

SEPTEMBER 2019 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ARAA

3rd ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP DINNER

Ticket purchases are now online for the 3rd Annual Sponsorship Dinner! It's a great evening of celebration of our players, coaches, and invested community members with awards, great speakers, and annual association awards! Get your tickets today, because space is limited. If you are interested in sponsoring the event with a table, speaker, or event sponsorship and need further information, please contact Jen Niska at 612-799-8917 or jenniska@gmail.com

REGISTER: 2019 ARAA 3RD ANNUAL SPONSORSHIP DINNER

BOARD POSITIONS

ARAA is currently looking to fill the two open board positions below. Please use the link below to apply or email Board President Dustin Reeder at president@arsports.org for more information.

Sponsorship Director

Softball Commissioner

The following positions will be up for vote in January and may or may not have board members running for re-election. Please use the link below to apply.

President

Concessions Director

Football Commissioner

Soccer Commissioner

Safety Coordinator

REGISTER: ARAA BOARD APPLICATION

INCIDENT REPORTING

We understand that whether we like it or not, incidents, disagreements, and accidents happen in relation to youth sports. ARAA always recommends trying resolve issues with your child's coach or with the leaders of the sport first, but if you need another path for assistance please complete an Incident Report via the link below. We promise to protect your anonymity and your child in every possible way.

Incident Report Form

BASEBALL

Congratulations for the 14AA Traveling Team for winning the MSF State Tournament "A" Championship!

YOUTH FIRST AWARDS

Additional congratulations to our Youth 1st Award winning teams. This is a program recently adopted by MYAS and other baseball programs to help promote good sportsmanship and positive conduct. ARAA had 4 teams which earned the award in 2019. Congratulations to our 9U tournament team and the 10AA, 11AAA, and 14AA traveling teams for winning this award and being seen as a positive role model at tournaments.

These types of programs are important to attempt to combat abusive behavior by coaches, parents, and players against umpires and each other. This behavior creates a negative experience for everyone involved and directly leads to fewer umpires, lesser experienced umpires, increased costs to play, and fewer players year over year, with absolutely zero benefit. This issue is being looked at closely by the program but it starts with all of us as fans of the game.

TRAVELING PROGRAM

2020 traveling coach and team selection is going on now. Look for announcements to be posted later this month.

BOARD NEWS

Welcome to Leslie Roering as the newest ARAA Baseball Board member. Leslie recently joined the board as our Player Engagement and Retention Director and will focus on driving awareness of our program and keeping our ball players coming back year after year.

The ARAA Baseball board has open positions. We are looking for motivated, self-starters that want to ensure the youth of Anoka and Ramsey are able to learn and enjoy the game of baseball. If you or someone you know is interested in joining the board, please send an email to Baseball@arsports.org . Open positions include:

Assistant Commissioner

Coach/Player Development Director

Tournament Director

Equipment Coordinator

BASKETBALL

Registration is open for Traveling Basketball Tryouts – click the link below to register!

Tryout Dates are as follows:

Sept 15th for Girls Traveling

Sept 23-26 for Boys Traveling (*Boys are encouraged to attend 2 dates for their grade level. We are waiting for football schedules to come out to schedule around those times*)

REGISTER: 2019/2020 BASKETBALL TRAVELING TRYOUT

FOOTBALL

Games are starting this week and schedules have been given to the coaches. There are many DIBS opportunities posted for this season so go to https://www.arsports.org/dib_sessions to claim yours today!

YOUTH NIGHT

Youth Night is Friday, September 6th! Please bring your youth football player to cheer on our Anoka Varsity football team as they take on Centennial High School! Anoka home games are played at Goodrich Field in Anoka. Visit www.anokafootball.com for more information.

GALA

The Football Gala will be held on September 28th from 5pm – 9pm at McDuff's in Ramsey. McDuff's is located on the Rum River Golf Course off of Hwy 47.

OUTDOORS

Our high school anglers finished their inaugural season well! 3 of our 5 teams qualified for state in a field of ridiculously talented young anglers. The juniors also ended their season on a high note with three teams finishing in the top 10 at the TBF state championship, including the state champions! For a second year straight, an A/R Jr Basser team claimed the state championship and will be representing our team,

town, state, and sponsors at the national championship next summer! A special thank you to our sponsors. Check them out on our website!

We have a website! Thanks to those who helped get it launched! While still a work in progress, we will soon have information about our offerings, registration information, board meeting minutes, etc. We hope to have the website updated within the next few weeks! <https://www.arsports.org/outdoors>

A/R Outdoors board members are all now MN DNR certified firearm safety instructors. With this, we intend to begin offering a cycle of firearm safety field day trainings for our ARAA families. Once paperwork has gone through and arrives to us making our certifications official, we'll announce our next class. We will only be offering the required field day training and hunter's trail; youth will need to complete the class portion on their own, which can now be done on-line. The field day and hunter's trail training can only be attended by kids that have taken and passed the class portion of the training, so consider having them log on and start the class now, to be ready for our first field day (ages 11 & up)! For more information and a link to sign up for the on-line class, visit here: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/safety/firearms/index.html>

A/R Outdoors recently presented to Anoka City Council their aspirations to offer guided youth waterfowl hunts on city owned park property. The council unanimously approved our plans and we're now working on organizing our first trial run of a guided hunt! For our first trial, we're keeping the event small as we want to ensure the safety of our participants as well as iron out the logistics to hosting such an event. We do intend to create and host additional opportunities, but this is a great start! Sunday Sept 8, ten A/R youth will be participating in our first guided waterfowl hunt! Thank you to Anoka City Council, Anoka Parks Board, Matt Shoop, and the A/R Outdoors board, as well as our additional volunteers who have all contributed immensely in pulling this off.

SOCCER

Check us out at Ramsey Happy Days!

Northern Lights Soccer Club will have its annual booth out at Ramsey Happy Days. Kids can score a goal and win a prize and you can learn more about the year-round soccer programs we offer.

Stock up on NLSC gear

We're offering fantastic apparel from Smash Athletic for sale at our Elmcrest Park concessions stand during normal soccer weekday and weekend hours. In addition to

sweatshirts, and t-shirts you can find hats and warm, waterproof logo blankets! Stop by the concession stand and grab some gear this fall. Credit cards accepted.

We're Hiring!

We're currently looking for a volunteer equipment director to serve as a member of the NLSC leadership team. The equipment director is responsible for maintaining the storage room and ordering equipment including nets, anchors, balls etc. To find out more please message doo@northernlightsoccer.org. The new volunteer will be trained in throughout the fall season and begin duties Jan. 1, 2020.

We're hiring a paid concessions staffer to head our Elmcrest Park concessions stand during Fall soccer. Hours are generally Saturdays from 8:30am to 12:20pm and occasionally 5:00pm to 7:40pm Tuesdays and Thursdays from September 10th to October 12th, 2019. Candidate must be 16 or older and pay is \$15 an hour. To apply send an email to doo@northernlightsoccer.org

We're looking for a recreational referee coordinator. Our referee coordinator works with area players to fill ref shifts for the fall and spring recreational soccer seasons. The coordinator maintains a spreadsheet of available shifts, uploads information to DIBS so referees can claim games and communicates with referees regarding training. To apply send an email to doo@northernlightsoccer.org

SOFTBALL

Teams have posted and we are looking forward to another great season in the spring!

The following positions are open on the Softball Board. Please email softball@arsports.org if you are interested in joining our board!

Commissioner

Secretary

Fundraising/Communications

TENNIS

Thanks to all those that participated in our tennis clinic, we had a great turnout and are thankful for the Anoka Boys Tennis Team for volunteering and running the clinic. ARAA Tennis was able to give back to their program!

We are working on Spring and Summer tennis options and will have those up in about a month. Stay tuned!

WRESTLING

The Bean Bag Fundraiser will be September 21st! Be sure to register soon! Here is the link to Facebook event for more

info: <https://www.facebook.com/events/646185439144277/> or call Angie at 612-799-7285

Registration for the 2019-2020 Youth Wrestling season is OPEN! Use the link below to register.

REGISTER: 2019-20 WRESTLING REGISTRATION

CHARITABLE GAMBLING

If you're grabbing a bite to eat around town please consider dining at one of these great establishments who have partnered with ARAA!

Aurelio's Pizza (Ramsey)

Kitchen Table (Ramsey)

McDuff's Eatery and Pub (Ramsey)

The Links at Northfork (Ramsey)

The Tavern at Green Haven (Anoka)

Mulligan's at The Ponds (St. Francis)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PULL-TABS

Daily at all locations

BINGO

Mondays at 7:00pm at McDuff's

MEAT RAFFLES

Thursdays at 6:00pm at Aurelio's Pizza

Saturdays at 4:00pm at McDuff's

HAPPY HOUR

Daily at Aurelio's Pizza with full bar from 3:00-6:00pm

Our Continued Thanks...

Thank you to all who participated in the 2nd Annual ARAA Open! Due to generous sponsors and golfers, ARAA raised enough money to provide registration scholarships for more than 50 youth in our community! Please review our sponsors and considering giving them your business.

Platinum Sponsor

Anoka-Ramsey Community College

Gold Sponsors

Greenman Irrigation

Intelligent Designs

Bronze Sponsors

Ameriprise Financial – Lisa Hanson

Horizontal Integration

Hole Sponsors

Anoka County Commissioner, Matt Look

Anoka Ramsey Softball

Case Financial

Cooking Real Estate Team

Edward Jones – Dave Scott

Smash Athletic

Sportsline Photography

State Farm Insurance – Mike Orn

Supercalibrations

Tornado Alley Sportswear

York Solutions