



DOUGLAS PARK SOCCER CLUB

THE 2004-5 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

The Douglas Park Soccer 2004-5 season is now a memory – as we look back and plan for 2005-6 we wanted to share the following observations:

Club Growth! Once again the number of players in the club has grown significantly – we had almost 700 players on the field last season up by 100 from the year before. The growth results from large numbers of players entering at U7 while the Club has retained older age groups.

Growing Pains! While the growth in registration numbers is exciting it doesn't come without problems. One of the biggest for the club is the fact that our access to lit practice fields hasn't increased significantly. We are maxing out the use of the fields we have but have been unable to date to obtain more field access at acceptable times (not Friday evening). This is a big focus of attention for Board members as they work to convince the Parks Board and School Board that our young players need space to practice.

Linkages to other clubs – the Boys House teams (U8 to U10) played a game schedule with more opponents from other soccer clubs in Vancouver. Although not without its lessons this trial gave teams and players from our club exposure to a broader range of teams as happens for girls at all ages and boys from U11 and up.

Referees for all house games – a spin-off of the interlocking schedule was the assignment of referees to all games from U8 and up. Lots of older DPSC players got some great experience refereeing games.

Web-based field status information for under 11 teams – it was a rocky start to the season when the Parks Board started making greater use of its “discretionary” field designation for weekend games. When play finally started after the

Christmas/Snow break house teams were asked to check the field status on the DPSC website to confirm whether games were to be played on grass or alternate fields. As we get used to this system it will make it easier to make sure teams and referees end up at the same place.

Jamie Booth Head Coach – Jamie has finished his first season with DPSC – we like to tease him that he's our best volunteer as he was around for many more hours than we paid him for! Don't worry we will be clarifying our expectations and compensating him more appropriately in year two. Jamie has many great ideas for our club – we look forward to working with him in 2005-6 to implement some.

SPRING 2005

Letter

DOUGLAS PARK SOCCER CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday May 13

Plan to attend our Club's annual general meeting at Douglas Park Community Centre. View the Club's financial statements, hear about what is planned for next season. Come for the meeting and stay for the party...

SOCCER PUB NIGHT TO APPRECIATE VOLUNTEERS **Friday May 13 @ 7:30PM**

Any adult associated with the club – coaches, parents, fans, managers and other volunteers is invited to attend this event held in the gym of Douglas Park Community Centre. This is an adult evening with refreshments and snacks. If you've been volunteering the Club will buy you a beer. Bring some friends from your team to celebrate the people who organize the teams, get out the schedules, book and line the fields, buy uniforms & equipment, organize referees, snacks, rides, parties, and administer the registrations. What a lot to celebrate! See you there.

NEWS

Now Register

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2005/2006 SEASON

How it works:

- Registration is done entirely through Enrolnet, a web-based registration system at www.enrolnet.com
- There will not be an “on-site” registration session available this year. Families who do not have access to the internet or would prefer not to pay over the net with a credit card should contact Enrolnet at their toll-free number 1-866-367-6563.
- Enrolnet does not currently support Macintosh applications – Mac users should contact Enrolnet at their toll free number 1-866-367-6563 for registration.
- Douglas Park Community Centre is not involved in registration – please contact your age group coordinator with and questions.

FEES:

	Before May 31/05	On/after May 31/05
House League players	\$115	\$140
Divisional League players	\$155	\$180

(fees include a Douglas Park Community Centre membership)

A Uniform Deposit of \$50 per player is required. Post dated cheques (dated April 1, 2005) will be collected at the first practice in September. Post-dated cheques will be destroyed upon return of the uniform in satisfactory condition at the end of the season. An administration fee of \$25 will be charged on all refunds. No refunds will be given after September 30, 2005.

HOW TEAMS ARE FORMED:

- Douglas Park Soccer operates within the policies and procedures of BC Soccer with Girls Only and Boys/Co-ed teams in House Leagues (for children under 10) and Divisional Leagues (age 10 and over).
- Teams are formed by age based on the calendar year (e.g. children born in 1999 play in the under 6 group).
- Players are strongly encouraged to play within their age group – no exceptions are permitted to play down (BC Soccer regulation) and playing up is rarely permitted and only with the permission of the Douglas Park Soccer Club (see www.douglasparksoccer.ca for Playing-up Policy).

- U6 Boys and U7 Girls teams will be formed if there are enough players in these age groups. If not, these children will play on teams with U7 Boys and U8 Girls.

- Volunteer Age Group Coordinators are responsible for making up teams from the players in each age group often in discussion with the coach volunteers.

a) HOUSE LEAGUE (U6 TO U10)

- Every effort is made to balance teams within an age group. Requests to be on teams with a friend will be accommodated where possible but cannot be guaranteed.

- From year to year players are intentionally re-distributed between teams – although it may sound like more fun to play with the same group of kids year after year it has been found that players benefit from experiencing varying coaching styles, meeting new friends and playing with different players. Please take advantage of the opportunity to broaden your network in the community by meeting new soccer families.

- Teams will be formed based on registration as of June 30, 2005. Please contact the age group coordinator before registering after this date to ensure that space is available on a team.

- House league players should expect to be contacted by their coach before the middle of September – games typically begin the fourth week of September.

- You will be contacted by your coach once teams have been confirmed. Please do not contact the age group coordinator to check on teams before September 22, 2005.

- See the www.douglasparksoccer.ca for age group coordinator contact info.

b) DIVISIONAL LEAGUE (BOYS U11 AND UP, GIRLS U11 AND UP)

- Teams are selected based on player assessments held in the April & May of 2005 – please check www.douglasparksoccer.ca for more information.

- At Boys U11 and Girls U11 and U12 play on teams in 8-side leagues.



- For Girls U13 + and Boys U12 + play 11-side on teams formed to play in tiered leagues (gold/silver/bronze).
- Teams must be formed and registered with the organizing bodies before the end of June. Please contact the age group coordinator before registering players who have not attended assessments or if registering after June 30, 2004.
- See the www.douglasparksoccer.ca for age group coordinator contact info.
- Divisional players should expect to be contacted by their coach before the end of June – games typically begin the weekend after Labour Day.

SUMMER CAMP WITH JAMIE

Want to tune up for next season with Jamie? Register for our first-ever Douglas Park Soccer Camp **August 15-19** to be held in Douglas Park. Sessions will be offered by age group in the mornings or afternoons. To register, visit www.douglasparksoccer.ca and click on Central Soccer registration after June 1.

TEAM SUCCESSES

- Provincial Cup “B” Rep.Team plaque was award to the Douglas Park Boys U17 Dynasty.
- 4 District League medal winner for U14 Silver 2 was awarded to Douglas Park Boys U14 Rio United.

EXCITING PLAYER DEVELOPMENT IN THE FALL



NEW FALL PROGRAM FOR U7 BOYS AND GIRLS

This September the season will start off a little differently for our youngest age group—they will be greeted by Head Coach Jamie Booth and begin a six week program on Saturday mornings that will involve the kids and their parents to give them a Head Start on soccer at Douglas Park. The Head Coach will run one-hour sessions with two teams at a time to introduce the kids to skills and game fun. Parents will be involved to learn how to support our volunteer-based club, with some becoming coaches and managers, and all becoming great fans. The idea is to give our youngest age group skills training from the start and to support this age group’s volunteer base.

CENTRAL SOCCER PLAYER ACADEMY

This spring Douglas Park launched its own player development academy. Over 85 Douglas Park players U8-U13 joined Central Soccer coaches Mark Bell, Brendan Quarry, and Jamie Booth for 1.5 hr sessions weekly for ten weeks. The response was overwhelmingly positive.

So long as we can get suitable fields, we will be continuing our popular “Central Soccer Player Academy” in the fall, winter and spring. The program features ball mastery skills as well as speed and agility training with top coaches formerly with Total Soccer Systems. Our goal is to offer local opportunities for high performance training as well as sessions for beginning players. Look for registration news on www.douglasparksoccer.ca in late August.

We will also be offering drop-in goalkeeping training on Saturday and Sunday mornings for the season and sample speed and agility training sessions. The full program will be posted on our webpage by late August.



FALL START UP COACHES MEETING

Coaches, please put September 8th into your calendar for our annual Coaches Meeting at **Douglas Park Community Centre Gym, 7:30 pm.**

IT TAKES A COMMUNITY TO KEEP SOCCER ON OUR FIELD!

Has your child enjoyed a few hours per week learning new skills, building relationships with other kids, growing as a person as well as a player? Want to give something back that can ensure that your child and others will be doing that next year?

Douglas Park Soccer Club is run completely by community volunteers – not by the Community Centre. We need to share this volunteer load and are seeking new energy to fill a number of important volunteer positions. No matter what your skill set, we have a job for you. Email our Club's Volunteer Coordinator, Pat Patrick at pdpatrick@telus.net to let her know how you can help.

Some examples of jobs we must fill are:

Age Group Coordinators for U7 Girls and for Boys U7 & U8—these people critical—they form the teams and oversee team balancing in the house league (under 11's) as well as coordinate among the coaches and managers to get out schedules and solve problems. Directors: This job involves setting policy and direction and overseeing the financial and operational health of the Club. Directors are elected at the Annual General Meeting (coming up May 13). For more information you could talk to any of the current directors: John McIntyre, David Myers, Rob Wilkins, Jan Ferguson, Shahira Clemens, Laurie Steen, Brendan Quarry, Hadyn Pritchard, or Jean Scribner. Contact information is on the club Web site: www.douglasparksoccer.ca.

COACHES RESOURCES

Tony Waiters' Byte Size Soccer online coaching resources have been updated to include younger and older age groups (u6-18). If you do not have the password, contact Brendan Quarry to get one (see webpage for email addresses of all DP Soccer volunteers).

ANOTHER BALANCED BUDGET

Our fiscal year ended March 31, 2005. We had another successful year with a surplus, our registration payment system effectively handled our increased volumes, and we have strong financial controls in place.

2005 SOCCER DATES TO REMEMBER:

April/May	Tryouts/assessments for divisional teams (for more info check www.douglasparksoccer.ca)
May 31	Make sure and register onsite or online by this date or it will cost you \$25 more!
June 30	Pre-season organization is begun for U7 to U10 teams based on registration numbers as of June 30 2005 Divisional teams will have been formed for registration with organizing bodies
Sept. 10	First divisional games
Sept. 20	All players will have heard from coaches by now
About Sept. 24	First house games for most age groups

Here are some exciting highlights for our past year:

Our revenue has more than doubled over the past 4 years due largely to increased registrations.

We applied for and received a \$20,000 grant from the Provincial Govt.-Gaming Program. Thank You! Our major expenses are district fees, gym/field rentals, uniforms, and coaching fees. For example, we spent \$10,000 on uniforms - when you look good, you play good!

We were the first soccer club in BC to use an internet payment registration system. This is our 3rd year using this system. Monthly financial statements are submitted to the club. Thank you to Andrea Kleinschmidt and Lesley Vickars for compiling and completing our accounting statements.

AS A SOCCER PARENT YOU ARE PART OF THE CLUB TOO!

- Douglas Park Soccer runs ENTIRELY on the efforts of volunteers.
- Player's families are required to assist teams in various ways.

In addition, volunteers coach and manage teams and organize the league.

