

Hawks S.C. Newsletter



Contact: Mark Lange
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December 9, 2016

Successful first season for Hawks S.C. teams

Aug. 29 – Nov. 6

Following team formation last summer, the Hawks S.C. just finished its inaugural season. This is a good time to reflect on recent developments and future plans. One of the goals of Hawks S.C. is to grow teams from the bottom up and one of the notable successes has been the recruitment of **Girls** for the **Developmental Academy**. This season we had 21 girls in the program (birth years 2006-2009) and were able to field several teams. The oldest group had a particularly strong showing this season and is planning to join the competitive ranks this spring.

The **Girls U12-U14** age groups were combined to form a training group that was very competitive in friendly games versus other teams in the Palouse region. As a club (that means all of us!), we will need to continue to recruit girls in these age groups to ensure viable teams in the future. Look around in Pullman, Moscow and Lewiston – many businesses are now displaying Hawks S.C. flyers.

The **Boys Developmental Academy** included 14 players in the fall (birth years 2007-2009). Two teams were formed and played friendly games in the Palouse area. All 2007 players have developed to the point where they will join competitive teams. The **Boys U10 Premier** team played in the PSPL Developmental Div. 1 bracket against very strong competition from the Central Washington area, and, after some hard-fought wins, finished in the middle of the table. The **Boys U11 Premier** team finished the season in the PSPL Copa Div. 1 bracket as undefeated champions. This team is hoping to advance to the highest level of competition in the state (WSPL on the West side) this spring. The Hawks also had a **Boys U11 Select** team in this bracket, which finished fourth out of nine teams (and was the only team in the league to manage a tie against the Hawks premier team). The **Boys U12 Select** team was placed in the PSPL Copa Div. 2 bracket and finished as Finalists with only one point behind the top team. The **Boys U13 Premier** team won the PSPL Copa East bracket with only one loss, and is also considering advancement to the highest level of competition in the state. The Boys U14 and U15 teams both competed in PSPL Copa Div. 1 league. They faced off against talented teams from Central Washington including Othello, Moses Lake, the Tri-Cities and Wenatchee, teams from Spokane and local rivals Moscow United. The Hawks displayed a competitive spirit in the face of older opposition, recording key wins over Spokane and Wenatchee, and hard-fought draws with the Tri-Cities and Moscow.

Hawks S.C. End-of-Season Party

Nov. 13

A raffle with more than 50 prizes, Futsal-style indoor soccer and on-site registration opportunities brought more than 150 players and parents to Lincoln Middle School on November 13th. A big Thank You to the planning committee, consisting of Jennifer Hamilton, Dan Varey, Dita Wexler, Amy Tull and Melissa Oatley! Masters of Ceremony were Jon Oatley (President) and Dan Varey (Director of Equipment and Fields). We will have to do this again! (photo on following page)



While league standings are viable indicators of the strength of a program, looking at the development of teams over time is even more important. We have seen tremendous growth in performance across all age groups and will continue to build on that momentum.

Winter Training Sessions

Nov. 28

Hawks S.C. is currently offering training sessions for players of all competitive teams (girls and boys!):

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays - 4-5 PM - Valley Fields
(Nov. 28 – Dec. 15)

We are also working on adding outdoor sessions in Lewiston. Starting in January 2017, we will offer indoor sessions at various venues. Stay tuned - details will be announced soon!

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Volunteer Portrait: Dan Varey

Guest article by Cinthya Izucar (izuc5644@vandals.uidaho.edu)

More Than Just a Referee

In any club there is an enormous amount of work that goes into running the everyday tasks. As a newly established soccer club there is so much love and appreciation given to those that rise to the occasion and help with the success of this organization. Our everyday volunteers work immensely hard behind the scenes for the success of the club and the success of the kids. This club would not be the same without the help of volunteers like Dan Varey.

Dan Varey, age 71, along with his wife Tina, started volunteering for this club back in 2008 when the Hawks were once the Pullman Pumas. In 2008, the Pullman Pumas U14 girls lost their coach and Dan, who often enjoyed watching the games, was happy to help meet the need for a new coach. After coaching, Dan continued to volunteer for the club as an official rather than a coach. Dan says he never had much experience with soccer, basketball was more of his game growing up, but he saw that there was a need to be met here so he was happy to help.

While Dan may have started his career as an official here shortly after 2008, he has actually been officiating since 1979, with the exception of a 15 year break. But Dan's work goes far beyond that of just officiating. Dan is also in charge of equipment management for the players and coaches and he does the field maintenance.

Furthermore, Dan acts as a liaison for various organizations, some of which include Pullman Parks and Recreation, the



Rolling Hills Referee Association, and the Quad Cities Referee Association. He believes in helping meet the extra needs of the club, such as providing his own portable shelters for severe weather games.

Currently, Dan has no plan to retire in officiating and will continue to volunteer for the club for as long as possible. The Hawks could not be more appreciative of the work Dan does for the club and would like to extend the biggest thank you for always being willing to help where there is a need to be met.

**Thank you for your support. Have a wonderful holiday season and see you back in the gym in January.
Your Hawks S.C. Team**