



ONE WORLD



ONE GAME



Edmond Soccer Club
Newsletter

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City of Edmond to build 16th Field at ESC



City of Edmond and Parks & Rec Engineers at ESC

Last month, the City of Edmond and the Edmond Parks and Recreation Department met at the field with Club staff members to review plans to add a 16th field to our layout. Groundbreaking should begin in a matter of weeks. Hundreds of thousands of pounds of soil will be moved after extensive re-engineering of the irrigation network, drainage pipes, and culverts. As ESC prepares to host the Southern Regionals Tournament in 2013, the addition of field # 16 will fulfill the Region III requirement for the number of fields

needed to handle the 8-day event. Since 1978, ESC has been fortunate to have the City of Edmond and the Parks and Recreation Department as principal partners. Over the years, this partnership has allowed us to bring soccer to Edmond residents and to many surrounding communities. For the second time since 1999, ESC will host this tournament, which is one of the largest and most successful sporting events in the country. The economic impact to the City of Edmond will be tremendous, as several million dollars will flow into local stores, restaurants and hotels. For eight days in the summer of 2013, Edmond will look like an Olympic City with soccer players from as far away as Florida and North Carolina, roaming about in their soccer flip flops and T-Shirts. After the Regional tournament, the U4, U5, & U6 Divisions will enjoy a brand new, perfectly groomed playing surface when the club will re-assign the new field to accommodate our youngest players.

— Points of Interest —

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ESC to add Teams for Tots League!

For the first time, ESC will sign up U4 players in the new 'Teams for Tots League'. Players who have reached the age of 4 by January 31, 2012 are eligible to play at ESC this Spring. This league is all about F-U-N. 4 year olds

love to run and they love balls, even if they can't tie their own soccer shoes!

The league will have the same 8-game schedule as the older teams. Modified small-sided game rules will be the order of the day. Free T-Shirts and

End-of-Season Medals will be included in the reduced fee registration of only \$40. Registration for all leagues begins online at www.edmondsoccer.com on January 5.

Meet Coach Kathy... (Coach of U10 Boys Lightning)

My first look at soccer was when my oldest son joined a soccer club in Keller, Texas. Coaches were in high demand. I was willing to coach but had no idea what soccer was! About that time I saw an announcement in our church bulletin: Women soccer players were needed. I thought I could learn to play soccer, then I could coach soccer. I literally knew nothing about soccer! As a new coach, I quickly ran out of ideas and drills

to teach the boys so I obtained my G and F licenses and gained a new perspective of the game. No longer able to just watch on the sideline, I had to learn to deal with the parents who always thought the ref was unfair, and that their child was never off sides or capable of committing a foul. To solve this problem, I suggested to my loudest parent that he and I take a referee class together. We completed the grade 9 class; he reffed for a season and quit because of the loud parents. I continued and completed my grade 8, and he became a much quieter parent on the sideline. In the future years, I urged most of the boys I coached to become referees -especially if they had an overzealous parent. In the mid 90's there were no cell phones and very few people used the internet. We had

to actually go to the coaches meetings to get our rosters, schedules, and any other necessary information. Then, we had to make copies to give to our parents. We used reams and reams of paper! Game cancellations or reschedules tied up the phone lines for hours! We moved to Oklahoma in 2000 and signed the boys up at ESC. Unfortunately, the coach of my other son's team was transferred so I took on that team too! I practiced Monday/Thursday with one team and Tuesday/Friday with the other! Crock pot dinners got old pretty quickly, but we had fun! In 2002, we had our third son so I am still coaching. Somewhere around this time I got my D license. My philosophy is to stay positive -"If you don't have something nice to say, don't say it.", It helps to be flexible with your practices

depending on what kind of day the boys have had, and to be in tune with what they are doing in school. Most important of all, everybody has to have fun!



Spring Registration 3 ways to Register:

1. **Online**—Starts Jan. 5 at www.edmondsoccer.com
2. **Walk-In at Soccer USA** dates: 1/14-21-22
3. **Registration Table at Soccer USA**

"I suggested to my loudest parent that he and I take a referee class together."

Adult Soccer at ESC this Spring

Finally, there will be a place in Edmond for ESC parents and coaches to play outdoor soccer! Starting late Spring in 2012, ESC will launch the 1st ESC Adults League. The league will consist of 9 teams playing an 8-game season on Sunday afternoons into early summer.

Games will be played in a small-sided game format. Players between the ages of 20 and 55, male and female, will be eligible to sign up. A registration link will be posted on the ESC website in January.



Time to get in shape! Adult Soccer coming to ESC

Family Fun Day Returns to ESC

Several years ago, ESC decided to put on a day during which players, parents, coaches, and friends could get together at the complex to have a day of pure fun. The Family Fun Day provides an opportunity to simply hang out and play at the complex. The day resembles a huge family picnic. This spring, after a brief hiatus, we'll do it again. Mark your calendar for May 12 next year for FFD 2013. Events include a

huge Cookout, Dunk Tank, Moon Walk, Sack Races, Egg Tosses, Mini 3v3 tournament, String Maze, Clowns, Music, Dancing Contest, and Face Painting, and a few additional events. Parents will again find the ESC Silent Auction a great place to pick up some good loot. Proceeds for the auction go to the ESC Scholarship Fund. The Family Fun Day is a terrific time to relax with teammates and friends. Club members and families can

wander around the carnival-like atmosphere and have a tasty bite to eat or a delicious snack. It's an opportunity for parents to bring the family out for a fun afternoon and the dinner is "on us." The ESC FFD is a way for the club to say 'Thank You' to our members for all that they do during the year for the kids. Board members and coaches work hard to pull the seasons together for the teams. Parents spend hours driving players and

supporting the teams. For one day, the club itself gets to say "THANKS".

Of course, it takes planning to pull off a big party like this. The FFD Committee will see to that. **Sign up** for the **FFD Planning Committee**. Volunteers should send an email to the FFD Committee at gm@edmondsoccer.com.

ESC Family Close Up - the Rojo-Rojo Family

Several years ago, Christina Rojo-Rojo brought her 3 kids to play soccer at the YMCA because at the time, ESC did not have a U4 league. As she explains, "My family is passionate about the game of Soccer. My

husband plays every week, outdoor and indoor, and all my children just love it. She couldn't wait until her kids were old enough to play at ESC. Christina went on to say- "Soccer is more than just good exercise. There is real learning going on." Christina is happy to see that her 3 players are learning skills. It's not just about winning. Christina claims "It's about enjoying what you are doing." Her players are on a soccer field somewhere all year long. She admits that it is a sacrifice to have 3 players, playing all the time. During the summer, after the leagues are done, there is more soccer in the camps. The soccer club remembers one season when Christina came into Soccer USA to register 6 players. Amazed, we learned that she was the point of contact for her own children and her nieces and nephews who also play at ESC. When asked how she felt about watching her children playing soccer, Christina was quick with her answer

about the parents' role. "I admit that I haven't always been the best sideline parent. I have gotten into trouble with coach Soesbee for trying to coach my own children during the games. I learned that my job on the sideline is to encourage the players. I should not yell at them and I don't need to tell them what to do. I had to learn this and it wasn't easy!" "After the games, I also learned what to say and what not to say. The kids are learning the game that we all love. With a good attitude, they will get what they need and all I need to do is get them there for practice and the games and remember to bring the snacks and water." Christina has volunteered on all her teams as snack person. She also has volunteered to work at the Turkey Shootout Tournament as a Field Marshal. Christina has the comfort of knowing that her players are learning "It's not just about winning. It's about learning and it's about doing something you love."



~Headers



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We're on the Web!
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Jennifer Ellis - U5/U6 Girls Coordinator
Wes Hill - U5/U6 Boys Coordinator
Lisa Schritter-Miley - TOPSoccer Director

Outstanding Service Award

The Outstanding Service Award is given to a club or family member, or any neighborhood group in recognition for their distinguished service or contribution to the Edmond Soccer Club. During the past year, this recipient has helped to develop and promote the game of soccer in our community. This individual or group, in the judgment of the Edmond Soccer Club Board of Directors, has made a significant and commendable contribution to the club.

Previous Winners: Matthew Parks, Pauline Byars, Diane Folks, Jay & Lisa Tippeconnic, Rebecca Jackson, and Albert Aguilar.

Member nominations now open for 2011—
Submit your nominees to:
gm@edmondsoccer.com.



U7's in Action!