



GREEN BAY STRIKERS

2008 COACH'S NEWSLETTER

Thank You



The Green Bay Strikers Soccer Club would like to thank all the coaches in advance for their time and dedication in making the 2008 soccer season a success. Also, a very special thanks for helping our young players to grow in self-esteem, sportsmanship, and in their understanding of the game of soccer. Your coaching helps them to develop as team players and, above all, to have fun!

Uniforms

Many thanks to Broadway Automotive for sponsoring our uniforms again this year. This is an extremely large expense for us and we are grateful for their generosity. Please support them with your patronage!

Coach's Meeting/Dinner

In appreciation, we are having our annual Coaches Meeting/Dinner at The Woods on Wednesday, August 6, 2008. Cocktails will be available at a cash bar starting at 5:30pm and dinner will be served at 6:30pm. This dinner is for coaches, assistant coaches and their guests and will be paid for by the Green Bay Strikers. This is the meeting where the Strikers solicit feedback from the coaches and elect board members for the upcoming year. We also have lots of door prizes to give away! We hope you can join us!

Player Rating Roster

Enclosed is your customized rating roster. If you have any changes to your roster (additions or deletions) please note them on your rating roster. Please discuss the ratings with your co-coach(s), fill out one form per team and return it to your Division Coordinator when you pick up your trophies. If you have any questions concerning how to rate your players, please call your Division Coordinator. We require 100% return of the rating rosters. The information from these rosters helps us to draft the teams equally each year.

Green Bay Strikers Web Site

The Green Bay Strikers Web Site www.gbstrikers.org includes valuable information needed by coaches, players and parents for the 2008 season. Please visit the site for information.

Division Coordinators

Here are the Division Coordinators for the 2008 soccer season.

U-6 (4-5)	Donn Bramer
U-8 (6-7 Boys)	John Kindt
U-8 (6-7 Girls)	Dave Winzenried
U-10 (8-9 Boys)	Lynn Reynolds
U-10 (8-9 Girls)	Lynn Reynolds
U-12 (10-11 Boys)	Joe Westberg
U-12 (10-11 Girls)	Bill Mielke
U-14 (12-13 Boys)	Gregg Schultz
U-15 (12-14 Girls)	Steve Daavettilla
U-16 (14-15 Boys)	Brian Pasterski
U-19 (15-18 Girls)	Tom Leslie
U-19 (16-18 Boys)	Russ Reynolds

Roster Changes

Please call The Answer Line at 490-7266 if you have any children on your roster who have decided not to play. There are waiting lists in some divisions as well as late registrants and we need your help in placing these children on teams.

Answer Line

The Answer Line number is 490-7266. It is a local call for messages regarding Green Bay Strikers Soccer. Please be courteous and don't give out the home phone numbers of the Board of Directors but instead, use or give this number to anyone who has questions concerning the soccer program. We will direct the calls to the proper person and get back to you ASAP





Game Duration

There has been some confusion concerning the length of the games. Here are the correct times:

U-6 (ages 4-5)	-10 minute quarters
U-8 (ages 6-7)	-10 minute quarters
U-10 (ages 8-9)	-15 minute quarters
U-12 (ages 10-11)	-15 minute quarters
U-14 Boys (ages 12-13)	-15 minute quarters
U-15 Girls (ages 12-14)	-15 minute quarters
U-16 Boys (ages 14-15)	-40 minute halves
U-19 Girls (ages 15-18)	-40 minute halves
U-19 Boys (ages 16-18)	-40 minute halves

These times may differ from the rulebook but they are the correct game duration set by our county organization. Please confirm these times with the referees prior to the start of each game. Thanks!

5 Yr. Olds and 6-7 Year Olds

We have listened to your feedback regarding the start times for 5 and 6-7 year old divisions. Remember that it is the coach's responsibility to begin the game on time so the last game doesn't run too long and interfere with the player's bedtimes. If a game does start late, it must be stopped when it is time for the next game even if it is not quite over. We appreciate your diligence in keeping your games on time!

Also, be sure that only one coach from each team is on the field. That coach can be anywhere on the field but should not hinder play. A second coach can work the sidelines from any location.



12 Year Olds and Up

Since these are the only age groups where we keep recorded scores, the competition becomes more intense. As coaches, we need to step back and take a look at what type of example we are setting for the players and parents we are coaching. Our main concerns are:

1. **Always** talk positively to your players.
2. **Never** allow profanity from coaches, players or parents.
3. **Never** harass the referees.
4. **Always** show good sportsmanship before, during and after each game.

As in the past, scores for the 12-14 Girls will be called in to the Division Coordinator by the winning coach. The scores for the 12-13 boys, 14-15 boys, 15-18 girls and 16-18 boys will continue to be submitted by the referees.

Tournament Participation

We need to remind all of our coaches and players in the 12 and older divisions that the County Division Coordinator will be keeping track of red and yellow cards. Any team that has an average of more than 1 yellow card per game will not be allowed to participate in the Tony Litt Tournament regardless of their record.

Nets

The nets at the fields will, again, be put up before the start of the season and will remain up for the duration of the season. The referees will have keys for the barrels in order to retrieve the flags they need for the games. Please call The Answer

Line at 490-7266 to report any damage to the nets so we can fix them on a timely basis

Pictures

Sign-up forms for pictures were provided with your equipment. These forms show the time and date that your team will be having their group and individual pictures. With 107 teams to photograph, our photographer is on a very tight schedule so be sure to be ready at your assigned time. In order to streamline the system, we give the pictures to the Division Coordinators (instead of the coaches) and they will be given out with the trophies. For some divisions, this will be at the Soccerfests. If your pictures are not taken due to adverse weather conditions, they will be taken at the Soccerfests and delivered later. For those divisions not participating in the Soccerfests, "weather make-up" pictures will be arranged separately.



Two Deep Leadership

Since 2002, we have suggested that all coaches make two-deep leadership a part of how they interact with their teams. This policy is a part of many other national organizations such as the Boy Scouts and is a good way to protect our children as well as our volunteers.

To those who aren't familiar with this policy, it simply means that we need to have two non-related adults (over 18) with the children at all times. This includes games, practices, parties etc. For those of you who are husband and wife or other related coaching teams, this can mean going over your schedule with the parents on your team to find someone who could stay after each practice or game to help supervise. This also holds true for other coaching teams if one of the coaches can't be at a particular practice or game.

Obviously, we ask that you use common sense when implementing this policy. No child should be left alone because two-deep leadership is unavailable.

Inclement Weather Rule



Here is a clarification of the inclement weather rules as they apply to ages 8 and up. If a game is stopped due to thunder/lightning the referee must wait 30 minutes after the last sighting of lightning or the last sound of thunder to restart the game. If after 30 minutes, there isn't enough time to complete the game, the game will simply end if it involves an 8-11 year old team. If the game involves a 12 year old and older team, one of two things will happen:

1. If the first half of the game has been completed, the game will count as is.
2. If the first half was not completed, the game will be rescheduled. The coaches should call their division coordinator for a new game date.

Remember, if inclement weather causes the first game of the night to be delayed or rescheduled, the second game is not necessarily affected. All decisions on the second game will be made at the field by the referee. As always, the coaches in the 5 and 6-7 year old divisions decide whether or not a game is played due to weather.

Please contact your Division Coordinator or The Answer Line at 490-7266 if your game is cancelled.

Equipment Return

Trophies and pictures for the 6-7 year olds will be given out at the Soccerfest on June 21, 2008. Trophies and pictures for the 12-14 Girls and the 8-9 and 10-11 year old teams will be given out at the Soccerfest on July 19-20, 2008. The Division Coordinator for 12-14 Girls will collect equipment for the teams that are going to the County tournament at a later date. Trophies and pictures will be given out to all coaches after their final game **ONLY AFTER** the following items have been handed in to the respective Division Coordinator:

1. BOTH SOCCER BALLS
2. GOALIE SHIRT
3. PLAYER RATING ROSTER
4. MESH BALL BAG
5. WHITE JERSEYS (COUNTY TEAMS ONLY)

Distribution of trophies and pictures for the 5 year old's, 12-13 boys, 14-15 boys, 15-18 girls and 16-18 boys will be arranged by your Division Coordinator. All required items listed above must be turned in to receive the trophies and pictures.

Please help to keep costs down by returning all your equipment on a timely basis! If no equipment is returned, a \$50.00 fee will be assessed to the coach.

Help Wanted!!!



If you enjoy coaching, like working with children and/or want to make a difference and be involved, the Green Bay Strikers Soccer Club could use your talents. In order to continue to effectively run our club, new volunteers are always needed. We are

seeking anyone with the energy and dedication needed to continue to improve upon the Strikers' tradition. Experience is not necessary, just a willingness to help.

The Strikers Board of Directors meets on a monthly basis to conduct business (usually the first Wednesday of the month from 7-9pm). The Board of Directors are nominated and elected at our Coach's Dinner held in August.

Children, age 15 and older, are also encouraged to do their community service with our organization. There are opportunities for assistant coaches, Soccerfest helpers and interpreters.

If you have any questions, please call The Answer Line at 490-7266.

Feedback

Just a reminder that we at The Green Bay Strikers want you and your players and parents to have the best soccer experience possible. To do that, we need your help in letting us know about any problems or concerns that come up during the season. In addition to providing information, we also need your input on solutions to any problems. Naturally, not all problems can be solved easily but, awareness is always a step in the right direction. If you wish to bring up issues involving



coaches, parents, players or referees please call The Answer Line at 490-7266 or your Division Coordinator. Our board meetings are also open to any coach who wants to attend and offer suggestions. We welcome your participation.



2008 Soccer Festivals

The 12th Annual Soccer Festivals will be held at Wilder Park. The 6-7 year olds will play Saturday, June 21, 2008. The 8-9 boys and girls, 10-11 boys and girls, 12-13 boys and the 12-14 girls will play Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20, 2008. These festivals give all teams a chance to experience a tournament - type atmosphere and provide a family day of fun. NEW Lutheran School will have refreshments available for purchase at both festivals. Portable restrooms will be available and a large field tent will be erected. A game schedule board will also be posted. Since the games for 12-13 boys and 12-14 girls don't count in the tournament standings, we are, again, adding a little twist to the schedule. The boys and girls teams will play some games against each other to add some variety and excitement!

Expectations

- It is the Strikers' expectation that each team will participate at the festival. If you are unable to attend the festival, please have one of the parents handle your team on festival day.
- Games will start on the hour at the sound of the air horn and end 50 minutes later at the sound of the air horn. It is essential that you have your team ready to take the field at your scheduled time of play.
- The festival games will be held as scheduled unless severe or hazardous weather conditions exist at the time of a scheduled game.

Again this year, each 6-7 and 8-9 team is asked to provide one volunteer to help with festival preparation or restoration activities. Takedown or set-up usually takes about 1.5 hours of a volunteer's time. Thanks in advance!

Set-up dates and times are:

- Friday, June 20 (6-7 boys teams only) at 5:00pm at Wilder Park. Rain date is 7:00am on June 21.
- Friday, July 18 (8-9 boys teams only) at 5:00pm at Wilder Park. Rain date is 7:00am on July 19.

Takedown dates and times are:

- Saturday, June 21 (6-7 girls teams only) at approximately 3:00pm.
- Sunday, July 20 (8-9 girls team only) at approximately 2:00pm.

Please call your Division Coordinator with the name and phone number of your team's volunteer.

Please ask your 6-7 year old players not to hang on the goals. They may break!

Last year's dunk tank at the July Soccerfest was a definite hit! The hot weather got everyone "pumped up to get dunked"! It will be available again in 2008. Dunk your coach, your teammates or even yourself! Ask how!

Remember, per city ordinance, no dogs are allowed in the park.

Conduct

In keeping with our commitment to quality soccer, we take seriously any violations of the Soccer Sportsmanship contract that was signed at registration by coaches and parents. If numerous complaints or red cards are received concerning a coach, parent or player, that individual will be placed on probation for the remainder of the 2008 season and the entire 2009 season. Any further complaints or red cards will result in that individual being dismissed from the team.



Get your STRIKERS APPAREL!
Visit our new web site and click through to the store:
WWW.GBSTRIKERS.ORG

Tell your players and parents!

For more information and registration forms go to
our website at www.gbstrikers.org
or call The Answer Line at 490-7266.