



THE SUNDOGS BARKER!

Newsletter of the Yellowknife Bay Soccer Club

Issue #1

February 2022

Welcome everyone to the first newsletter of the Yellowknife Bay Soccer Club (YBSC)!

A “barker” was a person who would stand out by the street and provide information about a show or an event to passersby. The “bark” and “dog” themes seemed to fit well together and so we have:

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We are wanting to take a more proactive approach to keeping everyone associated with the club updated on club developments. We do have a much-improved website from years past, but an emailed newsletter would be another good way to get information out. These newsletters will not be sent out on any regular schedule but instead will be prepared and issued as required based on club developments.

As this is the first newsletter, the format will evolve over time. If anyone is experienced in document design and publishing and would be willing to donate your time and skills, it would be great if we could get a more professional looking template that we could use for future issues. Please let us know!

The purpose of the newsletter is to provide some quick pieces of information about club developments and other related news. If anyone has ideas on what they would like to see in the newsletter, please let us know.

Club Merchandise

There have been questions about when we would have club merchandise available again. The last time was a little over two years ago so we will be doing this again shortly – hopefully within the next month. We will be setting up an on-line store which will be open for a limited period of time – likely 4 weeks or so.

There will be a good selection of items, such as hats, t-shirts, pull-overs and other items. Orders and payments through the on-line store will go directly to our supplier. At the end of the period, the on-line store will close, our supplier will produce the ordered items and ship everything to the club. We will then let you know that your items are here and distribute them.

We will be posting the link to the on-line store on our webpage and we will also send it out by email and newsletter.



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Playermakers

Collecting and analyzing data on players during practices and games has become an important tool of player development. To keep up with the latest in technology, YBSC has recently purchased 32 pairs of Playermakers.

[Playermaker | The #1 Wearable Tracker for Soccer](#)

Physical data will be collected such as number of sprints, top speed, and work rate. In addition to the physical data, the Playermakers also collect technical data. An important piece of information that will be collected is foot usage and the relative levels of usage. For example, if the data shows that a particular player is using their weak foot only 15% of the time then the coaches will know that we will need to do additional work to develop the weak foot so that the player can become more complete.

We expect that the value of the Playermakers will be more significant for the older players and so we will be providing them this year just to some of the U13 and older players. Given the significant cost to purchase them (they retail for \$250 US each), we do not have enough for every player yet. We also wanted to try them out before committing more money to this product.

Our coaches in the U-13 and older age groups will be handing them out to some players so we can start getting some experience using them. Our coaches will also be getting training on how to gather and use the data.

Assuming that we find the Playermakers to be a positive addition to the club, we anticipate purchasing additional units in the future so that all players in those age groups will have a pair.

Video Analysis and Live Streaming

Another more recent technological advancement that is being used by soccer clubs are sports cameras. These cameras can be set up to record practices and games for the coaches to use for video analysis and can also be used for live streaming.

The camera and video analysis system that we are adopting is by a company called Pixellot.

[AI-Automated Sports Camera, Streaming & Analytics | Pixellot](#)

Video analysis is now a very important part of player development and YBSC wants to make sure that we are staying current with the best technology to help our coaches and players develop.



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We are wanting to mount a permanent camera at each field in the Fieldhouse and are discussing this with the City. In the meantime we have purchased a portable Pixellot camera that we will be able to use indoors and also be able to use outdoors in the summer. The portable camera should be here this week!

Besides video analysis, another important feature of these cameras is their ability to live stream to Facebook, Youtube and other platforms. The permanent indoor mounted cameras are live stream capable already and the portable camera that we purchased will be ready for live streaming within the next few months after the next software upgrade.

Given that so many people in Yellowknife are from somewhere else, the ability to live stream games is important so that you can share your kids' lives with family members who do not live in Yellowknife. The need for this has been even more apparent over the last 2 years as we have dealt with travel restrictions.

Uniforms

There have been requests to be able to buy club uniforms. We have however been having problems with Adidas over the last couple of years. They keep running out of stock and/or changing the jersey designs. To avoid those problems, we are moving to a new jersey supplier. We are working out some details with them now and hope to have a new jersey design soon. Doing this will resolve both the design and supply problems that we have been experiencing with Adidas.

While these new jerseys will be more expensive than the Adidas jerseys, they will also be a nicer design. As well, the Sundogs logo and the player number will be sublimated into the jersey (i.e. part of the fabric) instead of the iron-ons that can sometimes come off and get wrinkled.

We will be ordering a bunch of new jerseys and will make them available for purchase if anyone wants to have their own. We will let you know before we order if you have any specific size and number requests.

Kick-Off Soccer Tournament

Our New Years Kick-Off soccer tournament had to be cancelled in January due to covid for the 2nd year in a row. Instead, we will hold it in May like we did last year. Hopefully no Covid outbreak gets in the way this time! We expect registration for the tournament will open in March. We will keep you updated.

That is all for now. There are some other things that we are working on and so it will not be long before another newsletter is issued in early March. Thank you all for continuing to support the club!