



# GEYA Soccer

www.geyasports.org

## Spring 2011 Season

Welcome to GEYA's Spring 2011 season! We are looking forward to a great season with lots of new and returning players, coaches and volunteers. Check out the important information in this issue.

### Important Dates

Sat., April 9	Play begins	Sun., June 5	4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Spring 2011 Season Tournament
Sat., May 14	Picture Day for K through 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> divisions		rain date at USTC
Sat., May 21	Picture Day rainout date	Sat., June 11	4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Spring 2011 Season Tournament
Sun., May 22 1-2:30 pm	Rock Picking Party at Springton Manor Elem. Field (win prizes!)		rain date at FF (if previous weekend is unplayable)
Sat., June 4	4 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades Spring 2011 Season Tournament at Fellowship Fields	Sun., June 11	K-3 <sup>rd</sup> Spring 2011 Season ends

### A Message from the President

Our Spring Soccer season is here, and like you, we're anticipating another fun-filled season for the kids. I would like to welcome the 689 players and the 132 coaches and commissioners who will swarm the fields from now until June. The fields we will be utilizing this Spring include:

- Two fields at Windsor Baptist for our K Boys and Girls.
- Two fields at Pickering Creek Elementary for our 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Boys and Girls.
- Two fields at Shamona Creek Elementary for our 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Boys and Girls.
- Three of the new Fellowship Fields for the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys and Girls, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls, and Coed divisions.
- Devereux field for our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys.
- Matthews Meadows for our Coed division.

Fields that we will be resting and performing work on this Spring will be Springton Elementary, Pickering Elementary (field 3), and the new Larkins field at the corner of Graphite Mine and Byers Road. In fact, we will be requesting some help with field cleanup at a couple of those sites a little later this spring. Be on the lookout for an email.

Two things to note regarding bad weather and fields this season...

The soccer board monitors the weather and posts cancellations on our website (and sends a mass e-mail) at least 2 hours prior to the start of play (7:00 a.m. Sat. & 4:00 p.m. weekdays). Sometimes a fast-moving storm can dump a lot of rain or bring in lightning during play. In these cases, coaches are expected make a quick call on the situation and cancel play immediately if the field becomes too wet or if there is any lightning.

*(cont. on next page)*

## A Message from the President *(cont.)*

We also monitor field surfaces and close a field if it is too wet to play on. Cancellations will be posted as above. We've asked coaches to make game day decisions, if necessary, to cancel play or reconfigure a field size and play a short-sided game. We appreciate your support in keeping our kids safe and the fields playable as the spring season goes on.

There are open positions on the Soccer Board and Operations Team and we welcome any GEYA parent who could give a few hours each month to the organization. Those positions include: Uniform Coordinator, Coaching Coordinator, Secretary, and Township Relations positions in Uwchlan, West Vincent and West Pikeland.

Thanks again to all our parents who run around like taxi drivers to get their kids out to the fields, our coaches and volunteers who give so much of their time to the program, and to everyone who makes GEYA a great youth sports organization.

Enjoy the Spring Soccer season.

*Paul Ricken*

President, GEYA Soccer

## Join the GEYA Soccer Facebook Group Page!



This page isn't just for GEYA announcements – it's for all GEYA participants, parents and supporters. Did you see some great moves or exemplary sportsmanship at your child's last game? Comment about it on our wall. Got a great action photo? Post it here! We'd love to hear from you.

### Help Wanted – We need YOU!

Take a look at the open positions below to find out how you can give GEYA soccer a hand. Most are once-a-month duties or have responsibilities at the beginning of each season.

### ***Township Representatives for Uwchlan, West Pikeland and West Vincent Townships***

Volunteers attend township meetings each month to represent GEYA interests in acquiring and/or keeping the use of playing fields in that township. The reps report any news to the Director of Township Relations

who reports to the GEYA Board. If you are interested in becoming a township rep, please contact Jim Gegeckas at [JimG@geyasports.org](mailto:JimG@geyasports.org).

### ***Uniform Coordinator***

The Coordinator works with the Registrar to determine the number of jerseys to order per season, places the order, divides jerseys according to league divisions, and distributes to commissioners. He/she coordinates late orders and exchanges and delivers payments to the Treasurer. Contact Paul Ricken at [PaulR@geyasports.org](mailto:PaulR@geyasports.org).

### ***Coaching Coordinator***

The Coordinator meets with coaches new to GEYA Soccer before each season for mandatory classes on GEYA coaching standards. He/she assesses the needs of coaches, arranges for training as needed, and addresses coaching questions during the season. GEYA coaching experience is a plus, but not mandatory. Contact Paul Ricken at [PaulR@geyasports.org](mailto:PaulR@geyasports.org).

### ***Secretary***

The Secretary records the minutes at monthly board meetings and distributes the minutes to the board via email. Contact John Galvin [JohnG@geyasports.org](mailto:JohnG@geyasports.org).

## Positive Coaching Alliance



GEYA is a member of the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA), a national program focusing on the real reason we volunteer our time to coach – the kids. PCA is “transforming youth sports so sports can transform youth.” Through partnership with more than 1,700 youth sports organizations, leagues, schools and cities nationwide, PCA has conducted 9,000-plus workshops for youth sports coaches, parents, organizational leaders and athletes.

GEYA Soccer and Baseball recently hosted two PCA workshops. The first was "Double-Goal Coach – Coaching for Winning and Life Lessons." This interactive workshop introduced PCA's Double-Goal Coach model and provided an in-depth review of its three principles:

- Honor the Game
- Fill Emotional Tanks
- Redefine "Winner"

Experts in coaching, education and psychology presented research supporting the model. Participants learned dozens of practical, proven tools to increase success during their next practice or competition.

The second workshop was “Second Goal Parent – Developing Winners in Life Through Sports.” A PCA instructor helped GEYA parents to focus on helping their children process the life lessons uniquely available through sports. This interactive workshop provided specific tips and techniques for parents to use in talking with their children on game day, developing a productive parent-coach relationship, and becoming effective and positive supporters in the stands.

Look for more workshops this fall and take a look at PCA’s website [www.PositiveCoach.org](http://www.PositiveCoach.org). You can ask for advice about your youth sports issues, read the “Life Lessons from the Playing Field” blog, sign up for their monthly e-newsletter, get tips & techniques and much more. The website is packed with all kinds of good stuff, so check it out.

## Fall Registration

It’s hard to think about fall when it’s barely spring, but it’s never too early to mark your calendars. Registration for the fall season opens June 15!

## Financial Aid

GEYA understands that in the current economy, sports programs may not fit into your budget. We offer scholarships to help families who need assistance to offset or cover registration/uniform fees so that your child(ren) can still continue to enjoy GEYA sports. For information about how the process works, go to the Policies & Procedures section on the GEYA website and click on Financial Aid.

## Wondering how to spend a Sunday afternoon?

On Sunday, May 22, from 1-2:30 p.m., we will be holding a rock-picking “party” at Springton Manor Elementary School. The 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade girls used this field in the past. Ask any one of the players, coaches or parents, and they’ll tell you all about the “moonscape” – rocks and dirt and clover, but very little grass. Our goal is to remove the rocks so that the soil can be aerated and seeded and the field can be used again. Bring your gloves, shovels, buckets and muscles! There will be refreshments for all and prizes for most rocks collected!

## Picture Day

We’ve teamed up with SNAP Action Pix for the Spring 2011 soccer season photos. For grades K through 5, picture day will take place on Saturday, May 14, with a rain date of Saturday, May 22. If you would like to receive coupons for your child's Spring soccer portraits simply "Like" SNAP by clicking on the following Facebook link and you will be able to download and print coupons for picture day!



[www.facebook.com/snapactionpix](http://www.facebook.com/snapactionpix)

## Need a night out?

Why not support GEYA Baseball at their first annual Beef & Beer event on Saturday, May 7 from 6-9 p.m. at the Ludwigs Corner Fire House. Tickets are \$40 per person. To register, go to the Baseball page on the GEYA website.

## New Registration System

Last season we began using a new registration system with SportsSignup. Now in addition to registering, you can view your registration, update your personal information (such as email address), add children to your account, view your team(s), and even link with your Facebook account. Coaches can also send emails to their teams and print out rosters. Click on the Registration link on the GEYA Soccer website.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### *How are teams created?*

Commissioners try their best to place a few children from each school and grade level on every team. The 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade divisions may hold skills assessments at the beginning of the season to allow the coaches to review all players and create balanced teams. Your coach will contact you soon after the skills assessment. As in the past, we try to maintain “core teams” for the older divisions to keep together players who have been together season after season. For the K-5<sup>th</sup> grade divisions, coaches receive their team rosters at the coaches’ meeting, and they will call or email you before the beginning of the season.

### *How do I get my child’s jersey?*

If you ordered a jersey during registration, you will receive it from your coach at one of the initial practices. If you ordered a jersey as a part of a late registration or need to order a jersey, please watch your emails for

special instructions on how to collect your jersey in time for your first game.

### *Can I request that my child be put on a team with a friend or a carpool buddy?*

While we'd love to accommodate requests for assignments to particular teams or assignments to teams with specific teammates, it becomes a logistical and operational nightmare given the number and complexity of these requests. Therefore, the only guarantees that can be made is that siblings will be assigned to the same team (if they are playing in the same division), and coaches’ and assistant coaches’ children will be assigned to their team. All other requests will be politely ignored with the hope that parents understand why they can't be entertained.

### *How is scheduling determined?*

Teams and divisions are rotated during the weekdays at 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to early afternoon. This is so that players with other weekly commitments do not consistently miss games on the same night.

### *Can I bring my dog to practices and games?*



Since 2007, GEYA has had a policy of no dogs during league practices or games for the safety of all players and spectators.

## Commissioners

9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	John Galvin	JohnG@geyasports.org
6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Girls	Jenn Wagner	JennW@geyasports.org
6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Boys	John McMahon	galway@comcast.net
4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Girls	Drew DeRocco	dderocco@gmail.com
4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Boys	Chip Ashenfelter	ashenfelter1@msn.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> Boys	Kevin Druecker	kevind17@gmail.com
2 <sup>nd</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> Girls	Debbie Weed	dmweed7969@aol.com
1 <sup>st</sup> Boys	Bryan Krause	bryan_krause@ml.com
1 <sup>st</sup> Girls	Ernie McGinty	ernie.mcginty@catalyst-360.com
K Boys	Janice Lear	janice@learhome.com
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