

NYSWYSA TOPSoccer Report for Annual General Meeting 2008

NYSWest TOPSoccer has had another very successful year as we try to keep pace with the growth and success we had under Terry Doermer's leadership before she was 'tapped' to move up to the regional level as Region 1 TOPSoccer director.

Binghamton TOPSoccer- celebrated their 10th year of having a program, all run by Dennis Chavez along with his wife Laura and daughter Ley, Dwight and Lee Ann Adolf, and Hristos Demetrius. This program has been run with great help and support from the Binghamton University men's and women's soccer teams. Two plaques were presented on October 5th to the Binghamton University soccer programs in gratitude for their outstanding commitment to TOPSoccer. The TOPSoccer players had a blast when they were introduced and ran onto the field with the BU women players and stood with them during the national anthem before the women's game versus Maine.

Rochester TOPSoccer- has had another very successful year under the coordination of Rob and Linda Dicenzo. The increase in participants proves that this program is doing well and is satisfying the needs of the Rochester special needs soccer community. TOPSoccer received an \$1800 donation from the first Annual Doug Miller Charity Golf Tournament. The Penfield Rangers need to be thanked for their very generous donation of \$5000 to TOPSoccer.

Niagara TOPSoccer- had another steady year under the coordination of Erin Minderler. This program ran winter and summer sessions again at the Keenan Center. The timing of their sessions was such that many of the players could play in both the Niagara program and the Buffalo program.

Buffalo TOPSoccer- also had another successful year beginning with a spring session at Sahlen's Sports Park. We also were able to participate in the AIM tournament on May 24th with a one day TOPSoccer jamboree where 45 players and volunteers enjoyed the wonderful setting. The Amherst Sharpshooters soccer club volunteered and give each player a soccer ball to take home. Kohl's store also had their 'A-Team' volunteers helping out and enabling TOPSoccer to qualify for their \$500 donation. Our summer session was enjoyed by all at the West Seneca Soccer complex.

Syracuse TOPSoccer- is a new program in the NYSWest TOPSoccer family. Colleen Amedro ran another 1-day jamboree in Camillus on October 11th with 13 participants. They had a lot of help from the West Genesee Girls Varsity Soccer team and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and had a lot of interest in continuing a program. Tom Bonus plans on running a program at LeMoyne College once his college soccer season is complete. I'm sure this program will be a success like his college season is and the TOPSoccer jamboree he ran back in February was.

Future: I envision a steady continued growth in all the TOPSoccer programs. I believe our volunteer base is filled with outstanding young adults that make our programs such a success. The time has come where we need to train more coaches and coordinators to run TOPSoccer

programs throughout our NYSWest communities. It is time for us to offer TOPSoccer coaching clinics so clubs can run TOPSoccer programs with qualified and knowledgeable leaders.

I also believe many of the TOPSoccer players have developed enough skill to be able to play a 'game' against another TOPSoccer program. I would like to see a game between Rochester and Buffalo. The AIM tournament and Penfield Rangers tournament seems like it would be good places to make this happen.

I would also like to approach the Rochester Rhinos professional soccer team about having a TOPSoccer night at Paetec Park to show off the skills of some of our players during halftime. I think this would be a great experience for the kids and great exposure for the NYSWest TOPSoccer program.

Respectfully
Scot C. Boniface
NYSWest TOPSoccer Director