



NMSSA Newsletter

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The New Mexico State Soccer Association is the state affiliate of the national United States Adult Soccer Association (USASA). All leagues affiliated with NMSSA are entitled to participate in the benefits and programs offered through the USASA. The purpose of NMSSA is to help develop, promote and administer the game of soccer among adult players within New Mexico and all states adjoining New Mexico. To do that, we provide insurance for leagues, registration services, tournaments and competitions, referee and coaching support and training and other resources. We are here for you!!

President's Report

By Erin Langenwalter – President

US Soccer AGM 2008/USASA MidYear Meeting 2008



I just returned from U.S. Soccer Annual General Meeting (AGM) serves as U.S. Soccer's national meeting with all constituents from the youth, adult, professional and athlete councils. Representatives from each of these councils discuss administrative issues, review and vote on rule changes and conduct various other businesses during the course of the event. In addition to serving as a New Mexico delegate (NMSSA holds four votes based on registration numbers), I also serve as the Region IV Rules Committee for USASA and was recently appointed to a special committee to review and analyze web technologies for registration and data management. New Mexico was well represented at the meeting and we are proud to announce that our own Mike Edwards was re-elected Vice President of U.S. Soccer and Mike Maloney was re-elected Region IV Deputy Director.

The USASA Midyear Meeting and Workshops will take place in San Antonio, Texas and will run October 9-12, 2008. The Mid-Year Meeting (MYM) serves as USASA's national meeting, which every year gathers Administrators, Coaches and Referees from its 54 State Associations. Representatives from each of these organizations discuss administrative issues, new programs and ideas, as well as conduct various other businesses during the course of the event with the intent of improving the quality of their service since they are the largest Adult Soccer group in the United States. Past workshops have included topics such as league management, registration, technology, marketing, insurance, membership growth, and development. League representatives interested in learning more about regional and national opportunities and events may contact Erin at erinl@nmssa.com for more information.

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Webmaster



League Development

Interested in starting a league or finding a team in your area? We can help you get insurance, create bylaws and a constitution, and elect officers. We can teach you what you need to know to register players and arrange for fields and referees. Contact Mike Edwards at Aslsoc@swcp.com for assistance!

NMSSA recently approved a tournament approval form for use by leagues in getting approval for league tournaments. The form is intended to provide NMSSA with information necessary for proper insurance and tournament details we can communicate to interested players who contact NMSSA. Accordingly, if your league is sponsoring or holding a tournament, please contact our Tournament Director Yvonne at yvonneg@nmssa.com to insure the form is filled out. Failure to submit a form could jeopardize insurance coverage for players participating in your tournament. We appreciate your cooperation as we implement this procedure!

Player registration is underway for many leagues across the state! Don't forget to ensure that each player is properly registered and holds a valid player passcard. For information regarding NMSSA fees, submission of registration data and insurance inquiries, please contact Registrar Mike Edwards at Aslsoc@swcp.com

USASA Elite Player Program

By Leroy Garcia – Director of Player Development

Purpose

The United States Adult Soccer Association's (USASA) Elite Player Program, originally known as the Select Teams Program, identifies players that exhibit skillful qualities with the intent of becoming a part of the USASA National Select Team player pool. Once selected, the player will be showcased in competitions against professional and international teams. The exposure that our elite players may gain by competing against those professional and international teams can result in professional opportunities for those players. In addition to identifying our elite players, the program provides our coaches the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in highly competitive game situations.

Goal

The goal of the USASA Elite Player Program is to form the USASA Men and Women's National Select Teams. The National Select Teams will represent the USASA in competition with other professional and international teams. Through these competitive games identification and selection of our elite players into the professional ranks is the ultimate challenge for each player, as well as providing the USASA an identity through this Elite Player Program.

Structure

The structure of the Elite Player Program begins at the State Association level, where scouts or coaches are recruited to seek out the best available players in their areas. Once these players have been identified, they are invited to attend the USASA Elite Player National Camp. At the Elite Player National Camp players will be tested in training sessions and games to determine a USASA National Select Team. The USASA National Select Teams then schedules events/games during the following year to provide the players opportunities to display their talents in front of professional and international competitions.

Contact

If you have players interested in this program please send their full name, team name, and team managers name. The player must be over 18 and be a member of a USASA sanctioned league, such as ASL/AWSL. Players with visas must have foreign player paperwork filed with their respected league office:

Please contact Leroy Garcia – Director of Player Development at leroyg@nmssa.com or call the office at (505) 346-0831

Dates

USASA Elite Player NM Camp: Players must be invited before May 1, 2008. We will choose 2 men and 2 women to represent New Mexico at the National Camp. (alternates will also be identified at the end of the camp)

May 3- 4, 2008 at the Farmers Insurance Soccer Complex

USASA Elite Player National Camp:

July 5 – 8 (Women): Carson, CA

July 9 – 11 (Men): Carson, CA

Tournaments

By Yvonne Garcia – Tournament Director

This year we will have a total of 3 NMSSA sponsored tournaments. We will begin the tournament season with the Over-30 Cup on May 31 – June 1 at the Farmers Insurance Soccer Complex. The Over-30 Cup was moved from the summer months to May.

In August we will meet in Ruidoso for the NMSSA Dog-Days our annual Over-40 tournament.

The highlight of our tournament year will be again our Fall Classic tournament.

Dates:

Over-30 Cup –May 31 – June 31 (Farmers)

Format: 11 v 11
Divisions: Men and Women
Fee: \$15 per player
Registration: Please download the form from www.nmssa.com and submit payment
for at least 11 players (\$165)
Deadline: 04/20/2008

Over-40 Dog Days – August 1 – August 3 (Ruidoso)

Format: 11 v 11 (Men)
5 v 5 (Women)
Divisions: Men and Women
Fee: \$15 per player
Registration: Please download the form from www.nmssa.com and submit with Payment for at least 11 players (\$165/Men) or 5 players (\$75/Women)
Deadline: 07/20/2008

Fall Classic 2008 – November 15 – November 16 (Farmers)

Format: 11 v 11
Divisions: Men and Women
Fee: \$300 per team
Registration: Please download the form from www.nmssa.com and submit with payment
Deadline: 10/20/2008
Comment: This tournament WILL fill up before the deadline, so please submit your form and payment to secure a spot!!!!