

SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:

- Communications
- Spring Calendar
- Fields of Green
- H.S. Scholarships
- Pass Back
- Rev's night & Breaker's night.
- MYS Hornet Summer Camp
- Coaching Tips

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MYS Schedule 2010 Spring Events

For more information on any events listed below and other MYS events visit www.mansfielddyouthsoccer.com

April 10

April 3
April. 30
May 1
May 14 - Aug. 25
May 15
May 22 & June 5
June 5
June 12
July 1
Aug. 2 - Aug. 6
Aug. 16 - Aug. 20

Spring season begins - Road and in-town programs

F Licensing coaching clinic
Last day to submit Scholarship applications
Mansfield Clean-Up Day - MYS & Plymouth St. more info. forthcoming
Fall 2009 registration dates
MYS Spring Night at the N.E. Revolution Game
Picture Days
MYS Night with the Breakers
Last day of spring season for in-town and travel teams - Award ceremony
Hornets Soccer Camp registration deadline
(Week 1) Hornets Soccer Camp partnering with MYS
(Week 2) Hornets Soccer Camp partnering with MYS

Communication Changes

Hotline Changes

After discussion and review, the MYS board of directors decided to eliminate the MESSAGE PROCESSING functionality of the hotline. Please do not be alarmed, the field conditions and closure communication will REMAIN on the hotline. Our decision impacts leaving messages on the line.

Here are other multiple avenues to contact MYS.

- EMAIL is the preferred and most efficient method.
- The MYS website is the best way to obtain board member emails. If needed, the Mansfield Library has computers available to the public.
- To access any of the board director's email address, go to the MYS Website at www.mansfielddyouthsoccer.com. Select MYS board in the left bar, select contacts and the page displays all board member names and email addresses.

- Our seasonal newsletter is emailed to the entire soccer community, it is posted on the Plymouth street bulletin board, as well as the library bulletin board.
- Our new MYS policy manual contains answers to many of the questions we received on the hotline. Please review this manual online for possible answers to your questions.
- Our apparel stand staff located at the concession stand can help you get in direct contact with a board member.

A main reason for this change is the fact that the hotline message processing is available to 800 families and has proven to be very cumbersome for our volunteer organization to support. We currently do not have a volunteer willing and able to take on this task. If we do find a willing volunteer we will reconsider reinstating the message process part of the hotline. If you are interested in helping out please contact president@mansfielddyouthsoccer.com

MYS Policies

Last year, the board of directors set a goal to review, redefine and publish a policy manual. The objective of the goal is consolidation and centralization of existing policies, public accessibility of the manual, redefinition of some policies, board consensus of policies and lastly setting a process for making changes to policies. We took a phased in approach to the goal, and have completed phase one. In this phase, we have consolidated and centralized the existing policies into a formal Policy Manual. We are currently working on phase II which is to redefine policies in question and to bridge the gaps in undefined policies. Our third phase will be to document the processes supporting the policies. You can view the Mansfield Youth Soccer Policy Manual on our website at the following address: mansfielddyouthsoccer.com/board.shtml

Ground Breaking News

ONCE A DREAM...

Three years ago a small group of dedicated parents from Mansfield Youth Soccer kicked off a campaign to raise \$1 million for renovating the fields at the Plymouth Street soccer complex and installing a year round synthetic turf field.

The group vowed to raise the money using only private or corporate funds. It was an ambitious effort, especially with the tough economy, but the group persevered and the town's residents and businesses have been tremendously supportive.

Today the Fields of Green Committee is proud to announce that we are within 8% of the goal! \$415,000 has been raised of the \$1,000,000 needed to renovate and build a synthetic turf field, and MYS has qualified for a \$500,000 loan. As important as having raised the funds, FoG has received the approval of the Recreation Commission and the Town Manager to make this project a reality.

BECOMING A REALITY...

It all started as an idea of how to improve a bad field situation for the soccer program. Now the design of the fields is being finalized and filings sub-

mitted in preparation of construction. The Committee is working closely with the town and has received both the Recreation Commission and Town Manager's support and votes of confidence. The plan is to break ground at the end of the spring soccer season to have the new field ready for opening day in September.

THANKS TO YOU!

Thank you to all the members of the soccer program, residents and the local business community who have given so much to this project. Although we've come a long way in three years and in order for the project to be fully realized, we still need to raise \$85,000.

The FoG Committee will continue its work over the spring season and into the fall with the final push to close the gap of \$85,000. Letters are being sent out to local businesses offering field signage for the new turf field, meetings are being held with larger corporations in the Mansfield area discussing field naming rights. Work is also being done to coordinate soccer community fund raising events such as Car Wash Challenge; Pathway to Green and MYS night at the New England Revolution. Details for events will be

distributed via email to members throughout the spring season as well as being posted on our website and field bulletin board.

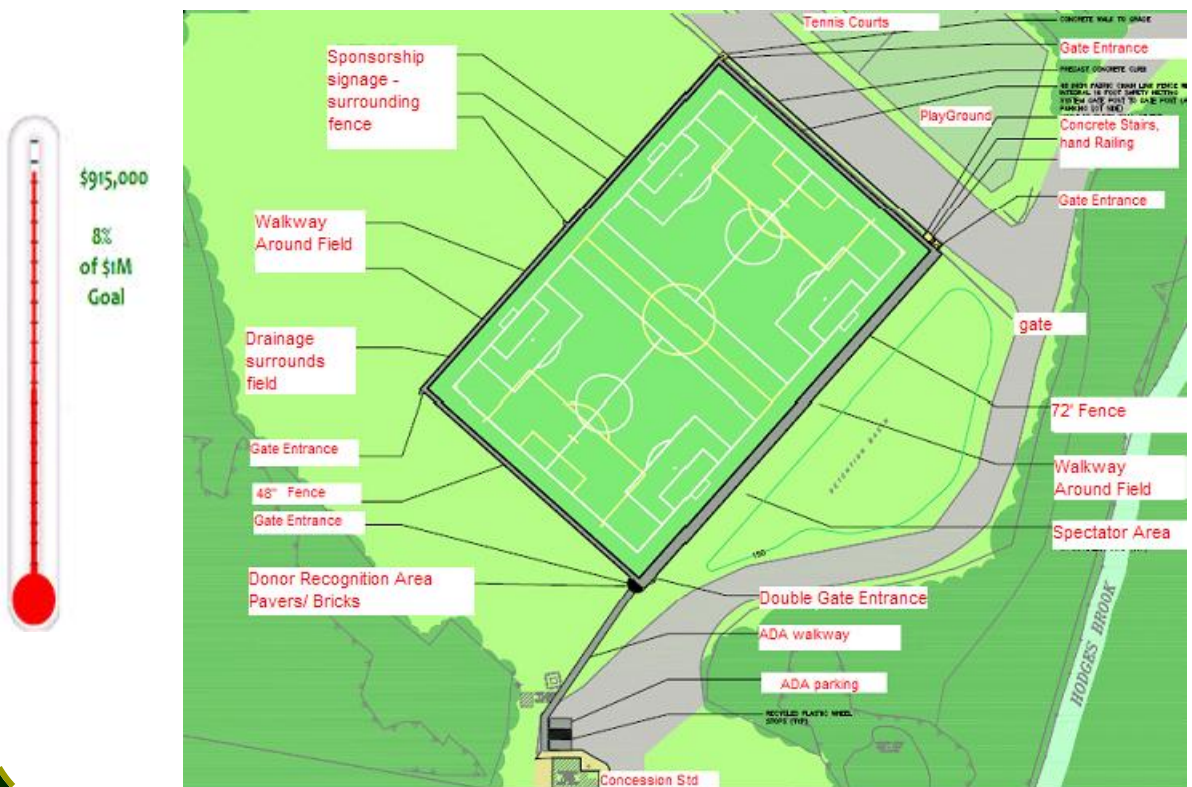
SO LET'S CELEBRATE!

The third annual Marathon Soccer Game (Soccer-Thon) will be held early in the fall season on the NEW TURF FIELD. The game will be merged with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the project and the day will be a wonderful celebration for Mansfield Youth Soccer and the Mansfield community.

The game will be structured as it has been in the past but with an added twist of a ribbon ceremony to kick off the game. We will communicate details to our soccer community throughout the spring season in hopes that you can start obtaining pledges over the summer to help make this year's game a record high in funds raised.



RENDERING OF NEW TURF FIELD



Coaches Corner

G-License course now available on-line

Calling all coaches and future coaches! Would you like a simple, easy to use method to earn your G-License? Massachusetts Youth Soccer is now offering the G-Licensure course ON-LINE!

This interactive training tool is an excellent introduction into your coaches education. The better trained you are, the better prepared your players will be for the future and the more rewarding your coaching experience will be! Even better, Mansfield Youth Soccer will reimburse you for the on-line Fee... so it's FREE!

Follow this link for more information on the course:
www.massyouthcoachingcourse.org

Take your coaching to the next level: F-License Course

Are you looking to continue your coaching education and in the process obtain your F-License? Mass Youth Soccer offers community based training for all coaches. These single or multiple day courses are held at regional locations within a short driving distance of Mansfield, and are packed full of information and educational material to help enhance your coaching experience.

Register for this course at www.fraklinyouthsoccer.org

When: April 3
License Type: F
Location: Franklin

Spring into the new season with these helpful coaching tips

While we are shaking off the cobwebs from our season away from coaching soccer, here are a few helpful reminders to think about as you're walking onto the field each week:

Keep it fun for the kids!

For the next 60-to-90 minutes you are their entertainer...be creative with the weekly coaching plans that we provide on-line. Instead of "Dribbling the ball" refer to it as "Painting the field with the ball" or how about calling a keep away game Red Sox vs. Yankees instead of cops and Robbers? Make it age appropriate...you'll have fun and they will have fun while learning the game of soccer!

No Lines: We don't like them at the Bank or the Coffee Shop...and the kids don't like them on the soccer field. Try and keep the kids in constant motion, whether it be dribbling or passing, or if they are standing still, juggling the ball with their knees.

No Lectures: Instead of reading out the instructions to a drill, put the ball on the ground and demonstrate it. Nothing more needs to be said here!

The Early Bird catches the Worm:

When the kids arrive for soccer, get them out on the field immediately, dribbling, passing, or just bouncing around. The quicker you engage them, the more eager and interested they will be in participating.

Don't Overdo it: You will notice that the weekly practice plans involve 3-5 drills, each one averaging 5-8 minutes in length. Pay attention to the time, the attention span of a child is short. By following the practice plans, you will have a more productive practice and spend less time corralling the kids back onto the field.



Parent's Place

Upcoming Speaker

Nationally recognized speaker and author Bob Bigelow, will be coming to Mansfield this spring. Bob, a former NBA player with the Celtics, is one of the foremost youth sports speakers in the country. He advocates fully meeting the needs of children as the top priority in youth sports programs, and provides new approaches for positive change in youth sports. A date has not been finalized at publishing time. Check the website for details.

Parental Role on Game Day

It's Saturday morning, game day, The coaches and players know what to do, but what about the Parents? If we go off of instinct alone, we might find ourselves becoming Parent/Coach, or worse Parent/Player. We don't need a big person in a Yellow Jacket to guide us, it's simple. Your role is **Parent/Parent** according to research and Mass Youth Soccer, wrote an article a few years ago, entitled "For the Parents...Game Day". You can find the entire document at <http://footballer21.com/?p=1360>, Below are just a few excerpts that may be

useful in helping you understand your role on "Game Day":

• **The Game**

Cheer on athletes for both teams. They are trying their best. They are youth players and what you say really does affect them...whether you're their parent or not! Please **DO NOT** try to coach your child or the other players. The players must focus their attention on the game, their coach and the referee. There is a lot to think about in the game of soccer. Let them focus.

• **Post Game**

Good parents and coaches know that immediately after the game is the time for mental, emotional and physical regeneration. A positive word about their efforts in the game is very helpful and means a lot to your child. Please don't analyze the game or your child's performance in the game. The coach will do this at the next training session.

• **Final Thought**

Enjoy watching your children play... it will be much less stressful on you and certainly on them.

MYS In and Around Our Community



Clean Up Day - May 1st

Mansfield Clean Up Day and MYS is looking to join the effort. Teams are asked to join the effort 30 minutes before or after their May 1st game between 9 - 12. Trash bags will be available at the concession stand. Participants are asked to help the effort by cleaning up the Plymouth Street complex. Thank you in advance for your support cleaning up Plymouth Street Complex.

After the cleanup, we will host a picnic at the Comcast Center from 12:00 - 2:00 with free hot dogs, pizza, chips, drinks, and cookies.

If you plan to attend the picnic you should sign up separately at www.KeepMansfieldBeautiful.com and request in the comments to clean up Plymouth Street under the MYS organization.

Share the Equipment, Share the Game, Pass Back ...

Hello, my name is Becca Kemp and this spring I will be coordinating the Passback program for Mansfield Youth Soccer. I learned of the program from the US Soccer Foundation and when I read that I could "help underserved communities play the Beautiful Game" by being a Passback Star I jumped at the chance. The Pass Back program is sponsored by the US Soccer foundation and it enables individuals like me to collect soccer equipment within my community then it helps me search out a community in need for equipment then finally transport the equipment to those players. Through the Pass Back Program old uniforms and lightly used equipment is provided to individuals and organizations to help start up and support soccer leagues.

To start I will be collecting old uniforms and gently used equipment at the concession stand. Old road and in town uniforms, cleats, shin pads and balls are welcome to be passed back. Items can be dropped off at the concession stand weekly in the box marked PASS BACK.

MHS Scholarship Program

Mansfield Youth Soccer is pleased to announce the 2010 High School Scholarship Award Program. Two \$1000 scholarships will be awarded to a Mansfield High School Senior girl and a boy who has been a participant of the MYS program. Please refer to the scholarship application on the website for more details.

Guidelines:

- 1) Must be a Mansfield resident.
- 2) Must have participated in MYS for a minimum of 4 years.
- 3) Must be continuing education at an accredited 2 or 4 year educational institution.
- 4) Must have a 3.0 GPA.

Application deadline is April 30.

MYS Apparel Store - Check it out!!

- The MYS Apparel Store, located at the concession stand in the Plymouth Street Complex, will be open – April 10th, opening day.
- Store hours 8:00am – 2:00 p.m. every Saturday.
- Items such as hooded and non-hooded sweatshirts, long and short sleeve t-shirts, blankets, scarves, water bottles, and many other soccer related merchandise including, MYS jackets and sweatpants may be ordered.
- Order forms are located at the Plymouth Street store.
- As with all aspects of the MYS program, the store's success will depend on individuals who are able to volunteer. **PLEASE consider volunteering your time.** If interested, email your contact information to karenbgoulet@aol.com.

Save the Dates : MYS Spring Events

Bring your team, your friends, your family and join the MYS community in supporting our local major league soccer teams, the N.E. Revolution and Boston Breakers.



N.E. Revolution Spring Soccer Night

When: Saturday, May 15

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Where: Gillette Stadium

Opponent:

San Jose Earthquakes

- Seating -- Delegated MYS section inside the Stadium.
- Tailgate before the event with other MYS teams.
- Ticket deadline, Wed. 5/13.
- Questions? Contact Donna Harrington at 508-339-8731 or email Donna at dharrin445@aol.com
- Look for Information on the MYS website regarding order forms and ticket deadline.

MYS Night at the Boston Breaker's

When: June 5

Where: Harvard Univ. Field

Opponent: St. Louis Athletics

Grab your friends, family, and teammates and join us in cheering on the Boston Breakers vs. the St. Louis Athletics on Saturday evening, June 5th ! Games are played at historic Harvard University Stadium in Cambridge. A short drive for a great family experience! Watch the MYS website for details on how to purchase your tickets.

Watch our website for updates and cancellations

- Our communication to coaches and families is via email and website.
- Team information as well as program events will be e-mailed.
- If the website and/or hotline are not updated with a GAMES CANCELLED message, then games are on and fields are playable.
- If some but not all fields are unplayable, those games affected will be moved to an open field. They will not be cancelled.
- Changes will be posted at the concession stand bulletin board and our website to direct teams to reassigned fields.
- Rainouts will be called no later than 7:00 a.m. on Sat. morning. **Both the website and hotline will be updated.**
- If it has been steady rain Friday check the website or hotline Friday for notices.

Soccer Shorts

Hornet Soccer Camp

- Week 1: Aug. 2 - 6 (9 - 3 p.m.)
Week 2: Aug. 16 - 20 (9 - 3 p.m.)
- 1/2 day & full day options
- Location: Plymouth Street fields
- Campers will receive a tee shirt and ball with registration.
- Registration deadline July 1.
- Brochures will be available online at www.mansfieldyouthsoccer.com, www.eteamz.com/hornetsoccerschool, and at the Plymouth Street Complex concession stand during games throughout the spring season.

Road Team Tryouts

Tryouts for the 2010 - 2011 travel teams will be held the last week of May and the first week of June. Specific dates for each group will be posted on the website. Watch for details.

Thank You!

From Keith Broyles: The MYS Board of Directors and I would like to extend a warm and heartfelt thank you to **Mike Smith and Bob Gemme** for their many, many years of service to our program. Both Mike and Bob have relinquished their duties this winter and both gave

so much of themselves over the last 10+ years. It is without hesitation that I say MYS is much better off today because of all of their contributions. Mike and Bob served many years as volunteers, coaches, coordinators and board members and their efforts, both in the public eye and behind the scenes, are greatly appreciated. You will both be missed. So, again, THANK YOU, Mike and Bob.

Also, Field of Greens would like to thank **PJ DiMartino** for her initiative for applying for a grant with her company (Harvard Pilgrim). Mansfield Youth Soccer was awarded a grant of \$500 to be used on traffic safety at the Plymouth Street loca-