



Holiday 2020 Newsletter

ADMINISTRATORS

A HOLIDAY MESSAGE TO OUR MEMBERS

Seasons Greetings...

May your holidays be filled with joy and happiness and most importantly, hope. For most of us it's been a year that ranges from unusual to difficult. There is no doubt 2020 has presented some challenges.

Despite the challenges there have been some bright spots. We were able to complete the fall playing session in both the youth and adult divisions.

This is something for which we can be thankful. More importantly, it gives us hope.

It also affords us the opportunity to thank everyone from club leadership to the coaches, players and spectators. Without your willingness and vigilance to follow our directives for keeping everyone safe we would have been unable to complete the many weeks of play. This gives us hope that the future is brighter because collectively we can accomplish anything.

We raise a cup of wassail with wishes for the happiest holidays for each and every one of you with the wish that you receive that special thing to brighten your holidays.

RISK MANAGEMENT TIP OF THE MONTH

The off-season is an excellent time to ensure your risk management documents are up to date. In addition, SafeSport certification must be renewed yearly; check to see if yours is still valid. If so, you'll be ready to go as the spring season approaches.

To visit our Risk Management page, [click here.](#)

STATE OFFICE STAFFING UPDATE

In accordance with Governor Tom Wolf's statewide order, the state office building will remain closed until further notice. All state office staff can still be reached at the following email addresses:

- Executive Director, Tim McCoy – tim@pawest-soccer.org
- Director of Coaching, Terry Eguaaje – doc@pawest-soccer.org
- Office Administrator, Cheryl Mignogna – cheryl@pawest-soccer.org
- Digital Communications Coordinator, Dean Ferraro – dean@pawest-soccer.org
- ODP Director, Paul Halford – odp@pawest-soccer.org
- Coaching Administrative Asst., Amy Fogle – afogle@pawest-soccer.org
- Administrative Asst., Gwen Missouri – gwen@pawest-soccer.org

COVID-19 UPDATES

Stay At Home Advisory

- Governor Wolf issued a Stay At Home advisory on November 23, 2020. The action advises Pennsylvanians to stay home except to go to work, school, for food, for medicine, or medical appointments/treatment.
 - View the Advisory: [Click Here](#)
- It is PA West Soccer's position that our clubs should observe the advisory in an effort to help mitigate the substantial rate of spread in each of the counties in our half of Pennsylvania.

Masking Mandate

- On November 23, 2020 Dr. Levine issued a revised masking mandate requiring masks be worn inside and outside when with others not from the same household and cannot maintain sustained physical distance. This mandate applies to athletic activity except as provided in the order. There are exemptions for some sports but soccer is not one of them.
 - View the FAQ and Order: [Click Here](#)

New Limits

- The state announced new, lower limits for gatherings:
 - Outdoors
 - Under 2,000 people - 15% of max occupancy
 - 2,001-10,000 people - 10% of max occupancy
 - More than 10,000 people - 5% of max occupancy up to 2,500 people
 - Indoors
 - Under 2,000 people - 10% of max occupancy
 - 2,001-10,000 people - 5% of max occupancy
 - More than 10,000 people – No events over 500 people
 - The limits are based on standards set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code.

COVID-19 UPDATES CONTINUED

- o Indoor Training/Futsal
 - For those training indoors or playing futsal (PA West Soccer does not sanction indoor league play), we are recommending you utilize US Soccer's Indoor Considerations.
 - Find them at: <https://www.ussoccer.com/playon/guides/indoor-considerations>
 - This guidance provides important information for assessing and mitigating risk of playing indoors.

MEMBERSHIP



All I Want For Christmas Is A Family Game Night

Bring Your Family Together this Holiday Season with our Festive Gaming Event.

We are excited to heat up gaming once again! In order to kick off our schedule of gaming opportunities, we decided to embrace the holidays first with an official Family Night Gaming event (and it will not be the last)!

Our Family Night will include the rollicking hayride of a game - Rocket League. This nationwide 2v2 tournament on December 19th is designed to engage families in a hopefully friendly (or not so friendly) competition. Because of the pandemic, we are providing a virtual gaming opportunity to all families practicing distancing this year.

The event will allow siblings, parent/child, and grandparent/child to participate. It is time to shine a light on your family's gaming skills (or fun lack thereof). We are also adding an additional event for those who love a good challenge, the Minecraft Holiday Build Challenge! Show off your creativity by designing a holiday themed building. Submissions are due December 13th. More information about the challenge is available in the registration link below.

This is a free event, AYCE's gift to you and a gift to our families.

Rocket League Tournament: December 19th

Minecraft Holiday Challenge Submission Due: December 13th

Registration: [AYCE Holiday Spectacular](#)

COACHING

Upcoming Blended Grassroots Courses

PA West Soccer will be offering four new Blended Grassroots courses.

- Wednesday, December 9- Blended 7 v 7 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- Friday, December 11- Blended 11 v 11 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- Monday, December 14- Blended 9 v 9 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 16- Blended 4 v 4 from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

All testing for these courses will be held at All American Fieldhouse, 1 Racquet Lane, Monroeville, PA 15146

Field sessions for the courses will be on Saturday, January 9th - Times will be announced during the course webinar.

For more information, [click here](#).

New Blended D License

Registration for the upcoming Blended D License course is now open on US Soccer Digital Learning Center and will close on January 13 at NOON.

Details of the pre-requisites and course description are on the PA West Soccer web site and the US Soccer web site.

This course is part online with an instructor, part self-directed online with field component for testing on May 22 in Bethel Park, PA..

To register, [click here](#).

C License Course is Coming Soon!
Stay tuned for more details!

For questions about the course format, registration or other information, please contact Amy Fogle via e-mail at afogle@pawest-soccer.org.



RECOGNITIONS

PRESIDENTS CUP CHAMPIONS

Over the weekend of November 13-15, PA West Soccer held its annual Presidents Cup. Teams from ages U12, U13, and U14 competed for the championship title. We would like to thank all who participated and congratulate the following teams:

- | Boys | Girls |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• U12- Allegheny Force FC Red B2009• U13- Beadling Boys Elite 2008-South• U14- FC Pittsburgh 2007B Gold | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• U12- Beadling Girls Premier 2009 South• U13- Century V East G 2008• U14- Allegheny Force FC G2007 |

The PA West Soccer Presidents Cup is part of a national Championship series and regional qualifying tournament. PA West Soccer Champions will proceed to the Eastern Region Presidents Cup.

To view the schedule and results from this weekend's tournament, [click here](#).

US YOUTH SOCCER NEWS

- [US Youth Soccer Announces Regional Winners of Annual Awards](#)
- Great Lakes Conference
 - [Great Lakes Conference Team Update \(11-18-20\)](#)
- [December 2020 National League Events Postponed](#)

For all information on US Youth Soccer, visit usyouthsoccer.org.



US SOCCER NEWS

- [Men's National Team to Face El Salvador on December 9 in South Florida](#)
- [U.S. Women's National Team Defeats Netherlands 2-1 in First Match Since March](#)

[Click Here](#) to visit US Soccer's website.



FOR THE GOOD OF THE GAME

PA West Soccer Virtual Speaker Series

PA West Soccer is introducing a Speaker Series that will be held virtually via Webex. The speakers will join us for a Town Hall setting to share insights and information about a variety of topics.

Our first speaker is former PA West Soccer Executive Board member **Mike Spagnoletti** who will be presenting “Skills for Dealing With Difficult Situations”. The topic offers insights for referees and field marshals as they encounter the occasional on-field or field-side issues that begin to grow. Mr. Spagnoletti currently teaches criminology at the collegiate level including at Indiana University of PA. The former Allegheny County Police officer will share insights into how to verbally de-escalate difficult situations.

This Town Hall will be **Wednesday, December 9 at 7:30 PM**. More information about reserving a spot for this Town Hall can be found on the PA West Soccer web site.