

The History of the S.C.Y.S.A.

1987

The Schuylkill County Youth Soccer Association was formed and chartered in 1987. The charter clubs were: Blue Mountain, Minersville, Pine Grove, Pottsville and Schuylkill Haven.

The charter members of the Executive Board were:

President-	Mike Polak
Vice President-	Malcolm "Gene" Eubert
Secretary-	John Ventura
Treasurer-	Bruce Billingham
Publicist-	Gary Rada
Registrar-	Jim Laudeman
Scheduler-	Mark J. Mahal

Larry Flick was a member of the original committee but left the area before the organization was chartered.

The SCYSA had 405 players during it's inaugural season.
The SCYSA had a total of \$75.00 in it's treasury at seasons end.

At seasons end the first SCYSA tournament was held. An U10 tournament sponsored by the Minersville Youth Soccer Club. Ten SCYSA U10 teams entered the tourney which was won by the Minersville Fireballs.

1988

Both the Frackville and Shenandoah Youth Soccer Clubs were formed and entered into the SCYSA.

October of 1988, the Minersville Strikers, a coed U12 team coached by Mark Mahal became the first SCYSA to play outside of the association when they entered a tournament in Blandon which was held by the Germania Youth Soccer Club of the Reading Berks Jr. Soccer League.

1989

Tamaqua Area Youth Soccer Club was formed and joined the SCYSA.

At the end of the 1989 season the first 2 travel teams of the SCYSA were formed. Tryouts were held at the PSU Schuylkill Soccer Field. The teams that shall compete in the Reading/Berks Jr. Soccer Leagues spring league.

The U12 team consisted of 16 boys and 2 girls.

The U12 team was led by Head Coach Mark Mahal with Assistant Coaches Mike Polak & Linda Horst.

The U14 team was made up of 18 boys and was guided by Head Coach Rob Burcik and Assistant Coaches Bruce Billingham & Gary Rada.

1990

The SCYSA is instrumental in the organization of the Schuylkill Soccer League at the scholastic level. The high school teams that formed the scholastic league were: Blue Mountain, Minersville, Pine Grove, Pottsville and Schuylkill Haven.

April of 1990 the U12 travel team becomes the first SCYSA team to defeat a Reading/Berks team when they defeated the Wilson Club of Topton 1-0 on a goal by Minersville's Holly Mahal which was also the first goal scored by a SCYSA team against a Reading/Berks opponent.

The SCYSA votes to have an A & B division in both the U12 and 14 divisions. The A division will have absolute and declared champions. The winner of the U12 division was ??????? and the winner of the U14 ???????

1991

The first SCYSA all girls travel team, a U15 team was formed to compete in the Reading/Berks spring league. The girls team was coached by Gary Rada

November-The SCYSA sponsors the first Annual Senior Soccer High School match between the North and South. The event was held at Veterans Memorial Stadium in Minersville and ended in a 5-5 draw.

With soccer being implemented at the scholastic level in 1990 the SCYSA forms a Scholar Athlete Committee to award a graduating senior from each school. The overall winner would receive \$1000.00 and each runner up would receive \$100.00. Along with the monetary award each scholar athlete will receive a certificate of accomplishment and their picture will be placed in a plaque that is to be displayed in the trophy area of each school.

The scholar athletes along with the champions of the U12 and U14 divisions will be honored at the SCYSA Scholar Athlete banquet which will be held in February of 1992.

1992

February-The first annual SCYSA Soccer Scholar Athlete banquet was hosted by the Minersville Area Youth Soccer Club and was held at the Rick Ann in Primrose. Jason Gherghel of Pottsville Area High School received the honor of being named Schuylkill County's first Soccer Scholar Athlete.

May -With a record of 8-0-1 the SCYSA U14 Girls travel team coached by Mark Mahal ties with Wyomissing for first place in the Reading/Berks spring league.

1993

Hegins, Valley View and surrounding areas form the Tri Valley Youth Soccer Club and join the SCYSA

1994

1995

April-Frackville, Ashland, Gordon and surrounding areas merge to form the North Schuylkill Area Youth Soccer Club.

1996

1997

May-Memorial Day Weekend the Blue Mt. U14 travel team takes first place at the Pocono Cup Challenge Tournament.

1998

August- SCYSA players Ian Mahal of Minersville and David Horst of Pine Grove play for the Pocono Region in their age divisions at the Keystone State Games in Johnstown, Pa.

1999

2000

May- Over the Memorial Day Weekend at the Annual Blue-Gray Tournament held at Gettysburg the SCYSA U17 Predators coached by Head Coach Bill Boyer and Asst. Coach Travis Frantz receive the silver medal for their second place finish.

With the formation of an all girls scholastic league the SCYSA votes to honor the girls of the league with a Female Scholar Athlete Award. Because of the girls playing in 3 different leagues (Schuylkill Girls, Reading/Berks Girls and girls who play on boys teams because they have no girls program) each girl shall receive

\$200.00 with no overall winner. They will be honored at the upcoming Scholar Athlete banquet in February of 2002.

2001

2002

2003

January- The SCYSA U19 Predators coached by Bill Boyer and Asst. Coach Les Payne take first place at the annual Arthur A. Smith indoor tournament at Pleasant Valley High School in Broadheadsville.