



SEPTEMBER 2020

MONTHLY UPDATE

What a Kick!



GET YOUR MLSA INFO FAST & RUN WITH IT.

Back in Action

The Fall Season Has Begun!

It feels good to be out there in the fresh air with our friends and families again. Even with the masks and the distancing, we are happy to have the opportunity for the kids to play this beautiful game and enjoy the comraderie, exercise and flat out fun that go with MLSA soccer.

Welcome back!!

Our travel teams, Lebo Cup teams, RT 19 teams and U9 Academy and FDP programs are now in full swing. We wish everyone a healthy and safe season, filled with the good times we all need right now. Go Lebo!

AWESOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Familiarize yourself with our [Return-to-Play Guidelines](#).
- The upcoming October issue of Mt. Lebanon Magazine features 50 years of MLSA. Check it out!
- Spotlight your player!
 - 1. Complete the form <https://forms.gle/UaKrAf29joEBv9w18>
 - 2. Send a player photo (action) in Lebo Gear with name in subject to traveldirector@mlsa.org

Things are always changing these days. Watch your email & check MLSA.org for all updates!

COMING SOON!

Mt. Lebanon Magazine's October Issue Features the MLSA's 50th Anniversary

Here's a Sneak Peek....

Half A Century of Soccer

WRITTEN BY SHELLY ANDERSON

Players in the U12 Division of the Mt. Lebanon Soccer Association during a recent game at the high school's new field.

The COVID-19 pandemic has wobbled the seasons of the Mt. Lebanon Soccer Association (MLSA) teams this year. While that has been difficult, it hardly defines an organization that for 50 years has not only persisted, but also grown tremendously.

The MLSA's half-century celebration, set for November, is also on hold, but, as usual, organizers will adapt. They have had a lot of practice at pivoting, dribbling around obstacles and, when necessary, executing a deft redirection.

"In order for the association to stay alive, it has to change with the times," says Brenner Colby Sembert, of the Foster School area, an MLSA board member, former player and the daughter of Dale Colby, the association's first president. "It's really a story of thousands of people who kept it alive by changing, by developing vibrant programs that met the needs of the families, and the kids at the time," she says.

From the start, when Rod Agar and George Kessel assembled a team boys aged 9 to 14 in 1970, to 1975, when one of the region's first girls' programs was born, including baby Taylor as its first female president in 1995, to today, the MLSA has stood as an inclusive, safe, fun outlet for those who want to play or otherwise be involved in the sport much of the world reveres and calls football.

Under normal circumstances, there are year-round teams for all youth ages in three types of leagues: recreational, developmental and competitive, the last of which includes travel teams.

Among the offerings is TOPSoccer for special-needs boys and girls ages 6 and up; Futsal, a fast-paced, indoor soccer game; on fun, summer camps; goalkeeper training; referee training; and a chance to develop skills by working with UK Trainers, a soccer exchange program that brings skilled players here from the United Kingdom.

The MLSA even helps schedule and facilitate a couple of adult teams in a regional league.

Even since the latest turn of the century, the association has grown.

"We were small," board member and community relations director Lisa Borrelli says of those many years ago. "We did everything ourselves. The board was made up of 10-15 people. Now the board measures about 30."

"We had the foundation, and we kept building. Day One, I had no idea where we were going. We kind of just inched along."
Rod Agar, MLSA co-founder

FAMILY ED CORNER

Returning to Play

As we return to the fields, things are looking a little different this season. Please make sure to familiarize yourself with our [Return-to-play Guidelines](#).

Most important for parents: Wear a mask to all games and keep 6 feet of space between you and other spectators (non family members). We are limiting attendance to two spectators per player. This limit does not include coaches (coach plus two family members is ok).

For players: Anytime you are not playing, wear a mask. Label all water bottles, balls and other gear and do not share these.

More details are below, as outlined by PA West. Thank you as always for your cooperation!

PA West Resources:
[Spectator Checklist](#)
[Player/Coach Checklist](#)



Your "Games to Watch" This Month

Also make sure to download the LiveSoccerTV app for game times and channels.

Sept 20 Chelsea vs Liverpool

Sept 27 Roma vs Juventus

Grab some friends and watch a game or two!

