



# HVAA Newsletter

May 2006

## IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR FALLSOCCER!

The Soccer Season is right around the corner! We're getting the fields ready, we're ordering the uniforms, we're ready to paint the lines, all we're waiting for is YOU!

HVAA has **both Travel and In-House** Soccer Programs, with teams available for all ages from 4 to 14 years old.

Our first rule: Have Fun! Followed by a little more fun. All in-house games guarantee every child plays at least half the game, regardless of skill level. And everyone makes the playoffs. Our goal is to have fun, build friendships, learn team concepts, and hopefully even a little discipline.

4 Year Olds: Try our One-with-one Program. This Saturday morning program runs six weeks long, is a one hour session that works with you and your child in a group, and includes a child T-shirt and coloring book. (Only \$80)

5-6 Year Olds: Our Micro Soccer C0-ed Program is run by Smart Soccer and is a great program for kids with shorter attention spans. This hour long Saturday morning session is a little practice session, a little game, and a little more practice. It also gets the parents involved, as we look for volunteers to help, learn and coach too.

7-8 Year Olds: Boys & Girls Junior Leagues are real games, with real practices. Weekend Games and during the week practices. Games are a full hour long, and although the kids keep track, we don't post scores or records.

9-10 Year Olds: Boys & Girls Intermediate Leagues really start to push the learning experience. Positions become more established, scores and win-loss records are kept, but goal remains making friends and having fun.

11-14 Year Olds: Boys & Girls Senior Leagues attempt to build more discipline in to a fun environment, polishing skills and team play.

The season starts September 9<sup>th</sup>, so sign up now!



## The 2nd Annual Stephen H. Silverman Community Day To Benefit Sarcoma Cancer Research.

This past April 30, 2006 was our second annual event to honor HVAA's former President and District Justice, Stephen H Silverman. The event is in memory of Steve, to raise funds and awareness for the disease that took him from us and to bring the community together.

Hundreds of families came out to the Bryn Athyn Rink Pavilion for a day of fun and activities. The day featured 97.5 "Hawk" Radio live, a charity hockey game, Steve's historic photos, skating, a craft fair and games and activities for the whole family.

This year's event raised even more money than the previous year's, totaling more than \$10,000. All proceeds will be donated to Fox Chase Cancer Center for sarcoma research in Steve's name. Further donations can be made directly to Fox Chase Cancer Center or to HVAA and the funds will be forwarded.

Be part of next year's event (date to be announced soon), which we expect to be bigger and better than this year's.



Major William Heinemann (HVAA Past President and long term member) in Afghanistan with his new "Travel" team. Be Safe Bill, we are all praying for you.

## HVAA Supports Travel

HVAA continues to support, organize and run Travel teams in Baseball, Soccer and Basketball. In their regularly scheduled April Board meeting, the members of the HVAA Board of Directors came to the easy conclusion that what HVAA has been doing over the past half century, would continue. They will continue to support both in-house and travel sports in all three sports and began the process of developing a policy that will clarify any possible misconceptions. The overwhelming majority of the board agreed that HVAA is a very productive and healthy organization that will continue for many years to come.

Over the past 50 years, HVAA has evolved into a community focused organization that supports not only 4 sports (both in-house and travel), chess, and tae kwon do, but also gives back to the community through various fund raisers and donation programs. Programs such as the Tom Davenport Annual Scholarship awarded to a graduating senior from Lower Moreland High School, the annual Murray Avenue 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Carwash in the name of Jeff Friedland, the annual travel basketball tournament and The Annual Stephen H. Silverman Community Day to benefit Sarcoma Cancer Research were all founded and are continued by HVAA.

HVAA has developed specific documentations in an effort to continually define and refine the mission of our organization in an effort to make it the best program for the entire community, not a select few. Programs such as the Parent Education Class and Coaches' Clinics and documents such as our By-Laws, our Grievance procedures, Parent's and Player's Codes of Conduct, the Players Creed, the Travel Player's and Parent's Contracts, the Travel Coaches' Contract and the sports manuals for coaches, have all been developed to help make our community a better place.

HVAA's mission statement is best summed up in a statement made by our immediate past president, Bill Heinemann, who is currently serving our country in Afghanistan, when he said, "*HVAA has consciously decided to focus on producing better citizens, than athletes, even if our vehicle for this happens to be sports.*"

### \*\*\*\*\* HVAA/HVCSJ Travel Chess Activity \*\*\*\*\*

Would you like to stay at the beautiful Carlisle Hotel and Convention Center for two nights while your son or daughter competes in the Pennsylvania State Scholastic Chess Championships? Four students from Murray Avenue Middle School and three students from Pine Road Elementary School, along with their parents, did just that this past March. The four Murray Avenue students captured second place school for the state of Pennsylvania and one of the Pine Road students was awarded two separate individual trophies for his performance.

In addition to the State Scholastic Championship, we competed in State team championships where we captured two school team trophies plus four individual plaques and at the Greater Philadelphia Scholastic Championships held at Lower Merion High School, we captured a team trophy and students from all three Lower Moreland Schools, competed in the Philadelphia Chess League.

The Huntingdon Valley Chess Society Juniors organized has competed throughout the Delaware Valley for the past 28 years and is considered by some in the USCF to be the longest continuously operated chess club for juniors in the United States. For the past four years, the HVCSJ has been supported and organized under HVAA.

The HVCSJ meets three Tuesdays a month at the Lower Moreland Community Room. To learn more about the HVCSJ, please visit the HVAA Web site at <http://www.hvaa.org> and click on the chess button.

**WWW.HVAA.NET .....Check it out!**

### International Experience Coach joins HVAA

HVAA has obtained the services of a 'Professional' coach to coach one of our Travel soccer teams in the 2006 season. He has an A level UEFA (European) License, has coached on the college level at both Penn and Temple, currently coaches a large HS team, and has won a number of titles both as a coach and a player, both domestically and abroad, in addition to being a former professional, national team player.

If you are interested in playing Travel soccer for this coach or others like him who we have brought into our program, sign up TODAY ([www.HVAA.net](http://www.HVAA.net)) and be sure to mark your form as "Interested in Travel".

Are you the Boss? .....Do you own your own company?...HVAA Needs your help.

We provide your company with an excellent advertising option. Where can you get your companies name on 12 billboards at the same time for \$175. Sponsor a soccer team this fall and that is exactly what you will get. You will also get a Sponsorship Plaque and photo of the team you sponsor as well as an invitation to HVAA's annual coaches & Sponsors Appreciation Banquet.

So what are you waiting for? **Sponsorships Now Available!** [www.HVAA.net](http://www.HVAA.net)

### **Commentary: "Is the grass always greener on the other side?"**

Some people tend to think that the grass is always greener on the other side. But in truth, no matter where you stand, you could find greener grass and quite possibly.....an equal amount of weeds! So what's the answer? It is certainly not selling your home in search of a better lawn. You are in the majority if you think that is a ridiculous notion. You bought your home because you love what the community has to offer. Your kids like the schools, and most of all – they like playing with their friends. You're not going to throw it all away because of a promise of a greener lawn. You'd probably grab some Weed-n-Feed and make your lawn the envy of the neighborhood.

So what does this have to do with HVAA? The answer may surprise you.

HVAA is a community organization with a track record spanning fifty years. During that time frame, more than 3000 coaches & assistant coaches, 2000 official umpires & referees, thousands of volunteer parents and dedicated leaders have done whatever it would take to help develop the skills of gaming and good sportsmanship to more than 20,000 neighborhood children. If you think it's hard to keep your lawn green, just imagine what it's like taking care of all the fields necessary for the sports in which the neighborhood children participate. It's a daunting job executed by some pretty dedicated volunteer parents who believe that children of all skill levels should have an opportunity to participate in sports and activities.

HVAA has always balanced competitive activities with the safety and general welfare of the children. We leave no child behind (sitting on the bench wondering if they are ever going to play). We match skill levels of teams for safety and competitive fun. Our goals are to build self-confidence, self-esteem, leadership and positive youth interaction. We have twenty years of travel team experience for those players requiring a higher level of play. What we don't do at HVAA is to make rash decisions which could compromise the safety and well-being of the children we are trying to help.

There is a newly formed travel athletic league organization which recently attempted to entice you with their promises of greener grass. Maybe in fifty years this organization (if they last that long) may have something to brag about. But for now, their so-called greener grass is merely some sod which has yet to form solid roots.

The commitment of HVAA is to provide safe sports and activities to **all** children of **all** skill levels. We applaud the efforts of you, our neighborhood's parents, who have helped HVAA become what it is today. With your overwhelming support we will continue our endeavors to provide activities for the betterment of our community's children. Please let us know your thoughts so that your organization will remain the envy of the neighborhood.

## SIGN UP FOR SUMMER ROLLER HOCKEY NOW!

### HOCKEY IS BACK!

Its Roller Hockey time, HVAA Roller Hockey is back, we anticipate another successful season. Last year's roller hockey program grew greater proportionally than all other HVAA activities. Last year we added an all-star game and other surprises, the program was more exciting than ever. We expect this season to be equally successful, possibly better and guaranteed fun! Registration ends May 31 and the season will begin in late June. Games are played Monday thru Thursday evenings and run through the first week of August. Our league is a no-check league and all skill levels are welcome. HVAA Roller Hockey is a co-ed program for children ages 7 thru 17. Please hurry, sign up before the league is full.



## HVAA Has ON – LINE REGISTRATION

Wouldn't you like to register your child in HVAA from the convenience of your home or office? Tired of having to stop in at the walk in registration or having to download a form, fill it out, then write and mail a check? Would you rather use a credit card when signing up your child for HVAA and receive reward points?

For the past year HVAA has utilized a new online registration software package. Not only is it easier for the parents, but also for HVAA. With over 500 children participating for each sport we have been drowning in paper. This software will save at least 10 trees a year! The system ties into our new league administration software, making transfer of information seamless. The online registration is currently available for the '06 Soccer and '06 Roller Hockey seasons. A registration link will be available when you log on to [www.hvaa.net](http://www.hvaa.net). **Spread the good news.**



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Bulk Mail  
Stamp

*[www.HVAA.net](http://www.HVAA.net) to Register and get more info*

Mailing Address

*See What's New with HVAA.....inside!*