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# Newsletter August 2009

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## Club Calendar

### **End of Year Tournament/Celebration Dates House League**

U4 **Saturday August 22** trophies and celebration 11:30-1pm RSVP 519-856-0969

U6/U8 **August 15** location Rockmosa for times see coach

U10B/G **August 8** location Rockmosa for tournament and trophies-see coach for exact times

U12B/G **September 12-13** location TBD

U14B/G **September 12-13** location TBD

U16B/G **August 29-30** location TBD

U18B/G **August 22-23** location TBD

**End of Year Tournament Dates Select- contact your coach**

### **Other Important Dates**

Application to Coach Select 2010 deadline **September 1**

Select tryouts 2010 **September 26,27, October 3,4,17,18** time TBD

Volunteer Appreciation Night and Annual General Meeting **November 2** time and place TBA

Fundraising with Guelph Storm **February 12-come out and sell 50/50 tickets**

## **Message from the President**

Greetings one and all. My name is Stephen Hunter, RFC Coach, mid-fielder with the RFC Huffers and Puffers, and Club President. As of kick-off last season the Club officially changed its name to Rockwood FC, in keeping with the naming of our very own Toronto FC and many other well known footballing clubs. It is well known that our game is played with our feet! With the slight change in name has come some very exciting program advances designed to enrich the experience of all.

### **Coaches Clinics**

In the last year, we have run 2 successful coaches' clinics. While these clinics are not yet mandatory at the House League level, they are a super way to brush up on the very latest techniques for coaching at all levels – and your Club will pay for your participation. Visit our web site for Clinic dates that Rockwood is offering and check out the OSA website for clinics being offered elsewhere. Level 1 Coaching Certificate will be required Jan 2010 to coach Select.

## **Byte Size Coaching**

Brand new this year, we have set the Club up with 'Byte-Size Coaching', an on-line Coaches' Manual that allows you to prepare a practice session for any age group and any ability. It also helps with game strategy, skills, drills, and fitness components. We have received much positive feedback about this program. All coaches should have their own access code, if you have not received one please contact your convenor.

## **Coaching Mentor**

We are pleased to introduce our own Coaching Mentor, Eric Stewart. He is volunteering his vast experience with Coaching, Tournaments, Players, Parents, discipline, and team morale to one and all. Eric is a valuable resource, so do not hesitate to meet him, get to know him and seek out his help for practices, game strategy or public relations.

## **New League in Area**

The Escarpment Soccer League has come into being as the result of ongoing efforts of dedicated individuals who are pushing for ways to provide better access to and experiences with this beautiful game. The ESL is the governing body of our House League teams U12-U14, with the North Peel Halton Soccer League remaining the governing body for U16 and U18. These are the groups that plan our travelling season and coordinate with all.

## **Select Soccer**

This is our second year offering Select play. Select is the entry level of Rep and provides an opportunity for a more competitive and dedicated football experience for those wishing to participate. We had 3 Select teams last year and have 5 teams this year. The season is showing itself to be a challenging one and the 'real life' lessons of the game on the pitch are definitely hard to swallow. But in the true spirit of Rockwood FC our teams show no signs of letting up and the quality of play exhibited by our teams is most certainly worth the price of admission. Coaches: WELL DONE. See below for more information on try outs for next year.

## **Final Message**

My final message has to do with everything: the uniforms in all their colours, fields, lines, flags, Referees, sponsors, trophies, photos to say nothing of the tracking and assembling of all the players and all the teams (80 coaches and over 600 Footballers).....there is so much more. This is the fabric of the club and the volunteers are the weavers. Our successes are the result of volunteers.....go to the website and see all the jobs, contact an executive member and help us create a successful season for 2010. We cannot be grateful enough for the team of individuals that work to bring this Club to life every year putting footballs at our feet and grass under them. We still need a Club Anthem. Even for those of us who have played to the supporting chants of home fans, it is hard to describe the feeling of team pride that the roar of adoring fans ignites.

I look forward to the rest of the season.....PLAY HARD, PLAY WELL AND PLAY FAIR FOR THE COLOURS....THE SHIRT, SHORTS AND SOCKS ARE NOT A UNIFORM...THEY ARE A FLAG(! borrowed that!)

Stephen Hunter  
President  
Rockwood FC

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Ross Smith and some players at "No Tippy Tappy" Soccer Camp

## Message from Ross Smith

The last 5 weeks has been a massive eye opener for me. Having only spent a few weeks a year in Rockwood, I've never had the chance to see just how big the football in Rockwood has become. In just over a month however, I have been grateful to have the opportunity to meet and train with so many coaches and players at the club.

I am lucky to have had the chance to coach in various places throughout the world.....but never have I come across a club, from it's members and coaches, to the families and footballers, with such an enthusiasm for the sport, while most importantly enjoying their football.

From the get go, this was apparent when I was warmly welcomed to train the Rockwood FC teams of all ages. Every coach and player welcomed the opportunity to take on board the different drills, and skills that I myself had been introduced to as a player.

I had such a buzz from these sessions, that I was itching to start up camps, and work with these players so full of the game, on a daily basis.

With the camps all thrown together last minute, I could never of imagined such a positive turn out, when in three weeks, I had the chance to work with over 80 different kids. The improvement in skill from first thing Monday morning, to the end of the day on Friday of the same week, was amazing to see in each and every kid. All the credit of course goes towards the players, as on every break (except for lunch joke time), they were continuing to work on their technique, skills while remaining full of questions to learn more and develop.

For the future, I am looking to keep the 'No Tippy Tappy' Soccer Camps going every year now in Rockwood, and will let families know the dates as early on into the new year as possible.

To all Members, Coaches, families and footballers of Rockwood FC, I have had such pleasure working and getting to know you all over this short amount of time, and look forward so much to following the individual and teams success throughout the year. Most importantly, I hope the stitching is kicked out of each kid's ball that was given at camp, by the next time I get to see them!

Cheers,  
Ross

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**THANKS TO ROSS FOR ALL HIS HARD WORK!**

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**Volunteers**



These hands are clapping for you our dedicated volunteers. Behind the scenes at Rockwood FC are the people who make sure the season runs smoothly. They do not want thanks or praise, they just want to know that the kids have had a good season and with more than 600 kids registered it takes a lot of work. Our club has been growing and we need you to help ensure that the 2010 season is a success. There are positions that take a few hours a week over the season or just a few hours over a day, there are positions that require organization, computer skills or just a nice smile.....we have something for everyone! Talk with a member of the executive, come to the Annual General Meeting, get involved.....Please feel free to contact Sherol Steinberg [steinsrfc@bell.net](mailto:steinsrfc@bell.net) for more information. We would like to have the all positions filled by December 2009 for 2010 season.

**MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK**

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## **Your invitation to Select Soccer**

The Select program is a terrific opportunity for players who would like to challenge themselves by training to improve their soccer skills, physical fitness, game knowledge, promote good sportsmanship and learn important life lessons while proudly representing Rockwood FC in competition against other District soccer clubs. The club will be looking to provide playing opportunities for girls and boys teams in the birth years from 1994 – 2001. All players who are interested in participating in the Select program are welcome and invited to attend the fall try-outs. The fall try-out dates are September 26th & 27th, October 3rd & 4th and October 17th & 18th. There is no cost for try-outs. The teams will be finalized at the end of the fall try-outs, allowing families and coaches to better plan and prepare for the 2010 season. Interested player families are encouraged to contact Doug McNaul (ashton.mcnaul@sympatico.ca) for more information and to place their name on the try-out rosters.

## **Select Team Coaches**

In order to run a successful Select program the club requires dedicated volunteers for the positions of Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Trainers and Team Managers. This is a perfect opportunity to get involved, provide positive leadership, help develop motivated soccer players and make a difference by having input into the Select program. Interested candidates are welcome to contact Doug McNaul (ashton.mcnaul@sympatico.ca) for more information and to submit a coaching application. Coaching applications can also be downloaded off the website and given to Doug McNaul or Sherol Steinberg.

## **Note from the Registrar**

Registering on line is continuing to grow within our club. Next season we will be introducing a new on line registrations system from SWRSA. I am hoping it is very user friendly for all of us. **Don't forget that on line registrations start December 2009.** Kids rostered to a select team will register in person starting in October following try outs. Keep an eye on the website for more details.

Rockwood FC has their own telephone line, so if you have any questions or concerns in regards to soccer etc, please call 519-856-9284. I will get back to you with in 24 hours.

Have a safe and happy summer....

Shellie Sawyer  
Registrar  
Rockwood FC  
519-856-9284  
[registrar@rockwoodfc.com](mailto:registrar@rockwoodfc.com)

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## **Referees**

Congratulations to the following referees who successfully completed the mini soccer referee course this year:

Mitch Godak	Holly Ekerich	Bobby Mackenzie	Ethan Barrand
AJ Zandstra	Steven Kelly	Noah Steinberg	
Kristian Vandekemp	Tyler Barrand	Sean O'Connor	

Many of the older referees attended 6 Saturday morning training sessions that Rockwood FC held in June and July. Thanks to all the officials for their hard work.

## Sponsors

Thank you to all our team sponsors

Sea Shells Daycare  
CK Coverings  
Rocktoning Family Fitness  
Brock Road Garage  
Shelly Patterson's Playhouse  
Nellis Construction  
Rockwood Pharmacy  
Jacob's Woodworking  
Trendz Hair Studio  
Creative Memories by Charlene VanDerWal  
Rockwood Dental  
Home Hardware  
Eden House

Kroes Carpentry & Construction  
Distinct Trophies  
HouseMasters  
KimLor  
All Star Photography  
Wellington Fireplace & Leisure  
Sports Source  
Dr Tim Peloso  
Whistle Stop  
Drexler Construction  
Huffers & Puffers  
R&M Construction  
RKD Web Studios

**If you are interested in sponsoring a team please contact Shellie Sawyer for more information 519-856-9284. Sponsorships need to be received by February 1, 2010. We are also looking for a corporate sponsor for our Select Program.**

We would also like to thank the following who have supported the club in other ways:

The Township of Guelph-Eramosa  
The Sports Source  
The Soccer Fanatic  
RKD Web Studios



Chris Pozniak from the Canadian National Team visited Rockwood and met with some of our players

Look for the next newsletter coming in September!