

State of Rising Star Soccer Club
November 2016

October 30, 2016

Rising Star Soccer Club continues to flourish as we conclude our Fall 2016 soccer season. My goal in writing this status report, or message from the President, is to share information and provide some updates regarding our organization and our operations.

We continue to be blessed with a large facility to house our program. We currently have 3 U8 fields, 3 Micro (U6) fields, 2 U10 fields, and 2 U12 fields. I want to emphasize that all of these fields are currently at one location- beside the Lebanon County Expo Center. We also have a large building that is part of our facility. We feel that the convenience of our one location for all of our players is a great benefit to all of our families.

Numbers wise for the fall 2016 season we provided soccer playing opportunities for 221 children. These 221 children were varied from our micro (U6) program to U-12, dispersed as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| U-6 = birthyear 2011-2012- | 59 players |
| U-8 = birthyear 2009-2010- | 61 players |
| U-10 = birthyear 2007-2008- | 61 players |
| U-12 = birthyear 2005-2006- | 40 players |

Our Micro program is run totally in house and is structured as co-ed. From U-8 on up the players are divided into separate boys and girls teams. The U-8 and older teams play against other local soccer clubs in a league based format.

Rising Star Soccer Club is a member of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer (EPYSA). Starting in the fall of 2016 EPYSA implemented a change from "soccer birth years" (similar to school grade placements) to a straight calendar year birth format. When this was implemented this fall it caused some confusion, as well as some angst- when kids who had historically played together were separated as some older kids were forced to move up an age group. The same age groupings will be used for the spring 2017 season:

| | | | |
|------------|---|------|--|
| 2009-2010 | = | U8 | |
| 2007-2008 | = | U10 | |
| 2005-2006 | = | U12 | |
| *2003-2004 | = | U14* | *We did not have enough players for this age group to field any teams* |

Structurally our set up is all volunteer- top to bottom. Our board members and coaches all graciously volunteer their time and energy with no compensation- except for the satisfaction of watching kids learn and play the game of soccer and all that it entails.

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We remain in serious need of volunteers to join the Rising Star Board and take on positions of leadership within the club. Positions that we need filled for the coming season(s) are Micro Director, Equipment Director, Coach training director, summer camp director, Director of Concessions, and two at large board members to assist with our operations. Additionally, the current President and Vice President have been in their roles for several years now and would like to begin training their eventual replacements.....

Our current board members are

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| President- | Dan Rosenberg |
| Vice President- | Bill Forker |
| Micro Director- | Joanna Garrett |
| Treasurer- | Katie Reesor |
| U-8/U10 Referee Coordinator- | Carol Fees |
| Web Master- | Bill Forker |
| LVYSL League Representative- | Dan Rosenberg |

Two significant changes concerning our operations have taken place during our fall 2016 season. North Cornwall Township- citing limited resources and increased demand for its services- discontinued mowing our complex for us. Secondly- Rising Star and Lebco Travel Soccer have discontinued our partnership and are now totally independent organizations.

Financially, Rising Star is in good standing. Our fees have been some of the lowest in the area for the last several years. Unfortunately we are looking at raising our fees in the coming year(s) to offset some of our increasing expenses. One major increase in our expenses occurred this year when North Cornwall Township stopped the courtesy mowing of our complex and we hired someone to do this task. The township had been mowing our complex since Rising Star's inception but they are getting spread too thin to keep on doing this for us. This is one more major expense that we have had to take on.

Major expenses that our fees pay for include the following:

Facility Rent

Maintenance expenses for mowing and other routine items

Maintenance expenses for non-routine items such as bleacher repair, rain gutters on our building, mower repair and maintenance, etc.

Field Lining Paint

League Fees

Referee Fees

Supplies for coaches

Coaches training and licenses

Goals, nets, other equipment.

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Rising Star and Lebcu (travel club) decided to end their partnership this fall. Simply put it was agreed upon that the partnership was no longer mutually beneficial. Both clubs are now operating 100% independent of each other. We now have sole use of our facility- and responsibility for maintaining it.

Looking forward we hope to continue to provide soccer opportunities at a reasonable cost to North Cornwall and surrounding township residents. We are in serious need, as mentioned previously in this message, of an infusion of volunteers to serve on our board and assist in our operations:

- Micro Director
- Equipment Manager
- Coach Training Director
- Summer Camp Director
- At Large Board (2)

We encourage any comments you may have concerning this message from the president.

Thank you,

Dan Rosenberg- President
Rising Star Soccer Club