

President's Report - for Wednesday, May 19, 2010

In the 08/09 season our club consisted of 714 registered players (254 girls and 423 boys, plus two adult teams). Overall registration was up from the previous year, with much of the increase from the girls' side, and it was also the first year that the club has fielded a U-21 team.

Notable competitive successes this past season were:

- Douglas Park Roadrunners were U12 BCCGSL Gold Cup Finalists, defeated by the Burnaby Girls Panthers in the penalty shootout in the U12 Final on March 28th. Well done to all the players, as well as the coaches, Kevin and Zenas.
- The Boys U14 Blue Rangers team who were divisional champions at the 2009/2010 TSS Power Tournament
- Natalia Kambe and Emily Russell were selected to the Vancouver Metro Girls U16 squad for the forthcoming season. Both played for the U15 Pumas at Silver 1 this past season.

In addition:

Douglas Park U10 Girls - The Tornadoes, coached by Andrea Thurber - raised \$434.00 from a bake sale for Haiti Relief

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.

Discussions are ongoing about greater club collaboration, and we have been in active talks with Vancouver Girls and Marpole about building a roadmap for merging. As the process and timelines become clearer we will circulate these to the Douglas Park Soccer Club membership. The DPSC Board firmly believes that fewer clubs in Vancouver will better serve the soccer playing youth of our city at all levels of play. However, it is critically important that any steps towards mergers are taken carefully and transparently, and with the full commitment of all clubs involved, and of their members.

Within the next two years we will be significantly better served with artificial turf fields, with two sites earmarked for accelerated development, with support from Federal funding. These are Memorial Park (41st and Fraser) and Jericho. The Trilium turf fields, in the Strathcona area are currently on hold.

The club continues to being held together by a small handful of exceptionally dedicated (and exceptionally busy) volunteers. A frustrating aspect of this season has again been the difficulty mobilizing much of the membership to volunteer even a small amount of their time for the benefit of the club. The recruitment of our Administrator, Kim Ball, has helped eased the burden, but the strength of this club must be its volunteers.

The following positions are currently vacant and need to be filled

Field Scheduler
Referee Coordinator
Referee Development Officer/Head Referee
Communications
Equipment Manager(s)

Coordinators:

Boys Divisional Coordinator
Boys U16
Boys U13
Boys U6/7
Girls Divisional Coordinator
Girls U6-U7

Rob Sambrook
President, Douglas Park Soccer Club
May 19, 2010