

Montclair Soccer Pitch

Special Interest Articles:

- Fall Registration (p. 2)
- Clippers Tryouts (p. 3)
- Help Wanted: Volunteer Opportunities (p. 4-6)

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Message From the President

Greetings Everyone!

Its official, the Spring season will begin on April 5! The U6 games will begin a couple of weeks later on April 13. If you are a coach and you haven't contacted Pam Hoffman <registrar@montclairsoccer.org> about your plans for Spring soccer, please do so right away!

March is Clippers tryouts month. If you know a player who would enjoy a high level of competitive play, encourage them to try out for a Class 3 Clippers team. See our website for the latest tryout information.

Fall 2008 Registration and our Annual General Meeting take place next month. Our April newsletter will include all of the details. The Annual General Meeting is where we elect new officers and board members. Everyone is invited to attend.

I have a bit of a pre-announcement to make as well. Montclair Soccer is currently developing its own wiki. We plan to migrate much of our website content this new website. Information updates will be much quicker, more efficient, and very collaborative. For example, our Volunteer Coordinator envisions everyone being able to update their own job descriptions and record important notes or contact information required for that position. Individual teams could have a their own wiki page. Look here: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki> if you want to know more about wikis. If you have experience with editing wikis and are interested in helping, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Nancy Lane <volunteers@montclairsoccer.org>.

Peter Costantinidis

president@montclairsoccer.org

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mar. 10	MSC Monthly Meeting
Mar. 15 – 16	U9-U12 Clippers tryouts
Mar. 29-30	U13-U19 Clippers tryouts
Apr. 5	Spring season begins (U8 and up)
Apr. 12	Earthquakes vs. Chicago Fire at McAfee Coliseum
Apr. 13	U6 Spring season begins
Apr. 14	Annual General Meeting
Apr. 19	Registration day
Apr. 22	Registration evening
May 18	U6 Spring season ends
May 31	Spring season ends (U8 and up)



Save the Date for Fall Registration Event

Hello Soccer Families,

Mark your calendars! The biggest social event of the spring is almost here! That is right, it is time again for the Montclair Soccer club annual fall registration! This year, we will be giving a new car away to everyone who comes! Just kidding, but it is a great event anyway. This is where we register over 1200 players each year with Montclair Soccer. Registration will be held Saturday, April 19 from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm and Tuesday, April 22 from 5:30-7:30 pm. The location is Montera Middle School on Ascot Drive.

In March we will begin the online portion of registration. I have set a tentative target date to begin online registration on March 19.

Players must be at least 5 years of age by 7/31/08. Players must be in Kindergarten (or first grade). No preschoolers.

Who must register? All recreational soccer players, all class 3 competitive Clipper players, all coaches, and all assistant coaches.

I will have more registration details in our April newsletter.

Have a good spring!

Pam Hoffman

Registrar

Help Wanted: Volunteer Opportunities

Montclair Soccer Club needs you! Now is a great time to sign up for a club-level volunteer job and fulfill your required volunteer hours. See pages 4-6 of the Newsletter for open volunteer positions.

If you are interested in a club volunteer position, please contact Nancy Lane, our volunteer coordinator, at volunteers@montclairsoccer.org. To volunteer for a fields related position, please email fields@montclairsoccer.org and copy volunteers@montclairsoccer.org.

Refer to our website (www.montclairsoccer.org) for information on the new volunteer policy and updates on volunteer opportunities.

Consider Coaching Montclair Soccer

Would you like to coach a Montclair soccer team this fall? Coaching a Class IV team is a commitment, but it can be very gratifying. It is also one of the more important contributions you can make to the health of Club.

With some coaches moving up to take Class III or I teams, there are always coaching opportunities. Registration for Fall soccer isn't that far away. If you have any interest in coaching now is the time to start giving it some serious consideration.

JLYSL currently requires all coaches to hold a USSF F-license when coaching at the U10 and older age groups, and you'll need time to fit the F-license course (1 evening and 1 full day session) into your schedule. There may also be opportunities to get started with a team during the more informal Spring Soccer Season. The appropriate Age Group Coordinators (see Directory link at www.montclairsoccer.org) can help you get started.

Volunteers Needed to Stuff Envelopes

We are in desperate need of 10 volunteers to help with registration mailings.

This is a job that can be done from home. You will stuff envelopes and put on labels and stamps. You will receive your materials the week of March 10th and must have the job completed back to the registrar by March 17.

We send out about 1500 mailings. So if we can get 5 volunteers, each person would do about 300 mailings.

Your hours will count toward your fall 2008 family volunteer requirement. Students who are in need of a volunteer job for school are welcome to help.

Best Regards,

Pam Hoffman

Registrar

2008 Clipper Tryout Schedule

Please check the Montclair Soccer Club Web Site at <http://www.montclairsoccer.org/> prior to your tryout date for any changes in dates, start times, field changes, or possible rainout.

Try to attend all tryout dates. Please arrive 30 minutes early to register. Tryout registration forms are available online. Please contact the coaches if you cannot attend a tryout. Coach contact information is available at <http://www.montclairsoccer.org/>. Players must wear shin guards.

Coaches will be posted at <http://www.montclairsoccer.org/>.

Girls' Schedule

Age Group	Day/Date	Place	Time
U9 Girls* Born between 8/1/99 – 7/31/00	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	1:30 – 3:30 pm 4:00 – 6:00 pm
U10 Girls Born between 8/1/98 – 7/31/99	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	1:30 – 3:30 pm 4:00 – 6:00 pm
U11 Girls Born between 8/1/97 – 7/31/98	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	8:30 – 10:30 am 11:00 – 1:00 pm
U12 Girls Born between 8/1/96 – 7/31/97	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	8:30 – 10:30 am 11:00 – 1:00 pm
U13 Girls Born between 8/1/95 – 7/31/96	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	1:30 – 3:30 pm 4:00 – 6:00 pm
U14 Girls Born between 8/1/94 – 7/31/95	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	1:30 – 3:30 pm 4:00 – 6:00 pm
U16 Girls Born between 8/1/92 – 7/31/94	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	8:30 – 10:30 am 11:00 – 1:00 pm
U19 Girls Born between 8/1/89 – 7/31/92	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	8:30 – 10:30 am 11:00 – 1:00 pm

Boys' Schedule

Age Group	Day/Date	Place	Time
U9 Boys* Born between 8/1/99 – 7/31/00	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	11:00 – 1:00pm 8:30 – 10:30am
U10 Boys Born between 8/1/98 – 7/31/99	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	11:00 – 1:00pm 8:30 – 10:30am
U11 Boys Born between 8/1/97 – 7/31/98	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	4:00 – 6:00pm 1:30 – 3:30pm
U12 Boys Born between 8/1/96 – 7/31/97	Sat. 3/15/08 Sun. 3/16/08	Merritt College Merritt College	4:00 – 6:00pm 1:30 – 3:30pm
U13 Boys Born between 8/1/95 – 7/31/96	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	11:00 – 1:00pm 8:30 – 10:30am
U14 Boys Born between 8/1/94 – 7/31/95	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	11:00 – 1:00pm 8:30 – 10:30am
U16 Boys Born between 8/1/92 – 7/31/94	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	4:00 – 6:00pm 1:30 – 3:30pm
U19 Boys Born between 8/1/89 – 7/31/92	Sat. 3/29/08 Sun. 3/30/08	Merritt College Merritt College	4:00 – 6:00pm 1:30 – 3:30pm

* Developmental Team that will play Class IV Recreational Flight

Merritt College Field Directions

Take I-580 to the 35th Avenue exit. Proceed east on 35th Avenue towards the hills. At the Warren Freeway (Highway 13) 35th Avenue becomes Redwood Road. Continue on Redwood Road up the hill and turn right at the second stoplight onto Campus Drive. After about a quarter mile, turn left onto the College grounds. Take the second left to enter a series of parking lots. On weekends, you may use any of the white painted spaces not reserved for special use. Bring two quarters to buy a parking permit, which must be placed on your dashboard (not required on Sunday). Walk across the basketball courts and up the ramp to the soccer fields or use the stairs from the innermost lot. The Deputy Sheriff will ticket improperly parked cars.

ABSOLUTELY NO DOGS ALLOWED! Field #2 is the U14-and-up field to the right, closest to the football field. Field #4 is the Turf Field

Help Wanted: Open Club Volunteer Positions

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the following club-level volunteer positions, please email volunteers@montclairsoccer.org.

Coaching Coordinator - 1 position

Must be a coach within the club in order to serve in this capacity.

Organizes a CYSA F coaching license course. Reviews annual coach evaluations, and handles communication with coaches in follow up to coach evaluations. Handles communication in follow up to incident reports, problem reports and disciplinary actions. Works with MSC and JLYSL Disciplinary Committees as needed. Organizes mentorship for coaches. Participates in selection of MSC Coach of the Year Awards.

Starts: Spring 2008

Upside: You have your finger on the pulse of our coaching and great influence on its quality!

Time: 10+ hours

Disciplinary Committee Chair - 1 position

Must be an experienced coach and/or referee with solid knowledge of soccer to serve in this capacity.

Hears issues relating to serious incidents that occur on the field during the game, in practice, or before and after the game with players, coaches and parents. A committee of three forms the disciplinary panel. The chair is the deciding vote should the other two people on the panel disagree. Typically handles all incidences that occur at the U6 and the U8 level. (Incidences that happen at U10-U19 usually are refereed to the Jack London disciplinary committee first.)

Starts: Spring 2008

Upside: You are the essence of Positive Coaching and keep our club members on the positive path.

Time: Varies; most issues resolved quickly with a phone call; some may require face to face meeting.

Website Coordinator - 1 position

Create and maintain web pages for club website (publishing only; author duties reside with other club officers and volunteers). Organize content for ease of use. Maintain list of contact information for club representatives and publish on website. Publish calendar of events as received from club officers. Receive and publish information from club officers regarding meetings, registrations nights, tournaments, and other club events.

Starts: transition during 2008 under the guidance of our current webmaster

Upside: Keep your web publishing skills shiny and sharp and add this to your resume to keep it current between jobs!

Time: 8-15 hours, depending on how quickly we roll out a proposed wiki to supplement the website.

Volunteers - Volunteer Recruiters - 2 openings

Help the Volunteer Coordinator fill open volunteer opportunities for Montclair Soccer by publicizing opportunities to parents, following up with interested people, and forwarding their details to the coordinator who needs help.

Starts: Spring 2008

Upside: all done from home at your own convenience; cajole your friends to help so you load MSC with great volunteers.

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Equipment - Equipment Coordinator - 1 position

Places orders for uniforms and equipment, organizes equipment in the shed and establishes distribution schedule with coaches.

Starts: Spring 2008

Upside: handpick your child's favorite number for his/her uniform; unleash your inner retail buyer. Detailed how-to instructions and order history have been created by our great equipment coordinators of the last several years!

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Continued on page 5...

Help Wanted, continued from page 4

Equipment - Clippers Uniform Manager - 1 position

Liaison between the Clippers and the Soccer Post for all uniform needs. Prior to tryouts, check with Soccer Post for any price changes, update order forms and description on the web site. Choose new uniforms at the end of three years.

Starts: May 2008

Upside: It's all through email; detailed how-to instructions and order history have been created by our great Clippers equipment manager of the last several years, and she will be happy to speak to the new person and answer any questions.

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Equipment - U16-U19 Equipment Manager

Communicates with each coach in the age group to make sure he / she gets list of needs together. Meets coaches at equipment shed to hand out required gear at several Open Shed events each year.

Starts: Spring 2008

Upside: handpick your child's favorite number for his/her uniform

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Under-8 Boys Coordinator - 1 position

The Age Coordinators form up teams during the summer, organize the teams into flights based upon coach requests after the teams were formed, and act as a funnel for communication from coaches, parents, registrar and match secretaries. The work falls largely into three groups: 1) forming up the teams, 2) helping to organize New Parents Nights and the U8 Coaches Meeting, and 3) responding to lots of emails. An Age Coordinator Hamburger Helper document exists with boiler-plate text that can be used in response to emails.

Starts: May 2008

Upside: Form your child's team!

Time: ~20 hours

Fields – U6 Field Guardian – 1 position

Evangelizes Merritt field rules (staying off the green discuss apparatus, no dogs, pack out the trash, etc..) through email prior to the season and during the season. Inspects the field at 4pm on Sundays (fields free of trash, trashcans not left overflowing, etc..). Communicates the consequence for teams that don't adhere to the field rules: "If anyone from your team violates the field rules (example: brings a dog), your entire team will be immediately dropped from the U6 schedule."

Starts: Spring 2008

Upside: You're there watching your child's game, so why not get volunteer credit for it?

Time: 6 – 8 hours

U6 Program Director – 1 position

Forms up U6 teams, helps coordinate Fall U6 New Parents Night and Coaches Day orientation.

Starts: Spring 2008 - learn from the current U6 Director this spring in advance of Fall

Upside: form your child's team

Time: 6 – 8 hours

U6 / U8 Equipment Coordinator

Emails coaches to organize equipment distribution (spring), transition equipment from retiring coaches to new coaches (Spring), lead an Open Shed session to assemble Coaches Bags (fall), deliver Coaches Bags to Coaches Day.

Starts: Spring 2008 – transition equipment from retiring coaches to new coaches

Upside: handpick your child's favorite number for his/her uniform

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Help Wanted, continued from page 5

U8 Program Director in Training

Coordinate Fall U8 New Parents Night and Coaches Day orientation, provide direction to the U8 Age Coordinators

Starts: mid-summer 2008

Upside: work with the U8 Age Coordinator to help form up your child's team

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Sweatshirt Sales Lead - 1 position

Places orders for t-shirts, sweatshirts, fleece. Organizes sales volunteers for registration and photo day. Maintains sales history of purchases. Detailed information on sales and order history has been maintained by the outgoing coordinator.

Starts: March 2008

Upside: first dibs on great MSC swag; catch up with old friends during Registration and Photo Day if you work the sales table.

Time: 6 – 8 hours

Fields Volunteer Opportunities

The following are field-related opportunities. All these positions will work with the field Coordinator - You will not be on your own! If you fill one of these positions, your team will not need to do field set up duties to secure a practice slot.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the following club-level volunteer positions, please email fields@montclairsoccer.org and copy volunteers@montclairsoccer.org.

Fields - Field Set Up Trainers - 5 positions

Attend 1 hour or less training session to learn the ropes and gather instructions. Conduct one Field Set Up training sessions with teams prior the season. These training sessions take about 30 minutes each.

Fields - Field Set Up Scheduler - 3 positions

Responsible for the Field Set Up schedule. Handles emails with teams to gather sign ups for the Field Set Up schedule. Communicates with the Practice Coordinator about teams sign ups and fulfillment of Field Set Up. Important: teams that have not signed up and/or do not fulfill their Field Set Up requirement are not eligible for practice fields. One position for Shepherds Canyon, one for Merritt set up, one for Merritt take down.

Fields - Montera Liaison – 1 to 2 positions

Manages relationship with Montera Middle School to facilitate field usage for Montclair Soccer Club. Keeps a current list of Montera contacts. Establishes frequent communication with Montera administration and Montera Parents Club to ensure a positive working relationship on behalf of Montclair Soccer.

Fields - Merritt Liaison – 1 position

Manages relationship with Merritt to facilitate field usage for Montclair Soccer Club. Keeps a current list of Merritt contacts. Establishes frequent communication with Merritt College administration and JLYSL Fields Committee to ensure a positive working relationship on behalf of Montclair Soccer.

Fields - Shepherd Canyon Field Steward – 1 to 2 positions

Organizes TLC for Shepherd Canyon field. Supervises field maintenance (seed, aerate, filling holes, etc..).

Organizes two Field Days at Shepherd Canyon , one in summer and one in winter. Important: Each U8 team is required to offer at least one Field Day volunteer.

Fields - OUSD Liason - 1 position

Works with an experienced fields volunteer to submit permit applications to OUSD as needed for access to fields.

Newsletter Submission Guidelines

The *Montclair Soccer Pitch* is a once-a-month newsletter for members of the Montclair Soccer Club community. This newsletter is our primary communication mechanism for information and announcements. However, we will continue to use email to disseminate time-critical information.

The newsletter will include such content as open volunteer positions, recruiting coaches or players, upcoming events, referee news and information, tournament results, and general interest local soccer news.

Submit news items and announcements by the 24th of each month to newsletter@montclairsoccer.org. Items should be as complete as possible and include appropriate contact information. Most articles should be limited to a couple of paragraphs.

“Submit newsletter items by the 24th of each month.”

About Our Organization...

We generally meet on the second Monday of each month. Meeting changes are always reflected in our online calendar.

Everyone is invited to attend these meetings. They are a good opportunity to find ways to help make a difference within our Club.

Our meetings take place at Bishop O'Dowd in the Dominican Hall Board Room. Bishop O'Dowd is at 9500 Stearns Ave (I580 to Golf Links Rd exit; continue on 98th Ave up the hill to Stearns Ave; right to campus entrance). The Dominican Hall Board Room is the first building inside the gate on the left just past the chapel. There will signs directing you to the meeting room on the first floor. Park anywhere.