



Schwaben Athletic Club

NEWS



Volume 36 No. 6

November-December 2009



FROM THE PRESIDENT..Willy Schaeffer

The fall season is over and we're all getting ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas in the next few weeks.

On the soccer fields, we still need to shut down the sprinklers and remove the goal nets to prep for the winter. All our youth teams had a successful season, with some doing exceptionally well! Congratulations to the players, the coaches and the parents of all the teams.

The senior teams are playing great soccer (see inside the Newsletter), with first or second place in the standings all around. Our womens' team also played well, with the younger players returning back to school, we're fielding only one team during the indoor season. On November 7th we held our 83rd Annual Anniversary Banquet and honored the following members and players with plaques, trophies and membership pins:

Mr. Schwaben AC 2009 - Jon Raslawski, Ms Schwaben AC - the entire female membership of the AC,

Player of the year 2009 - Josh Wittenberg.

The Thea Award, sponsored by the Schuett family, was awarded to Willy & Charlotte Strahler.

Membership Pins: 15 years - Siegmund Brandl, George Pawlak

25 years - Fred Rader

50 years - Peter Defort, Joe Gehard, Rudy Getzinger, Stefan Lepold, Erwin Sendef, Willi Strahler

The Banquet was well attended by our members and most of our teams, but a few more people would have made it a bigger success. Thanks to Erika Amling for handling the banquet preparations and decorations superbly, to Margo Schon for helping with the seating and to Rudy Getzinger for staffing the bar and getting all the supplies to ensure an enjoyable evening. Personally, I thank everyone who attended and helped to make this years Banquet a memorable one!

Mark Schuett was introduced as an Honorary Member of the Club and birthday greetings were extended to Maria Lepold, Hannelore Herzog and Anni Schaeffer. Since it was a mile-stone birthday for Anni, she was presented with a birthday cake and serenaded by the members with "Happy Birthday" wishes.

The board and membership of the Schwaben AC express their thanks to Mrs. Elise Trumpp, who sent her congratulations and best wishes from Germany, along with a donation to the Newsletter.

Due to computer problems this Schwaben A. C. Newsletter is late coming out, we apologize, but it no less interesting and newsy.



SCHWABEN ATHLETIC CLUB FIRST TEAM METRO LEAGUE INDOOR SCHEDULE

Sunday January 10 vs Maroons 4:45 pm
Sunday January 17 vs Connections 2:30 pm
Sunday January 24 vs Eagles 4:45 pm
Sunday January 31 vs Zrinski 2:30 pm
Sunday February 7 vs Green White 4:00 pm
Sunday February 14 vs Sockers 4:45 pm

Sunday February 21 vs International 4:45 pm
Sunday February 28 vs United Serbs 4:45 pm
Sunday March 7 vs Vikings 3:15 pm

All games played at the Odeum
1033 North Villa Avenue
Villa Park, IL 69181

From the First Team.....Rocky Hughes –First Team Manager

Outdoor Fall 2009

The First Team recorded a 7 - 1 - 1 record good for second place in the first half of the 2009 - 2010 Metropolitan League outdoor season. The Team is in very good position with 22 points which is 2 more points that was recorded in the last fall Champaign.

The team lost to a very strong Eagles team which acquired players from Polonia that withdrew from the Major Division. This player acquisition has made the Eagles the current team to beat. They are in first place with 24 points. The upside is we play them at home on grass in the spring session. We wish that game was played tomorrow. Game On!

The tie was to a resurgent Maroons Team, a 1-1 game which saw many opportunities missed by Schwaben players inside the box. Both teams played hard and the contest was in question until the last whistle.

Seven wins were recorded with Schwaben winning against Vikings 2-1, Liths 3 -1, Sockers 1-0, Zrinski 1-0, Belgrade 3-0, Serbs 6-1, Green White 3-0. The Team played hard and with a strong group of core players. The Team practiced on Tuesday nights at the Schwaben Center with Thursday practice optional. We encountered poor weather and rain which limited this season's practice time on Thursday.

Active First Team Rostered players as the Fall season ended are; Eric Cervantes, Kirk Colin, Jeff Degroot, Andrew Degurian, P. J. Eriksson, Ian Etherington, Thomas Gansauge, Kyle Gustafson, Jordan Gyuricza, Keane Kierken, Albert Kyler, Jakub Lisek, Michael Litvack, Mateusz Marek, Claude Palacios, Vince Revak, Joshua Wittenberg. Goal Keepers Eric Schuett, Jeffery Kusiciel, Miles Herbert.

Two players left the Club to play Professional Soccer in Europe, Neal Hlavaty and Ryan Miller. We wish them both success but miss their strong play.

Josh Wittenberg was named by the nominating Committee the "Schwaben Player of the Year ". Josh plays every minute of each game in front of Veteran Sweeper Thomas Gansauge. Josh is a team player who is tough and determined. Josh is a Schwaben Club Player who understands the meaning of Club and the Schwaben History. Congratulations Josh!

Star Player Jakub "Kuba" Lisek came over from the Eagles and was an outstanding addition to the core group. Thomas Gansauge is the Schwaben Director of Soccer and who with "Kuba" coach the successful youth Program. All Youth Teams showed improvement and added players as the season progressed.

The First Team was again coached by "NJCAA Region IV, NSCAA Region IV "and Triton College 2008 Coach of the Year **Tommy Cholewa**. His Triton College Team recorded a 16 win - 2 loss season in 2009, giving him a total record of 23-3- 1 for the fall. Way to go Tommy!! !

Support and attendance at our games is always appreciated. The Team would like to thank all club members for their hard work at the Schwaben Center making Sunday games possible.

FROM THE UNDER 9 TEAM

"What a tremendous end of season! There is no better way to take some time off before indoor season, but with a win and against a top team makes it even sweeter! With one tie and one win for the this fall the U-9's have really developed and come together quite strong as a team. Some challenges with a shortage of players and illness the past month plus, but our guys have had the hearts and spirits of lions." We would like to welcome new players, Nicholas Brueckert and Ethan Bende to our Under 9 Team.

THOUGHTS AND UPDATES FROM YOUTH COACH THOMAS

What a great Fall Season we've had at Schwaben! I can't tell you how many games I've seen this season and felt so proud to be a part of the Schwaben family. Our kids and parents have continuously demonstrated enthusiasm, strength and class during some of the most intense competition that I've experienced here.

Since this is really the beginning of a rebuilding at Schwaben, I anticipated it being a tough season, but the families here have stood strong, and are molding this club into something remarkable.

All of our teams fought every battle on the field and did well despite being placed at extremely high levels of competition. One of the teams, our U8 boys have exceeded all expectations and ended the season undefeated in the highest division! Great work boys!

A couple of things we worked on over the season, and will continue to develop into the spring include:

Communication: We have a monthly meeting with coaches and managers to make sure each team is on the right track and address any concerns individuals or groups might have.

Coach Rotation: As you all know we have the most incredible coaching staff in the area and they all possess different styles of motivation and training. We will continue to rotate coaches a couple times in the Spring Season in order to keep the training fresh and exciting for the kids.

Speed Clinic: Speed and Agility are obviously an integral part of soccer. That is why we had specialists come in to work with the teams. I believe exposing the kids and parents to all the options out there to develop their skills helps all the teams in the long run.

Completing team rosters: We saw a need in our U9 team for more players to complete the roster and allow players the needed rest during games. We are in the process of adding 2 more skilled boys that will definitely add to their success.

In between the two seasons we will host the traditional Schwaben Christmas party for all the families on December 13th. I owe a debt of gratitude to Carrie DeZutter for taking charge of this fun, yet demanding task. I really look forward to seeing all of you there!

I wish all your teams the best of luck over the winter season and am confident we'll strengthen our reputation as being the premier club in Northern Illinois.





U11 NATIONALS REBOUND FROM SLOW START

After an 0-2-1 start to the Fall Platinum 1 season, Coach Thomas' U11 Nationals finished strong, going 3-2-1 over the final stretch (1 game is still to be played). After extracting revenge on Elgin 4-2, the U11's took down FC Drive 3-1 to even their record. Chicago United prevented any overconfidence beating the boys 4-0 in a mudpit at the University of Illinois. Despite the score, the Nationals actually dominated the first half but couldn't finish their opportunities while Chicago United did. With no time to lick their wounds, Schwaben was back at it the next day playing Riverside/Brookfield in a high scoring affair. After ending up on the short end of the 4-3 score, the team was 2 games under .500 with the always tough Sockers coming to Schwaben. With their center midfielder hurt and two of their forwards out sick, the team showed great heart, took the play to the Sockers, and gutted out a 1-1 tie. Again, playing with little rest, and still short-handed, the boys played Glen Ellyn at home the following day. Suddenly playing with great confidence, the Nationals crushed Glen Ellyn for the 5th straight time, this one 6-1. With one game left against the last place Trevians, Coach Thomas' team hopes to win to finish 4-4-2 and in the middle of Platinum 1.

In addition to League play, the Schwaben U11's joined their U12 teammates for a trip south to play in the Scott Gallagher Fall Classic. Playing on old fashioned Astro-turf because of flooding in the St Louis area was quite a challenge. Despite the conditions the boys had a respectable tournament, losing 1-0 to a Springfield, Missouri team before splitting 2 games with 2 teams from the host club, unfortunately missing out on the Finals.

The boys are taking a session off of competition in November and December before playing in the Soccer City Winter session starting in January. They will, however defend their title in the Regional branch of the Indoor Soccer National Championships the first weekend in December.

DONATIONS TO SCHWABEN A. C.

Gary Weiler	First Team
Udo Seidel	First Team
Rudy Frank	First Team
Peter Defort	First Team
George Pawlak	First Team
Rocky Hughes	First Team
Tom Cholewa	First Team
Willy Schaeffer	First Team
Horst Lichtenberger	First Team
Elise Trumpp	Newsletter
Helmut Michel	Newsletter



BOYS U12

It's hard to believe the Fall Season is over. With almost half the team being new to each other, it's taken them a while to adjust, but the growth they've seen has been amazing! They were able to cap off the season by winning their final game against a very tough competitor and outscored them 4-0.

All the games have all been incredibly exciting to watch. Each member of the team has added a great deal to their performance: **Matt** has exhibited the greatest footwork – he can dazzle his way past the best of defenders. Whether **Thomas** is in the goal, or on the field his skills, speed and agility are unmatched. **Kazemi** can forge through the toughest group of players, and never backs down. **Timmy** is so fun to watch on the field – he's fast and consistent, always putting forth outstanding effort. **Nick** is a true leader on the field. He expertly plays his own position as he aids in the success of his teammates. **Christian** is our comedian of the group – he exhibits great footwork with also providing the crowd with a smile. I'll never forget the absolute look of shock on Coach Thomas' face when Christian jumped into his arms after a winning game at the St. Louis tournament. **Casey** has held her own and then some with the boys and has quickly learned it's better to hit than be hit, and it's easier to lead than catch up. **Ben** shows how well he knows the game every time he steps out on the field. No matter what position he's put in, he can really perform. **Dennis** knows how to maneuver his way through impossible situations, and doesn't accept defeat. If you've ever seen **Jun** on the field, it's easy to figure out why he's been such a great addition to this team. With him in the back, a rush of relief always runs through the crowd knowing that he can catch anyone and successfully launch the ball back to the offense. **Patrick** is literally all over the field. He's an awesome mid-fielder that never seems to run out of energy. It's evident that **Dean** brings everything he has to the games. He has strong kicks, and doesn't know the meaning of giving up. **Daniel's** look of intimidation as he flies down the field is unmatched!

The personality of this team is really coming together. Quite simply, it's just a great group of kids. They're so fortunate to have each other as well as a coach who cares deeply about their development. Coach Thomas has been able to teach them respect as well as provided amazing memories. It would have been very easy for them to go into their last game feeling defeated, however they were able to apply the lessons learned from previous losses and everything seemed to click. This team showed a level of tenacity never before seen.

All this in three short months... It makes us really look forward to endless opportunities during the Winter and Spring seasons!

FROM THE UNDER 8 TEAM



Schwaben's U8 team has had a fall to remember. The boys kicked off the season with a strong showing in the NISL seeding tournament where a 4 - 0 - 2 record earned them a spot in NISL's top U8 division in the North, Gold 1.

The team followed that up with a great performance in the Schwaben tournament where they played up in

the U9 division. Despite facing older and more experienced teams, Schwaben posted a 3 - 1 - 0 record, which earned them second place in the tournament and bragging rights within the club after they knocked off Schwaben's U9 boys team and Schwaben's U10 girls team by identical scores of 2 - 1.

During their run toward the NISL regular season title, the boys took a weekend off from league play to compete in Libertyville's Octoberfest tournament. The team put together a tremendous weekend of soccer en route to a 4 - 0 - 0 record while outscoring its opponents by a combined score of 25 - 2. The end result was a first place finish for Schwaben in the six-team top "Gold" pool.

In recapping the team's experience to date, they have posted a 20 - 1 - 3 record since coming together at the end of the summer. Just as impressively, the team remains undefeated at the U8 level where it boasts a 17 - 0 - 3 record.

Coming off their impressive run in Libertyville, the boys returned to NISL competition where they maintained their dominance in earning the league title. Despite playing in a division comprised of the league's top six teams, Schwaben made it through the season undefeated with a 9 - 0 - 1 record, which gave them sole possession of first place by a significant margin.

In recapping the season to date, significant credit needs to be given to both the players and their coach, Jakub Lisek. The U8 team is comprised of both a handful of Schwaben veterans, as well as several players who are new to the club. As such, Jakub had his work cut out for him with respect to teaching the boys his style of play while also working with them to develop good team chemistry. The players have worked incredibly hard from day one and their record reflects it. To date, the team's achievements are directly attributable to a selfless style of soccer where the boys are constantly working the ball around the field as they push it forward into the other team's half of the field while playing an aggressive form of team defense that allowed very few goals over the course of the season. With the fall season having come to an end, the team's fans are anxiously awaiting the spring season to see how the players will continue to grow together under Jakub's guidance.



SCHWABEN UNDER 10 GIRLS TEAM



Do you remember what it was like watching your child's first steps? They were wobbly, they needed a lot of assistance, they might have cried and been frustrated? But after many failures, one day they put it

together and learned to walk.

That's just like our U10 girls team. Our start couldn't have been more wobbly! Not only didn't any of them every play together, a couple had never played travel soccer at all. Just like learning the first steps, I think as parents, we all kind of expected the girls to just get out there and be successful immediately.

Ivan knew better. He started with small building blocks and worked on the basics. He never panicked with our early losses, and his goal wasn't just to win the next game. His goal was to build soccer players. Ivan gave each girl homework. He worked tirelessly on drills and exercises. They practiced in the pouring rain. When the weather was so bad that they couldn't take it any more, Ivan would come to Schwaben between his other games to conduct special practices on Saturdays. They were even out there at 4:00 on Halloween. My daughter Shea came to the car after practice. It was freezing out and she was sweating. I asked her if it was difficult. She said that was the most fun she's ever had working that hard! Throughout the season, the games kept getting better and better. They started winning some, and putting major effort into all of them. There wasn't a game played in the whole second half of the season where you couldn't see the heart and sole of each player out there. Even if you didn't watch the game, all you have to do is look at the parents. We're the most animated group I've ever had the pleasure of being around. Very few sit. It's too exciting! We're cheering, running up and down the sidelines, hopping over fences to get stray balls, and leaning into one another with every shot on goal as if the force of our bodies can will the ball into the net. At the completion of the game, we're all exhausted.

These girls are really starting to put it all together. We're definitely still in the development stage, but the competition better be prepared, because not only have our girls learned how to walk, but now they're beginning to run...

MEMBER NEWS

We received word that the mother of **Noemi Schneider** passed away in Mexico on October 30, 2009.

We offer our heart felt condolences to her and her family.

Mr. John Koenig, member of the Schwaben, and faithful plumber to us passed away this month. Our condolences to all his family.

Congratulations to **Eric and Allison Herzog** on the birth of their new baby girl, Peyton Lynn. She was born on October 9, weighing in at 7 pounds 8 oz., 21 inches long. The proud grandparents are member Hannelore and George Herzog.

Thank you to all my friends at the Schwaben A.C. for the beautiful and delicious birthday cake and for all the wonderful birthday wishes. It was quite a surprise and I hope all of you that were in attendance at the Anniversary Banquet enjoyed the tasty dessert as much as I did.

Thanks again to everyone with love from,

Anni Schaeffer



FROM THE UNDER 10 BOYS TEAM

Schwaben's U10 team took its fans for a roller coaster ride this fall with many exhilarating wins coupled with a few tough losses. The boys started the season hitting on all cylinders as the team posted a 5 - 1 - 0 record in the NISL seeding tournament. As a result, Schwaben was placed in NISL North's third-highest division, Gold 1, where it spent the fall competing against nine of the league's top teams.

Before starting league play, Schwaben hosted its own tournament where the boys earned a second place finish with a 2 - 1 - 0 record in pool play. After its strong performances in the two pre-season tournaments, Schwaben began the regular season with high expectations despite its formidable schedule. The highlight of the season came about halfway through league play when the team won six out of seven games including a 3 - 1 - 0 record in Libertyville's Octoberfest tournament where Schwaben earned its way into the championship game of the Silver Flight and a second place overall finish out of eight teams.

After its hot streak, Schwaben suffered a few tough losses down the home stretch of the regular season and finished league play with a 3 - 5 - 2 record. However, it is important to note that four of the team's five losses in NISL competition were by a single goal and the team fought hard throughout each match. With the fall season recently concluded, Schwaben's overall record in outdoor play now stands at a respectable 13 - 8 - 2. The team's accomplishments cannot be understated as many of the players are new to the Schwaben program and as the team's coach, Jakub Lisek, has only had a few months to work with the players. Given the team's significant improvement over the course of the fall under Jakub's leadership, expectations remain high for the team when it returns to NISL competition in the spring.

Yuletide excitement is a potent caffeine, no matter your age.

Never hesitate to ask for help. No one succeeds alone.

Two important things to teach a child: to do and to do without.

Between saying and doing there is a long road.

Christmas is not a time or a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, if to have the real spirit of Christmas.

We must not only give what we have; we must also give what we are.

Happiness is not some emotional phantom floating in and out of your life. You can choose happiness every day. Laughter and enthusiasm are the fuels that move the world. The world belongs to the enthusiastic, and people will follow them anywhere.



*From the all the Coaches and the
Board of the
Schwaben A. C.*

Articles for future Newsletter may be sent to: carriedezutter@gmail.com
We welcome any stories, team news, pictures, get togethers, fundraisers.
Be involved and have a good time!

Our Sponsors wish you the Happiest of Holidays!



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