



## Soccer Committee Year End Report

### Personnel

On January 8<sup>th</sup>, the Soccer General Subdivision meeting was held, and the following members were elected:

- Allen Grakasian – Chair
- Serj Megerdichian – Vice Chair
- Annethe Postik – Secretary
- Melineh Gharibians – Treasurer
- Melineh Babachanians – Advisor
- Selin Asatorians – Advisor
- Heratch Gharibian – Advisor

On July 20<sup>th</sup>, Selin Asatorians resigned due to personal reasons and on November 25<sup>th</sup>, Annethe Postik resigned due to personal reasons.

In the beginning of the year, Sera Gorgorian, our previous Athletic Director, helped us in collecting membership fees and tournament fees, as well as helped with planning our fundraising events. During the lockdown, Narina Minassian, who is our current Athletic Director, started to help out more and began her transition into her position. Both Narina and Sera played an integral role in helping us reopen, where they were present from beginning to end at each practice session. In September, Narina fully took over as Athletic Director and continued to help out at the practice sessions, as well as help train the players at the beginning of their practices.

### Financial

Our income was \$1,947, and our expense was \$1,239.22 for a net income of \$707.78. Other than that, it was a stagnant year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. At the beginning of the year, we had plans to have our annual tournament in April, a Mother's Day Bingo Fundraiser in May/June, a family night fundraiser at an LAFC game in September, and our soccer dinner dance in October/November.

**Note:** Part of our income and expense was from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Futsal Tournament we held last November.



## **Pre-COVID**

This year started as usual, as we resumed practices after Armenian Christmas. At the beginning of February, we participated in the Homenetmen Shant Tournament. On January 19<sup>th</sup>, we had a hike with the U14/16 and U18 boys. After the Shant tournament, our teams continued with practices with our U14-U18 teams getting ready for Villa Parke league in Pasadena which unfortunately was cancelled due to the pandemic.

## **Meetings**

Our committee would meet every 2 weeks pre-COVID, especially as we started planning our fundraising ideas. During quarantine, we met over Zoom 5-6 times, and continued to meet over Zoom at least once a month after we returned to practices. We also had a couple Coaches Happy Hour where we had Zoom meetings with our coaches and our committee. Coach Serj also met with his team over Zoom during quarantine.

## **Reopening**

Complying with our Chapter's COVID guidelines, we held our first practice since before quarantine on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, with a mix of just 10 of the U14-16 boys from Coach Valod's team and Coach Heratch/Steve's teams. As each practice session went on more kids started to attend practices, until August 3<sup>rd</sup> Coach Serj and his team resumed practices. We also resumed our Wednesday practices on August 12<sup>th</sup>, allowing for our regular twice a week practice sessions. On October 21<sup>st</sup>, Coach Andre/Erik's team also resumed their practices, which were on Wednesdays only. On that same day, Coach Edwin's U18 team also returned to practices. On Monday's the maximum number of players we had was 30, while on Wednesday's, with age groups U8-U18 attending practice between 7pm-10pm, we had 50 players. November 30<sup>th</sup>, we held our last practice session as a precaution since numbers were on the rise in LA County, where we will hopefully resume after January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## **New Membership**

In an unprecedented year like this one, we had 10 new members who joined our program, and we hope to continue to increase our numbers each year.



## **Social Media Efforts**

This year, we increased our social media efforts even more, posting more on our Ararat Soccer Instagram and Facebook pages. Especially during quarantine, social media was the best way to keep the players engaged and stay active. The social media activities our players partook in/we did for our players included:

- Nutrition tips for athletes
- Strength/core videos for athletes
- Soccer drills
- Mother's Day Posts
- Member Highlights

## **Fundraiser**

On November 14<sup>th</sup>, we organized a Car Wash fundraiser where the funds that we raised were sent to Artsakh. We raised \$4000 and our soccer players did all the work, from washing, to drying, and selling donuts and coffee. We had about 40 volunteers throughout the day from our U8 team up until our U18 team. It was also successful not only because of the funds we raised, but more so because of how engaged and enthusiastic our players were throughout the event.

Soccer Committee

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