



NEWS LETTER



FC Europa
Director of Soccer,
Barry Davey

October 22nd 2021

from the *Director's* DESK

Last fall our main challenge was navigating safe organized team sports in a Covid world. The virus continues to present challenges, in some cases, in unexpected ways. One such example is the current nationwide shortage of referees; many referees that were active prior to the pandemic lockdown decided not to return, which along with a number of other factors has us in a position where there are simply not enough officials for the number of games. While my hope is that none of you have been impacted by this shortage, reality suggests that many of you will have been.

As a club we are doing many things to try to ensure we are covered wherever possible. Games (home and away) may be refereed by a single official, a coach, or an unlicensed adult or senior player. In each case the importance is that the game gets played. From an individual perspective the main thing we can do as coaches, parents, players and administrators is to be respectful of the referees we do have. They will make bad calls and have bad days, something all of us are not immune to. In all cases they are doing their best and the game is enriched by their presence. Where their experience is positive they are likely to come back next week.

The other thing you can do is sign up to be a referee yourself [click here for more information on the Eastern Pennsylvania Referee Program](#)

Pictured: The 12 Boys Select team showing their support for Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Game Highlights



You may have noticed a strange green device sitting above the field on a tripod this fall. What looks like an ant-head is actually a Veo camera that tracks the ball and allows games to be filmed without an operator. Many of you will have already been sent links to games involving your son or daughter and my hope is that you are enjoying them. By the end of the year our hope is that each team will have at least a couple of games available to them. Our older players will be using these to create highlight videos for college coaches, for our coaches to highlight training points and for our parents and players to relive game moments.

Whatever the purpose, my hope is that everyone enjoys the videos!

Good luck, Ryan!

Since the last edition of 'Desk' the club have waved a fond farewell to Ryan Zellefrow from the 2006 Boys Elite team.

Ryan has moved across the country to join Portland Timbers from the MLS. In his time with the club Ryan won countless state titles, participated in regional and national tournaments and gained a reputation as a hard working and talented player.

We will miss Ryan but wish him well on his continued journey up the soccer pyramid.

