

## President's Report - for Wednesday, May 18, 2011

There was continued growth in our club this past season, with 756 players registered. A great deal of the growth was in our House program, which contributed 342 players. This remains an important focus for our club, with a significant proportion of Steve Weston's time spent with this age group - one which represents a critical time in every young player's development.

Douglas Park had more than 140 players in the U11/12 age groups; 90 boys and 54 girls, including bronze, silver and gold level teams. The challenge in club of our size is providing teams with sufficient depth at the 11-a-side Divisional level for the players coming through from this age group, and this past season we have largely managed to do this, with the help of some excellent and committed coaches.

Notable competitive successes this past season were:

- o Douglas Park Blue Rangers, coached by Nick Perguini, who were U15 Gold Divisional Champions, and also had tremendous success in a number of tournaments, including division champions in recent tournaments in Las Vegas and Kelowna.
- o Three Douglas Park players were selected to the recently formed High Performance League (HPL) and fifteen to the Metro teams in Vancouver, Richmond or Burnaby

The Club once again received the Provincial Government gaming funds, with the same allocation of \$40,000, as in previous years. These have helped tremendously in balancing the Club finances, and have enabled our club to keep the registration fees down this year, with only a modest increase to cover planned increases in the BCSA, VYSA and referee fees, as well as to the slightly higher field rental fees resulting from a lot of game time on turf fields.

This past season, new facilities at Trillium (2 fields), Memorial, and Jericho have been completed, and all are available for both practice time and home games. This, along with the recent resurfacing of Andy Livingstone, represents a dramatic improvement in the situation from two or three years ago, when home games were routinely played on gravel fields.

Douglas Park is still committed to an amalgamation with the Grandview Legion and Vancouver Girls' soccer clubs for the 2012/13 season, as well as with other interested clubs. This is particularly critical in the light of the recently confirmed merger of the three West side clubs, Kerrisdale, Point Grey and Dunbar.

An important change to Risk Management is on its way for the coming season. All registered team officials (coaches, assistant coaches, managers) and all Board Members will be required to have a criminal record check. This will replace the current 'Risk Management Forms', and will need to be completed before teams are affiliated with the District registrar in September. Further details about the logistics of this will be circulated shortly.

The club continues to being held together by a small handful of exceptionally dedicated (and exceptionally busy) volunteers. There is always room for more:

The following positions are currently vacant and need to be filled

Kim - please add

**Coordinators:**

Kim - please add

Rob Sambrook  
President, Douglas Park Soccer Club  
May 18, 2011