

Hello managers, coaches and parents,

Over the last few months the travel committee has discussed the current team fees for our program, and the need to revise things a little. Due to some rising costs of tournaments, uniforms and practice space we have had to examine the fees to make sure teams are able to cover their costs. We have found it necessary to make some changes that ultimately will create a more comfortable financial situation for the teams and managers, as well as less time consuming work for everyone when ordering uniforms.

Instead of raising our team fees to \$280 or more to cover those costs, we are going to separate the team fees and the uniform costs, and we will start using an online uniform ordering system through Wilderness Sports. There will be a link on our SSA website that will get you into the ordering site. This will allow us to actually reduce our team fees to \$220 for the year, but will require parents to purchase uniforms through the website, and pay for them on their own. We will still order uniforms every two years, or if yours continues to fit and we are able to keep the same style, you won't need to order another one for longer. This will effectively reduce your overall fees until you need to order a uniform. If your child outgrows theirs, you can get a replacement at our reduced group price whenever necessary. The entire kit will be available, and this system will streamline the ordering process. Wilderness can ship the order directly to you, or you can arrange pickup. Personalized names and numbers can be included right on the site (once your number is assigned by the travel program), and it will walk you through everything you need to order.

As usual, the team fees of \$220 will cover all the tournament fees, practice field rental, winter gym costs, scrimmages, referees and all other team expenses. We feel that while this new system will require parents to purchase their uniform separately, and initially have more expense when joining, it will lead to less cost in the long run, and will also enable managers to more easily gauge the balances in their accounts versus the expenses they will incur.

As always, teams may do fundraisers to cover additional expenses, to enable extra team purchases, or additional tournaments like the USA Cup. Or if the team does a lot of fundraising this could be used to offset future team fees.

As much as none of us like change, this was necessary for us to do as we grow, and will lead us to a more manageable program. Information on the team fees, as well as the link to the uniform ordering system will be placed on the SSA website, and this will become a simple process as we get used to it.

If anyone has questions or concerns with how this program will work moving forward, feel free to email me your questions to bymasoccer@gmail.com.

Randy Byma
Director of Travel Soccer
Superiorland Soccer Association