

## **Lakewood Soccer Association, Inc.**

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Monday, December 16, 2019

## President's Report - Leonard Lewko

Youth soccer has seen many changes over the last 12 months and Lakewood continues our focus on player and coach recruitment and the development of soccer. A big part of this is the growth of the Lakewood technical staff to the point where we now have technical leads in all the age groups. Soccer is under pressure from several other sports and we must do a better job selling the sport to players and parents. We feel that improving our technical expertise will help sell soccer to them.

The number of teams competing in the Lakewood tournaments was declining until a turnaround this past year. Moving the indoor tournament to February and rebranding with a new name made a huge difference to the number of teams entering our indoor tournament. I would like to thank the tournament committee for running two very well-organized tournaments each year.

Lakewood Soccer Association, Inc. continues to make organizational staff changes. This started by hiring Lewis Oteruelo as our General Manager in 2017 to help deliver soccer programming. We have undertaken several strategic planning sessions to help guide us in our focus on the key areas of coaching and player development. We are currently working with several part-time staff members to help deliver player training and are reviewing options for coaching development. We are very lucky to have Zlatan Dautbegovic as our goalkeeping instructor providing training during the Lakewood Goalkeeper Academy.

We switched to a new website in 2018 along with a new software package (Room Roster) to manage the Lakewood tournament and a working arrangement with TeamLinkt to manage individual team scheduling. We are now working with RAMP which is a new registration software package and website which will come online in early 2020. This is a transition away from GoalLine to RAMP which is occurring for all SSA members.

We have a very strong core of volunteers including board members, committee members, team coaches and team managers. As I complete my eleventh year as the president of Lakewood Soccer Association, Inc. Board of Directors I want to thank the board members who have served Lakewood so well over the last year. Most serve a dual role as manager or coach with our Lakewood teams. I look forward to the next volunteer appreciation night sometime in early 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Lewko

