

GRAND LODGE YOUTH ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Elks SOCCER SHOOT[®]

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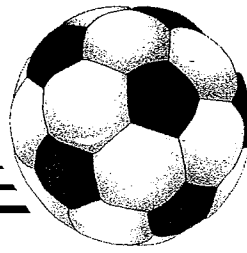
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Benevolent and Protective
Order of Elks

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A Fraternal Organization

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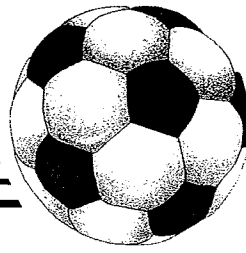
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— ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS —

The Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to those visionary Elks and Soccer enthusiasts from Connecticut, New Jersey, Arizona, Georgia, Wisconsin and elsewhere, who foresaw in this activity a positive and enjoyable way for the Order to benefit young Americans.

FOREWORD



S **OCCKER** – The world’s favorite sport now is the United States’ fastest growing children’s participatory activity. As early as the 1980’s, Lodges of the B.P.O. Elks began to recognize this phenomenon and support it with league sponsorships as well as developing different skill contests. The Grand Lodge Youth Activities Committee discussed the sport of soccer on many occasions as two of these contests grew to prominent status.

In October 1997, a Grand Lodge Youth Activities Subcommittee met in Chicago to discuss the various programs and to develop a Grand Lodge Program. After a concentrated session, where many viewpoints were expressed and many arguments presented, the Committee agreed upon a two-stage contest that best represented the skill levels of four age groups: 7 and under (U-8), 8-9(U-10), 10-11(U-12), and 12-13(U-14).

The “Five Goal Contest” with its succession of smaller target goals lets younger participants (U-8 & U-10) build their confidence as they move down the line. It matches both physical and skill abilities to the challenge they present.

The “Grid Goal Contest” uses the penalty kick distance to challenge the older participants (U-12 & U-14) to lift the ball from the field while aiming it for score, thus developing advanced skills.

The Contests are designed to be run either indoors or outdoors depending on location, weather or climate. It is suggested that close cooperation with the local soccer associations will insure growth in the participation in this Youth Activity by involving the community with our program.

Finally, remember that the running of all the Youth Activities Programs has common goals of keeping children occupied with positive, character-building role models and activities, providing alternatives to drug use, and simply having fun.

Remember:

“SOCCER – IT’S A KICK!”

ELKS SOCCER SHOOT®

“IT’S A KICK”

LIABILITY INSURANCE

What should the Lodge do if the owner of the property where an Elks Soccer Shoot is being held requires proof of Liability Insurance? Call the administrators of the Elks Insurance Programs, **MARSH, INC.** at **1-800-421-3557**.

Marsh will issue a Certificate of Liability Insurance that will satisfy the property owner’s requirements.

When you contact Marsh, they will first ask for your Lodge number. The purpose is to connect you with the correct Marsh team member.

Marsh, Inc. requires the following information:

- ✓ Date of the Soccer Shoot
- ✓ Location of the Soccer Shoot
- ✓ Name of the Property Owner
- ✓ Name of the Certificate Holder, i.e., School District, City, etc.
- ✓ Does the Certificate Holder need to be named as Additional Insured?

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks General Liability Policy, issued by National Surety Corporation, provides General Liability Insurance for Elks activities on or away from owned or leased premises. This policy will respond to Bodily Injury and/or Property Damage, subject to the policy terms and conditions.

The Master Liability Insurance Program includes as named insured the Grand Lodge, State Associations (with the exception of major projects) and all Subordinate Lodges of the Order.

The process of issuing a Liability Insurance Certificate is simple, however, Marsh would appreciate your calling at least **ten (10) days prior to the event** to ensure sufficient mailing time.

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PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- Lodge Shoot – Prior to District Shoot
- District Shoot – By end of September
- State Shoot – By end of October

SUGGESTIONS:

Lawn Mower and Rake:

It is recommended that the Soccer Shoot® area be mowed and raked prior to the Contest. Generally, the Soccer Shoot® is held on the side of a field and the grounds care may not be as smooth as the playing field.

Foul Line Marking:

The foul line is best marked with a product similar to the spray paint that is used to mark utility lines in the grass or black top, i.e., Power Paint Cartridge. Fluorescent colors work best. If such a product is unavailable, fluorescent tape such as that used in construction also works.

ADVERTISING:

Press Releases:

A large part of the Soccer Shoot® Program is to permit the kids to have fun. As such, it is necessary to let the community know that the Elks Soccer Shoot® exists. Press Releases and Purchased Advertising will permit your Lodge not only to hold a successful Soccer Shoot® but to share your news with the community.

Certificates of Participation:

It is imperative that we recognize all Shooters with a Certificate of Participation. First, Second and Third Place Certificates are very much appreciated by the victorious contestants.

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GENERAL CONTEST RULES

1. There shall be four (4) age groups:
 - Age 7 and Under [U-8]
 - Age 8 and 9 [U-10]
 - Age 10 and 11 [U-12]
 - Age 12 and 13 [U-14]
2. Age is determined by the age of the contestants as of August 1st, the year the contest is held.
3. The local Lodge Director must verify age by birth or baptismal certificate or by passport to ensure that the contestant competes in the proper age group. This will eliminate any disappointment that might arise as a result of a technical error.
4. A contestant may enter only one local Lodge contest in any given year.
5. The Contest Director will set the date, time and place for the contest, and notify all contestants of the same. Contestants must be present and ready to compete at the designated time.
6. Local Lodge contests may be structured in cooperation with local soccer programs so that participants can compete at predetermined times. The time for the local Lodge “finals” if needed, will be posted and those invited to compete in the “finals” must be present and ready to compete at the designated time.
7. The contest can be held outdoors on a field or indoors in a gym or other suitable area.
8. No equipment is necessary other than a jersey or shirt, shorts or pants, socks and appropriate footwear (indoor or outdoor). Shin guards and protective gear are not necessary, but may be worn if desired.
9. FIFA-approved number four (4) balls will be used for the [U-8], [U-10] and [U-12] Groups. Number five (5) balls will be used for the [U-14] Group.

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10. No article of clothing that displays words, slogans or images that are in poor taste for a youth athletic activity shall be permitted. The Director’s decision in enforcing this rule shall be final.
11. Any contestants conducting themselves in an inappropriate or unsportsmanlike manner or failing to obey the instructions given by the officials will be disqualified.
12. Contestants who are waiting their turn must not interfere with the contestant who is shooting in any way. All other persons should stay at least ten (10) yards behind the contestant who is shooting. At indoor contests or some outdoor contests where ten (10) yards is not possible, a distance determined by the Director will establish a clearly-identified waiting area. No one should be allowed to distract the contestants in any way during the contest. The Director may stop the contest and clear the area if anything interferes with play.
13. The Director shall have the authority to restrict the number of photographers around the immediate contest area and to restrict where they may position themselves. Flash photography is not permitted at any time while the contest is in progress. A staged photo opportunity may be orchestrated by the Director wherein flash photos will be permitted.
14. ALL DECISIONS BY THE DIRECTOR AND CONTEST OFFICIALS ARE FINAL AND NO SPECTATOR OR OTHER PERSON WILL BE PERMITTED TO ARGUE OR INFLUENCE AN OFFICIAL’S DECISION IN ANY WAY.