

# Douglas Parks Soccer Club News

March 2004

## U13 Boys Rio in Cup Final!

Congratulations to the U13 Boy's Rio team who will play in the finals for the 4-District Burrard Cup on Saturday March 6th at 10:00am at Burnaby Lake #2. It would be great if some DP fans could get out to see the game.

**Rio: the whole Club wishes you the best of luck!**

The schedule for all cup matches can be found at <http://www.4districtsoccer.com/4dfinals04.htm>

## Volunteer Appreciation Night—April 24

If you have been volunteering for Douglas Park this season, the Club would like to say thank you by hosting Volunteer Appreciation Night at Douglas Park Community Centre on **Saturday, April 24 at 7:00pm**. This is an adult evening with refreshments and snacks. Anyone who has been volunteering is invited to come and the Club will buy you a beer. Bring some friends from your teams 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. **Whew—we have a lot to celebrate.** See you there.

## The 2003-4 Season – Wins and Losses

The Douglas Park Soccer 2003-4 season draws to an end – and planning is underway already to the 2004-5 season. As we look back and forward we wanted to share the following observations:

- This season the club grew by over 100 players to roughly 600 kids on 47 teams – while this is great for kids and a positive reflection on the club, this significant growth resulted in some problems finding practice field space and time for teams. This will continue to be an issue as lit outdoor field space in the city is very limited – but we are well aware of this being a limitation on our club and have are working on solutions now in the hopes that the season start-up can be more orderly.
- Enrolnet, the internet registration system, is now in its second year of use – there were a bunch of issues with the functionality of the software last year which made it less than perfect but it did eliminate a tremendous amount of stress for community centre staff, made the financial part of registration much more efficient, and was appreciated by many families who liked the convenience of being able to register online. We are working with Enrolnet to make improvements for this season that will make this a more useful tool for coordinators and registrants.
- In 2004-5 we will be encouraging people to register by June 5, 2004 (saves you \$25) and will be **forming teams based on the numbers registered as of June 30**. Late registrants will be accommodated wherever possible but there will be no guarantee. In the past we have allowed registration as late as September 7, but this late date makes it unrealistic to form teams and start practices by mid-September. The earlier cut-off date will ensure we can have proper planning for our teams. The club is run by volunteers so we need to work around the summer break yet be ready for start-up by mid-September.
- This year we experimented with a pull-out program for U11 boys to offer keen players extra soccer training on a user-pay basis. The Head Coach selected players to attend. In the past we have lost players in this age group to other clubs by not offering something for the more-than-recreational player. The feedback on the program was very positive, and had our head coach not been injured just before Christmas it would have been expanded to include more players.

***The 2003-4 Season – Wins and Losses con't***

- Another experiment was the introduction of paid referees for U10 house league play. Several Douglas Park teens became certified as ref's and gained experience at the same time as they saved parents from having to ref games. A big thanks to Dave Myers who volunteered as Referee Coordinator and found and encouraged these young refs. Clubs have difficulty getting teens to ref if the feedback they get from coaches and parents isn't reasonable – these young refs have told us that the families in Douglas Park Soccer are great to work with.
- This year Hadyn Pritchard brought a Boys U16 Gold team to join our club and they have made a very positive contribution to DP Soccer. Over half of the boys on this team started their soccer careers in Douglas Park and live in our neighbourhood so playing here is coming home. They had a great season – if you haven't seen them play, plan it as a family outing in the fall (U17!) – you'll see great soccer and sportsmanship on our field.

***2004 Soccer Dates to Remember:***

- March 6** On-site Registration 10AM to 2 PM at Douglas Park CC
- April/May** Tryouts/assessments for divisional teams  
(*watch for more info & check [www.douglasparksoccer.ca](http://www.douglasparksoccer.ca)*)
- June 5** On-site Registration 10AM to 2 PM at Douglas Park CC  
***Make sure and register onside or online by this date or it will cost you \$25 more!***
- June 30** Coaches are identified, teams are formed, pre-season organization is begun
- Sept. 6** Divisional teams will have heard from coaches by now
- Sept. 11** First divisional games
- Sept. 20** House teams will have heard from coaches by now
- About Sept. 25** First house games

## REGISTER NOW for the 2004/2005 Season

### How it works:

- Registration is done entirely through Enrolnet, a web-based registration system at [www.enrolnet.com](http://www.enrolnet.com). A credit card is required to make payment.
- Two "on-site" registration sessions will be available for families who do not have access to the internet or would prefer not to pay over the net with a credit card. Cash and cheques will be accepted at onsite registration sessions:  
**Saturday March 6, 2004 from 10 AM to 2 PM**  
**Saturday June 5, 2004 from 10 AM to 2 PM**  
**at Douglas Park Community Centre**
- Enrolnet does not currently support Macintosh applications – Mac users should attend onsite registration if possible – alternately the Enrolnet toll free number is 1-866-367-6563.
- Douglas Park Community Centre is not involved in registration – staff at the centre can't help you with registration.

### Fees:

	before June 6/04	on/after June 6/04
House League players	\$110	\$135
Divisional League players	\$145	\$170

(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 2004. 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, 2004.

### 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](http://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.

**How Teams are formed: con't****a) House league (U6 to U10)**

- Every effort is made to balance teams within an age group while the children play in house league. Requests to be on teams with a friend will be accommodated where possible but cannot be guaranteed.
- Teams will be formed based on registration as of June 30, 2004. 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. Please do not contact the age group coordinator to check on teams before September 20, 2004.***
- See the [www.douglasparksoccer.ca](http://www.douglasparksoccer.ca) for age group coordinator contact info.

**b) Divisional league (U11 and up)**

- Teams are selected based on player assessments held in the spring of 2004 – please watch for information about assessment dates via email from your old team manager, flyers in schools, etc.
- At U11 teams play on balanced teams in 8-side leagues.
- Teams playing U12 and up, are 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](http://www.douglasparksoccer.ca) for age group coordinator contact info.
- ***Divisional players should expect to be contacted by their coach before late August – games typically begin the weekend after Labour Day.***

***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 with field preparation and snacks for weekly games.
- In addition, volunteers coach and manage teams, referee games and organize the league.

**Name Contest for Club Teams****Attention all DPSC - volunteers, co-ordinators, team managers, coaches, assistant coaches and players!**

The Board of Directors has decided that as part of establishing our brand and reputation in the soccer community that all new **divisional** teams, boys and girls starting with the 2004 – 2005 soccer season will have a common team name. The teams will otherwise be distinguished by the division in which they play. As these teams progress in age through the ranks they will carry with them the common team name. Teams currently playing in divisional under an established name could keep it but new teams will pick up the club name. The common name would not be part of the House League (younger players up to U11). Eventually all divisional teams will have the same name. We are seeking your input now into the choice of name for the Douglas Park Soccer Club teams. Mail your submission to [dpscteamname@hotmail.com](mailto:dpscteamname@hotmail.com) <<mailto:dpscteamname@hotmail.com>>. Please provide along with your choice of name a brief reason why you think the Club should choose your name. A Committee of the Board of Directors will narrow the choices down to three names. Top consideration will be given to those names that are not common and that will uniquely identify our players. The name will be voted on at our Annual General Meeting on May 26th at 7 pm. The first persons (non Board of Directors) submitting a name that is one of the three finalists will receive some kind of reward, so make sure you identify yourself with your entry. Watch for our Club's new improved website to see what names are being put forward!

## Annual General Meeting of the Douglas Park Soccer Club May 26

### Choosing One Club Name for Divisional Teams

Plan to attend our Club's annual general meeting on May 26, 7pm at Douglas Park Community Centre. View the Club's financial statements, hear about this season, and what is planned for next and be present for the selection of our Club's divisional team name—an historic moment!

### *A Reminder About Canine Fans*

Some of the teams have had complaints of fans bringing dogs to games and letting them run. It is helpful for the fans and players to ensure that dogs are on a leash (and not just because the by-laws require it). Some kids are scared of dogs and with all the running, cheering and commotion of a game, it is not 100% predictable how an animal may react. As well, sometimes dogs find it more interesting to dig holes along the side of the field than to watch the game. So, to protect the kids, the fields, and the dogs, please keep pets on a leash.

## Getting Involved in DP Soccer

What's been your experience with Douglas Park Soccer? 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?

You may be surprised to know that the Community Centre does not run DP Soccer—it is run completely by neighbourhood volunteers. The Club has a number of important volunteer positions that must be filled to have soccer in Douglas Park. No matter what your skill set, we have a job for you. Email our Club's new Volunteer Coordinator, Pat Patrick to let her know how you can help. [pdpatrick@telus.net](mailto:pdpatrick@telus.net)

Some examples of jobs we must fill are:

**Registrar** (without one, no one can play—this person takes data we collect at registration and files it with all the soccer authorities to ensure that risk management and due diligence are covered).

**Age Group Coordinators for U11 Girls and for Boys U9,10, 11, and 13**—these people critical—they form the teams and oversee team balancing in the house league (under 11's) and tiering tryouts for the divisional league (U12 & up) 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 26). For more information you could talk to any of the current directors: John McIntyre, David Myers, Rob Wilkins, Jan Ferguson, Shahira Clemens, Al Borthwick, Tara Alexis, Hadyn Pritchard, or Jean Scribner. Contact information is on the club Web site: [www.douglasparksoccer.ca](http://www.douglasparksoccer.ca).

## News from the Teams

Way to go **U7 girls**. They are the first ever all U7 girls team to play at Douglas Park and are a force to be reckoned with! They have come such a long way from the beginning of the season. Some members of the DP U13G Wanderers team have attended some U7 girls' practices and a game with the "Justice Girls" to act as mentors and help the coaches. The older players were impressed with the ball skills of the younger players.

Members from **U10 Boys' Flaming Warriors** and **Demons teams** are entered in the SBMC tournament in Burnaby the last weekend of spring break. They've apparently been placed in the top category. The U9B Icebergs and U8B Blue Thunder are also off to tournaments.

### Spring Break Soccer at UBC

UBC is offering a spring break camp at UBC March 15-19 9am-12 noon, for 5-12 year olds with both Mini World Cup and High Performance programs. Call 604 822 3688 to register.

### Spring Soccer Training in Pt Grey

If your players are keen to continue building their soccer skills, consider a ten minute drive to Jericho Hostel field to attend the Pt Grey Academy. Total Soccer Systems coaches run a 10 week session starting April 5 or April 7 for \$80:

Mondays:

U7 & 8 Boys and Girls

4:30-5:45

U11-14 Girls 6:00-7:15

Wednesdays:

U9 & 10 Boys & Girls

4:30-5:45

U11-14 Boys 6:00-7:15.

A great way to stay in tune during the lead up to tryouts. To register, go to [www.pointgreysoccer.ca](http://www.pointgreysoccer.ca) to print out the registration form for Pt. Grey Academy.

### Soccer Speed Training at Douglas Park this Spring

Douglas Park Soccer Club has contracted with speed training expert, Adam Plummer, to lead sessions of his popular program "Speed and Agility Training" right here in Douglas Park Tuesdays this spring, beginning April 13. This program is geared to improving soccer player's speed and agility—a big part of the game as players progress into divisional play. Adam has studied the science of speed and teaches kids how to run properly and accelerate for those bursts of speed that make soccer so exciting. One of our coaches brought Adam in to work with his team and was so impressed that he organized another session and signed up himself!

Last year Adam offered his program at UBC and for other soccer clubs across town, which meant a lot of driving to get this expertise, but now you can get this program right here on the west field of DP! He will be running three sessions, organized by age group **Tuesdays April 13 to June 15** (10 sessions):

U10 & U11 4-5 PM

U12 & U13 5-6 PM

U14 + 6-7 PM

Tell your friends and **sign up at Douglas Park Community Centre by April 10<sup>th</sup>**. The fee is \$126 including GST, for the 10 sessions. Enrolment is limited so sign up early.

### Spring Soccer Training from Westside Soccer Player Development (Westside Soccer Player Development)

Douglas Park Soccer players are welcome to attend a new development program for soccer players in the U9 to U13 age groups. This program is open to all players interested in a competitive, tiered spring program. Players will be placed in one of the following groups; High Performance (which includes matches) or Development Group. The WSPD program will focus on skill development, teamwork and age-appropriate tactical play and will be administered and coached by westside clubs' professional Head Coaches plus their qualified assistant coaches. This program is run independently of any of the soccer clubs but initiated by the Head Coaches of Dunbar, Pt Grey and Kerrisdale.

When: April 16 - June 18, 2004 (**Fridays**)

Where: Prince of Wales Secondary and Balaclava Oval

Time: U9 and U10 (boys and girls) : 6:00pm - 7:15pm

U11 to U13 (boys and girls): 7:15pm - 8:30pm (7:30pm to 8:45pm once daylight allows)

Price: Development Group - \$125 for ten training sessions

High Performance - \$125 for ten sessions\*

\*Once players are selected to the High Performance group, an additional \$50 fee for games will be due.

Please register by March 31. Space is limited. Registration forms can be found on [www.douglasparksoccer.ca](http://www.douglasparksoccer.ca). Look in announcements section for Westside Soccer Player Development.

### **Thinking Ahead to Soccer Summer Camps**

This summer popular soccer camps will be held in Douglas Park and in other neighbourhoods nearby. Consider enrolling your young player in these camps—an excellent way to build soccer skill. Some camps to look for are:

**Coerver Soccer** camps locations are not yet published for this summer but check them out at <http://www.coerverbc.com/camps.htm>

**UBC Soccer Camp** will be coming twice to Douglas Park this summer:

July 12-16 and August 9-13

9am-12noon Mini World Cup Program (Ages 5-12) and High Performance Camps (Ages 8-12 yrs) Call 604-822-3688 to register or visit their Web site at [www.gothunderbirds.ca](http://www.gothunderbirds.ca) which will be ready in early March.

**Total Soccer Systems** also runs many summer camps and may be holding a camp at Douglas Park this summer in August—more information on locations and registration will be available in March from [www.totalsoccersystems.com](http://www.totalsoccersystems.com) or 604 273 7366