



AUGUST 2020

# MONTHLY UPDATE

What a Kick!



**GET YOUR MLSA INFO FAST & RUN WITH IT.**

## Programs are Closing. Register by This Sunday!

### Time to Kick Off Fall

2020 has been a little too memorable for most of us. Hopefully we can close it out with more positive memories! As we prepare for fall, please know that we're adhering to all PA West and Allegheny County COVID precautions and procedures and ensuring that everyone's health remains our top priority. We're looking forward to the best of what soccer offers – games played out in the fresh air with good friends and great competition.

Please reference our return to play guidelines, posted at the [top of our homepage](#). Keep in mind that they may be revised at any point.

**And don't miss these programs, closing this Sunday, August 9th (TOP Soccer registration closes later):**

- Lebo Cup
- U9 Academy
- FDP
- TOP Soccer (throughout season of 9/20-10/25)
- RT 19 Soccer

## AWESOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Don't miss the Dick's Sporting Goods 20% Extended Discount Weekend, specifically for the MLSA, **8/14-8/17**. In-store and some online discounts available. Details will be emailed soon!
- Our new masks are selling fast! Check out the next page for details on how to get yours.

Things are always changing these days. Watch your email & check [MLSA.org](http://MLSA.org) for all updates!

# MLSA MASKS AVAILABLE

## Protect Your Player - Ends 8/9!

MLSA has partnered with Le Way Enterprises to bring Sport Performance Activity Masks to our parents and players.

Show your MLSA pride with these new breathable masks. They stay cool and comfortable, and since they're designed for full coverage, they won't move or fall off like some of the flimsier masks out there.

They're also washable so they'll stay clean and can be used again and again.

**Cost:** Each mask is \$12 (includes \$2 shipping). Youth and adult sizes available.

**Deadline:** Order until August 9th.

**Delivery:** Masks will be mailed around August 20th.

**Styles:** There are three different masks, made to sync up with our most popular fall programs:

**Navy Blue – Travel Soccer**

**Royal Blue – Lebo Cup**

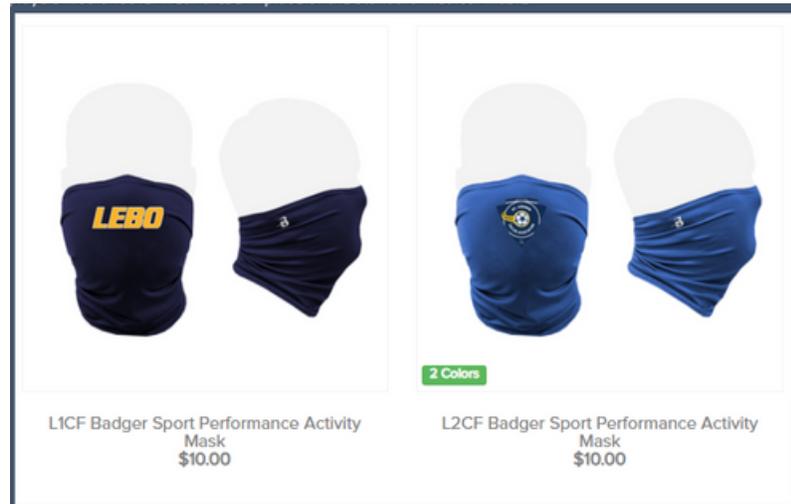
**White – Any Program**

**Other – May add more colors over the summer...**

**Store:**

<https://lebosoccermask2020.itemorder.com/product/14434761>

See our site for more info.: <http://www.mlsa.org/club-gear>



# PUTTING THE SPOTLIGHT ON OUR PLAYERS

We've started to highlight our travel players with Player Spotlights on [Facebook](#) and [our website](#), and we'd like to include all MLSA players.

**Please help us put a spotlight on your player!  
It's easy, just:**

1. Complete the Google Form in full.  
<https://forms.gle/UaKrAf29joEBv9w18>
2. Email us a photo of your player wearing Lebo Soccer Gear (Action photo preferred) to [traveldirector@mlsa.org](mailto:traveldirector@mlsa.org).

Please include your players name in the subject line.



## Player Spotlight



**Name:** Isaac Hrivnak  
**My School/Grade:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade; Mellon MS  
**My Team:** Doran  
**My Position:** Striker  
**Favorite Player:** TJ Watt because he is fast, plays with intensity, and works hard at his position  
**My Favorite Team:** Borussia Dortmund  
**Favorite Quote:** Win.  
**Future Career:** Architect or engineer  
**Favorite MLSA Moment:** 1st year of travel soccer, spring season, scored game tying goal with 2 seconds left

# MAC 50: UPDATE

## Important Date Change

With so many unknowns affecting future dates and activities right now, we've decided to postpone the MAC 50 celebration commemorating our 50th Anniversary as the MLSA.

While we are greatly disappointed to move this highly anticipated event, our first priority is to make sure we provide a safe atmosphere for our entire MLSA family. Unfortunately, an in-person event of this scope is not aligned with current COVID guidelines or recommendations.

We will keep you posted as we re-imagine this incredible milestone - and please reach out with any ideas you may have for a way to safely hold this event.

Please also send any pictures you have so we can properly honor this important history – all decades 1970s through today are welcome!

Send suggestions and photos to [marketing@mlsa.org](mailto:marketing@mlsa.org).

And check the [MLSA Facebook](#) page for fresh photos and updates....

We will celebrate properly as soon as we are able!



**Know these chaps?  
Email [marketing@mlsa.org](mailto:marketing@mlsa.org) with their  
names!**

# FAMILY ED CORNER

## 12 FUN FACTS ABOUT SOCCER

### DID YOU KNOW?

1. Called “soccer” in the U.S. and “football” elsewhere, the sport’s original name is actually “basket-ball.” When the game was first created, the first were overturned wicker baskets.
2. Soccer was played by prisoners at London’s Newgate Prison in the early 1800s. Having their hands cut off for their crimes, prisoners came up with the game using only their feet. Some trace the roots back even further, over 2,000 years prior to China - and called "kick ball."
3. A traditional soccer ball has 32 panels. Each panel represents a country in Europe.
4. A soccer field is called a “pitch,” because fields that are made to regulation standards are pitched or sloped five degrees upwards from one end to the other. The teams switch sides so each has to play slightly uphill.
5. From 1919 to 1921, the first American professional soccer league, the USSA, paid its players just 35 cents per goal scored.
6. The first World Cup was made of papier-mâché. After heavy rains hit the 1950 World Cup, it was replaced.
7. Contrary to belief, soccer balls are not actually round. They have a slightly oval shape, but the checkered pattern creates the illusion that it is spherical.
8. Most countries refer to the uniforms soccer players wear as “kits” while the cleats are called “hooves.”
9. The highest score ever made in a soccer game is 149-0. **Know which game this was? Email [marketing@mlsa.org](mailto:marketing@mlsa.org) with the answer.....**
10. The fastest red card in history was given to player Lee Todd two seconds after the whistle to start the game.
11. Lusail, the city that will host the 2022 FIFA World Cup final game does not yet exist.
12. The sport is played in over 200 countries by 250 million players.

**Thank you to Steel Soccer for these interesting nuggets!**

# Your "Games to Watch" This Month

Also make sure to download the [LiveSoccerTV](#) app for game times and channels.

Wed Aug 12 UEFA CL Atalanta vs PSG

Friday Aug 14 UEFA CL QF

Tues Aug 18 UEFA CL SF

Wed Aug 19 UEFA CL SF

Sun Aug 23 UEFA CL Final

Teams TBD

Grab some friends and watch a game or two!

