ethan Villanueva took 1st place, Paul Odeyemi took 2nd place & Obinna Nwodim took 3rd place

U16 Girls Meagan Martineau took 1st place.

The NJ Elks State Soccer Shoot is scheduled for January 10, 2026, at Manasquan High School Field House. The Mid Atlantic Regional Soccer Shoot is scheduled for March 6-8, 2026, in York, PA.

Thank you again for your support of the Piscataway Elks & Piscataway Soccer Club.

Here is a link to photos of the event: https://youtu.be/6sRAtwJXBa8

Field Usage News

Witherspoon is closed for the season. Space at Conackamack and Green Acres has been set aside for practices in addition to assigned time for the turf field. As always, please do not practice on lined game fields.

Please no practices on Game Fields at Green Acres. Fields 2, 3, 4, 5, 21 and 5v5 fields A through G.

Click Here for Rec Field Maps

Click Here for Travel Field Maps

Background Checks

As a requirement for coaching with the club, all coaches are required to have a background check as part of the coaching approval process. This will be

done through the carding process and all coaches should have received instructions.

Reffing Info

Any new prospective ref needs to sign up for a new referee class for one day and then attend an on the field class on another day. Grade 9,8, and 7 refs will all be known as Grassroots refs. New refs can now start this process at 13 now.

The Grassroots Referee Course is now available online for those who are interested in taking the first step to become a soccer referee. *Learn more*. However, if you have done traveling soccer and know the rules, you can ref recreational games. Please contact Brian Hinds if you are interested. If you get your reffing license and are reffing recreational, there is a bonus pay.

One of our instructional referees, Adrianna Abreau of the PSC Gotham, graduated from reffing recreational to be a licensed travel soccer ref, following in the footsteps of dad Angel and brother Alex.





Team News

Want to have some fun information about your team's season put in the newsletter? Just send them

to the public information officer at groussey@erols.com

U10 Newcastle

The team has been busy this Summer.

Team Newcastle put a summer practice, with a series of skill challenges supporting the Club World Cup, a tournament held in the United States. Keep up the good work guys.



On August 21st, Team Newcastle went to support the Rutgers men's soccer team. It was a great team bonding experience.





PSC Santos

The Santos came in 2nd at the Wildwood NJ Beach Blast Tournament



Interested in Becoming a Volunteer?

Volunteers are the backbone of the Piscataway Soccer Club and play a vital role in the success of all our programs. Whether you're a parent, former player, or community member, your time and talents can make a big difference. If you're interested in getting involved with PSC, we'd love to hear from you! Contact us today at Info@PiscatawaySoccer.org