

OCSA Soccer Family,

Warmer weather is around the corner and soccer is in full swing! Though the players might have taken a break, it has been a busy offseason at the OCSA office that has produced a lot of exciting opportunities for area soccer players, young and old. There is much to share since the last OCSA newsletter circulated.

OCSA has just launched our annual sponsorship campaign. As a community-based organization we are reaching out to our membership and the public alike to form relationships that can benefit OCSA, its players, coaches, and families, as well as our supporters. As we aim to keep our costs as low as possible for our membership, obtaining business sponsorships is a high priority. Such sponsorships allow the club to raise money without passing the cost on to the families of our players. Once acquired, this money will go toward facility enhancements, coaching education, field and equipment upkeep, and numerous other projects supported by OCSA. If you know of an individual or business that may be interested in becoming a sponsor please have them contact the OCSA office. We have a list of sponsorship options on the OCSA website (www.ocsa-nc.com) including small amounts with minimal commitment to larger amounts and/or a longer contract length.

OCSA is proud to announce the recent launch of the OCSA Adult Soccer League! We have recently been sanctioned by the North Carolina Adult Soccer Association to organize and run the area's only state-endorsed adult league. Our inaugural season will kick off in March with an Open division. Any high school graduate over the age of 18, male or female is eligible to play. In the future, a Co-ed, Over 30 and Women's league will also be initiated. By offering this Adult League, OCSA will be providing local graduates, OCSA and other club alumnus, and the young-at-heart a place to continue playing the game that we all love!

Believe it or not Spring Break is right around the corner! OCSA, in a partnership with JASA, will host a Spring Break soccer camp catering to ALL soccer players between the ages of 7 and 14 years. The half-day camp will take place at the JASA fields on April 25th-28th from 9am to 12pm. Register early, prior to April 15th, for a discounted rate of \$80. Registration after this date will cost \$90. The registration form and more information can be found on the OCSA web page. Please contact the OCSA office if you have questions.

Once again we have partnered with the Wilmington Hammerheads, Cape Fear Youth Soccer Association, Port City Soccer, and Coast FA from Myrtle Beach to form the Hammerhead Youth Academy. The youth academy brings the players of our region together over the summer to train with top players and coaches. The cost is less expensive than a summer camp and offers more sessions spread out over the entire summer. The next tryout dates are March 6th for the girls and March 7th for the boys. Times and locations will be posted on the Hammerheads home page. For more information contact the OCSA office.

As you can tell, our homepage www.ocsa-nc.com is one of the best ways we can share all types of information with our membership and the public. We recently updated the link for home games so please come support other OCSA teams when you are around the Tabernacle complex. The website will also be host to our NEW TEAM STORE which will be launched soon for individuals and teams to order OCSA hats, shirts, sweats, and other gear. We have been able to direct a small percentage of each sale to benefit OCSA so that you can sport your favorite OCSA gear and also assist in a club fundraiser! Please contact the club office if you would like any additional gear to be added to the store.

With all this excitement and activity within the club, I am most looking forward to seeing our teams play this spring, especially now that I have gotten to know each of the teams. We had a great fall as we posted a club record of 52-25-4, promoted two teams to Premier (U14 Boys and Girls), kept two more teams at the Premier level (95 & 93 Girls), and most importantly developed your children to be better players and people all while having FUN! We hope to continue on this path in the spring! GO CREW!

See you on the fields,

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