

Lisa Talbot @ Lonestar Soccer

From: Pam Kasperitis [noreply@sportsaffinity.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 07, 2010 9:42 PM
To: Lisa Talbot
Subject: Western District Presidents Cup

**DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS. THIS EMAIL IS SENT ON BEHALF OF
westerndistrictadmin@stx.rr.com**

Greetings all:

Please sit back, grab a cup of coffee and prepare to read and digest a lot of information all at once.

Before the instructions, please note that I will be handling your schedules and management of the games until March 31st. Keith Walker, the STYSA competitions administrator will be included in the process, however, I should be your first contact with any problems, questions or concerns regarding your schedules.

1. If you are receiving this email, it is because you are listed as the primary contact in Affinity. If you are not the primary contact, you need to do two things a) contact your club registrar and have them correct this and b) let me know and provide me with the primary contact information if you have it.

2. We use Affinity for a great deal of communication. I also use regular email methods.

a) please make sure that my email is not blocked in any way, shape or form. Sometimes providers pick up my emails as SPAM since it is going to multiple contacts. I cannot fix this. There are a few hundred of you and one of me...I cannot individually send each personal email each time there is information to communicate.

b) government and education providers usually do not let my emails through unless you specifically add me per your servers instructions. Furthermore, they sometimes will not allow attachments or emails that have inserts. If you have this problem - it is best to set up a "soccer email box" through hotmail or yahoo or aol - these three and many more are all free and have less spam and phishing control measures and will help ensure that you get the information you need.

4. 99.9999999999 % of communication is done via email. I respond to all emails within 24 hours (unless I am out of town and if I am you will get a returned message stating such). As such:

- a. It is important that your subject line have the WD PC in the subject line as well as your age group
- b. It is important that your emails have a signature tag line...your name and team at minimum (again LOTS of ya'll - one of me)

5. Scheduling is the hardest part of this entire process. A few things have changed so read carefully:

A) Everyone should have Affinity access. If you do not - I cannot help you with this. Please get with your club registrar or call Affinity directly. Only those persons listed on the roster will be provided access. Access is NECESSARY not optional.

B) Affinity use is easier than what you may have been told. Affinity use is mandatory for the scheduling and scoring process for the season. It is not optional.

C) On the Western District website, on the far left, there is an Affinity tutorial for those who need a refresher or who have not used the program. It goes over basic stuff needed to operate the system effectively.

6. Initial Schedule process: **MUST BE COMPLETED BY SUNDAY FEBRUARY 14TH. SCHEDULES WILL BE FINAL ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 21ST.** Return to me only your home games in the following format: Game Number, Date, Time and Field. Do not send me your away games and please do not send me the games one at a time.

The Initial schedules are posted on the Western District website.

1. Home teams - go back to your field scheduler. Request a time and date for your game. Non-WDDOA teams (Super 2 teams) this is your home field scheduler. WDDOA teams – this is Retta.
2. Once you have gotten your time and date offer that time and date to the visiting team.
3. Visiting Team - once they have offered the time and date - either accept or counter offer.

Now, please read carefully: The home team gets to select the day of play for the weekend the game is scheduled IF AND ONLY IF there is only one game scheduled for that weekend (Saturday or Sunday) and the home team provides the time. In the event of a serious conflict - the teams are expected to work together to fix this. Failing to work together will result in me scheduling the game and usually I will do this at my convenience because if you cannot work together during the scheduling process it will lead me to believe that the teams cannot work together at the fields and that means that someone from Western District will need to be there to monitor your match. Last season several teams scheduled games between the Valley and SA or Austin at 10 a.m. or at 4 p.m. on a Sunday - I'm sorry but I just find this unacceptable. If your field scheduler tells you that is the only time, I'd like to hear that directly from them. ***This is the Game for All Kids. This is a game about the kids. Travel should be taken into consideration for the kids as well as for the adults driving the kids.***

Now here is where it gets sticky:

Many of you have already contacted me about dates your team is not available. You have asked me to rearrange the schedule or set the games around certain conflicts.

Please note the following:

1. Everyone has Easter weekend off. This weekend is the same across the Nation so there should be no other Easter Holiday weekends off and needed.
2. Spring Break appears to be the same this year for the largest school districts in Austin, San Antonio, Corpus Christi and Rio Valley. We understand that some of the smaller school districts or even private schools may have a different Spring Break but we went with the date of the largest school district in each city. Unfortunately, a few age groups have games scheduled on both weekends of Spring break. I will allow teams to double up on other weekends once the initial schedules are done. There will be NO games set on May 8th – that is the rain out date – so do not even ask.
3. Only one weekend off was given for Spring Break. If you have a conflict with that - you need to get with the opposing team. If the opposing team has a conflict because of their spring break there are two options 1) work it out like adults - remembering that this is for the kids not the adults or 2) turn it over to me to schedule the game - but I guarantee you that neither party will like it - when this happens as the game will be set at a time when I can have a field monitor there to watch because if the adults cannot work out a game time conflict than we have to assume that they cannot work out conflicts at the fields either.
4. Coaching conflicts are NOT an acceptable reason to reject game times and dates.
5. UIL school activities are NOT an acceptable reason to reject game times and dates.

Serious conflicts are NOT conflicts because your trainer or coach cannot be there because they are coaching another game.

Serious conflicts are NOT a teams refusal to play on Sunday.

Serious conflicts are NOT two of your best players being out because of a kickball game or baseball or school band function.

All serious conflicts should be known by this stage and every team - at this level is expected to:

1. Have a competent adult who can coach the team at game time.
2. know that they need to play between now and the end of May.
3. And at this level teams are expected to be available to play on Sundays.

If there is a mistake on the schedule, please let me know specifically what that is - from Friday night to Sunday night, I entered over 900 games - mistakes will happen.

For NOW....this is it. More instructions will follow.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Pam Kasperitis
Western District Administrator

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Lisa Talbot @ Lonestar Soccer

From: Pam Kasperitis [noreply@sportsaffinity.com]
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 1:33 PM
To: Lisa Talbot
Subject: WD PC - Contacting the Opposing Team

**DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS. THIS EMAIL IS SENT ON BEHALF OF
westerndistrictadmin@stx.rr.com**

Teams:

I thought I had included this information in my initial email but in case I did not here it is again....

To get the contact information for the opposing team

go to the main schedule for your age group and gender

scroll down to the actual schedule - not the bracket listing but the schedule itself

click on the team name

a separate pop up window will come up (make sure your pop up blocker is turned off for Affinity as many things come up in separate windows like the game cards and scoring function).

This will have the coach and managers names, phone number, address and email address.

If there is no email address listed - that means they didn't provide one and your guess is as good as mine - you'll have to resort to the old way of operating and pick up the phone and call them.

If an email is incorrect or not listed - I cannot fix that - the person who is rostered to the team has to fix it through their log in or through their club registrar.

Pam

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Lisa Talbot @ Lonestar Soccer

From: Pam Kasperitis [noreply@sportsaffinity.com]
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 4:28 PM
To: Lisa Talbot
Subject: WD PC - I learned something new today!

**DO NOT REPLY TO THIS EMAIL ADDRESS. THIS EMAIL IS SENT ON BEHALF OF
westerndistrictadmin@stx.rr.com**

In order to see a teams contact email - you must be logged into your Affinity account and viewing your schedules from there. You cannot see the email address from the public side (what's posted on the WD Website) - you must be logged in!

Pam

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