

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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The Torch  
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Springfield/South County Youth Club  
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It is with mixed emotions that I take up the subject of Carolyn Brennan, who will be retiring from SYC after 23 years as our office manager. Mixed because on the one hand, I consider Carolyn a friend and want her to enjoy her well-deserved retirement, spend time with her family, particularly her grandchildren, and have time to travel and relax. On the other hand, I am a little daunted by the prospect of SYC moving forward without her selfless dedication, extensive knowledge and passion for the club.

Carolyn went from being a parent volunteer to the head of our office staff and for over two decades has been the primary interface between our membership and the club's leadership. Countless families have benefitted from Carolyn's dedication to the club. The Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services staff have on several occasions recognized Carolyn for her outstanding work in communicating and managing the club's relationship with the County with respect to field and gym scheduling. She has been an important point of contact on our numerous Adopt-a-Field and other infrastructure projects. Above all, despite the fact that she has been a salaried employee, her dedication and passion have always been that of a committed volunteer, and her genuine care and concern that the children in our community are provided with quality athletic programs has translated into the betterment of literally thousands of young lives.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful staff, and all of us involved in the leadership of SYC look forward to working with them and the new staff we will bring in to join them, as SYC moves forward. I believe there are big things ahead for the club; we will continue to grow and expand our mission of service through sports to the youth of our community, but whatever we accomplish will be in large part built upon the hard work of Carolyn Brennan for the last 23 years.

Congratulations, Carolyn!



*Neighborhood and Community Services Award awarded to Carolyn Brennan.*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <a href="#">Featured Employee</a> .....    | 2 |
| <a href="#">Job Vacancy</a> .....          | 3 |
| <a href="#">Volunteer Credits</a> .....    | 3 |
| <a href="#">Sports Highlight</a> .....     | 4 |
| <a href="#">Registration</a> .....         | 4 |
| <a href="#">Gym Rules</a> .....            | 5 |
| <a href="#">New Pitching Machine</a> ..... | 6 |

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ◆ 9/30—[Rec Soccer Picture Day](#)
- ◆ 9/30—[Gloves for Poms](#)
- ◆ 10/1—[Dough Raising Day!](#)
- ◆ 10/9—Columbus Day—Office closed.
- ◆ 10/21 - [DC United's Final Match at RFK Stadium - BUY TICKETS](#)
- ◆ 11/4 - [Fall Cheer Pep Rally](#)
- ◆ 11/11—Veteran's Day—Office closed.
- ◆ 11/18-11/19 - Herndon Rec Soccer All Star Cup
- ◆ 11/23-11/24—Thanksgiving – Office closed.

## FEATURED EMPLOYEE — CAROLYN BRENNAN

### *What was SYC like when you started working here over 23 years ago?*

I think the biggest change over the years is SYC's registration process. Back then, all registrations were done *in person* at Washington Irving Middle School on specific Saturdays. Families completed three-part forms, and commissioners distributed those hard copies to their league directors to sort and make teams. Although I didn't like giving up my Saturdays to work the in-person registrations, I very much enjoyed the personal interaction with players, families, and volunteers. My co-workers seated at the registration table were constantly having to track me down when they needed me because I was off talking and catching-up with everyone! When I started working at SYC in 1994, we only offered Basketball, Cheerleading, Football, Boys Lacrosse, Soccer (rec and travel), Softball, Tennis and Bowling. Over the years, we added Volleyball, Rugby, Track, Field Hockey and Girls Lacrosse. I am so proud to have played a small part of helping to add these new sports to our club.

### *What has been the most enjoyable experiences and what won't you miss?*

I find the most enjoyable part of working for SYC for so long has been working closely with such dedicated volunteers who care deeply about our players, sports, and community. As far as what I will not miss- I can honestly say that pulling files and preparing for SYC's annual audit is my least favorite thing to do!

### *What changes would you like to see in the future?*

Additional new sports and owning an indoor facility where our teams could play and practice year-round would be so cool!

### *What would you like people to remember as one of your contributions to the club from*



### *working as an admin assistant and office manager over the past 23 years?*

One of my co-workers once told me, "Carolyn, you are the "mom" of the Club"! I know the history of the club, who to ask to get things done, and I have built meaningful relationships with the sports community in Fairfax County that I hope will last long after my retirement.

### *Is there anything or anyone you want to give a "shout out" to?*

A special thank you to all the volunteers that make our club work. And thank you to the wonderful people I work with now, Nancy, Linda, and Debbie in the office. And thank you to our Board of Directors who have supported the club and the office staff for the last 23 years! I am grateful for the opportunities this job has given me and will certainly miss EVERYONE! Counting down the time and looking forward to spending my days with my precious grandchildren. I'll see many of you on the soccer field in a few short years when they are old enough to play SYC soccer!!!

## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT—OPERATIONS MANAGER

Springfield/South County Youth Club (SYC), one of Northern Virginia's oldest and largest youth clubs, is seeking an experienced *Operations Manager* who is passionate about youth sports. The ideal candidate will be a talented multi-tasker and will possess exceptional customer service skills. The Operations Manager position requires managing SYC's financial operations, infrastructure, technology, personnel/staff, government/business liaisons, facility operations, and administrative management.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide overall support to SYC Board of Directors, Sports Commissioners, and SYC membership.
- Provide direct oversight and management of small SYC office staff. Delegate responsibility for independent planning, designing, carrying out, and evaluating effectiveness of SYC staff efforts in support of SYC customers.
- Provide administration of the facility by controlling access to the warehouse (keys, password), electronic/social media sites, and computers/phones.
- Work directly with Sports Commissioners to assist in the development and monitoring of annual budgets, to include tracking of income and expenditures within their respective sport.
- Manage staff payroll and work directly with accountant, on a weekly basis using QuickBooks.
- Work with outside auditors to support annual SYC financial audit.
- Interface regularly with other youth organizations, local businesses, as well as county and state affiliations to promote, communicate, and proliferate SYC's mission and vision while developing enduring relationships with local business vendors, neighboring youth organizations, Virginia and Fairfax County governmental agencies, Springfield Chamber of Commerce, and Board of Supervisors, as examples.
- Manage SYC IT architecture, SYC registration system, website, mass communication, and social media.
- Continuously monitor and manage process improvement to increase business effectiveness.
- Monitor SYC KidSafe Background Check System each season with volunteer and paid staff support.
- Provide resolution to membership registration issues and challenges in-person, by phone and by email.
- Interface with Sports Commissioners to establish field/facility usage for both practice and game fields/facilities. Work closely with County Representatives to ensure field/facility usage requirements are followed.
- Provide assistance to Sports' Commissioners to review, analyze, and resolve difficult and complex membership/sports program issues.
- Coordinate scheduling, staffing, and notifications for Board of Directors meetings and ensure that Meeting Minutes are taken and distributed to members of the Board of Directors.
- Ensure EEO policies are understood by Board of Directors, Executive Committee, & Commissioners.

### Skills and Qualifications

- Work full-time (Exempt employee status) onsite at the SYC Office/Warehouse in Lorton, VA.
- Proficient with Microsoft office products, general understanding of databases and managing websites.
- General Financial knowledge.
- Management/Supervisory experience preferred.
- Non-profit experience in a youth sports environment preferred.
- Must be able to interface efficiently and effectively with all personnel, both internal and external to SYC.
- Be available to support Board of Directors meetings each month.
- Be available to work occasional Saturdays and/or evening hours throughout the year.
- Exhibit professional and courteous behavior.

Send resume and cover letter to [operationsmanager@sycva.com](mailto:operationsmanager@sycva.com) no later than Oct 1, 2017. No phone calls please.

## Did You Know...Volunteers Receive Volunteer Credits?

Did you know that SYC thanks many of our volunteers with volunteer credits?! Volunteer credits are credits that can be applied as a discount to any future SYC sports registrations. SYC generally issues credits to volunteers about halfway through the season, once the season is well underway. When credits are issued, the volunteer receives an auto-email indicating that their credits are available for use.

The system applies credits based on the family's primary phone number. The volunteer's family primary phone number must match the child's family primary phone number for the system to automatically apply the discount. The discount is shown on the Payment Summary page of registration. Volunteers, if you don't see your discount, don't complete the registration. Give us a call first!

Each sport in SYC has a limited budget, so each sport differs in the specific volunteer positions that are eligible for volunteer credits. In addition, credit amounts vary depending on the volunteer's roles. For more information about credits and SYC's volunteer policy, see [SYC VOLUNTEER POLICY](#) on our website.

SYC is only successful due to our many talented and committed volunteers who have a passion for providing sports to the children in our community. Consider volunteering. You'll find it a rewarding experience, a great way to give back to the community, and a wonderful opportunity to have a positive impact on our young athletes.

Thank you to all of our wonderful SYC volunteers!

### OPEN SPORTS REGISTRATIONS

FALL LACROSSE CLINICS

WINTER BASKETBALL

WINTER CHEER

[REGISTER HERE!](#)



**DONUT  
APPLES**



**YES, PLEASE!  
CLICK  
for Recipe!**

# SPORTS HIGHLIGHT

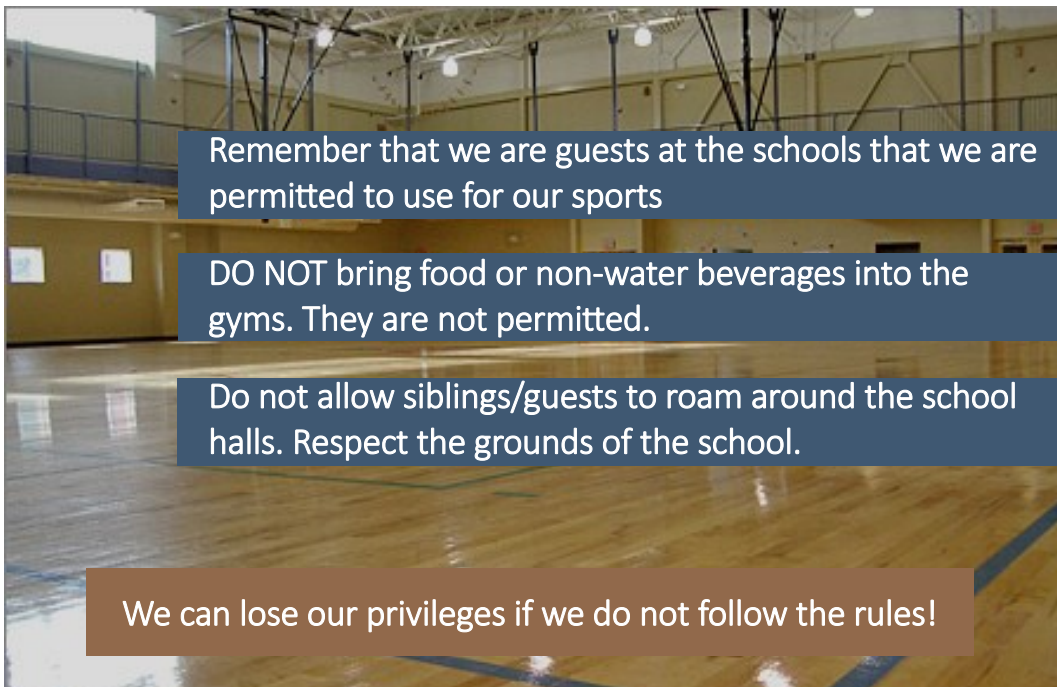


## FOOTBALL



SYC's tackle football program is a no-cut program that teaches the fundamentals of the sport, along with integrity, teamwork, perseverance, dedication, and confidence. Though all of our coaches are volunteers, there is no shortage in the amount of time, patience, and commitment that they instill into our players and program. While we obviously strive to be competitive, our primary focus is ensuring that each and every player is safe and finishes the season better than he or she was when they began. Our hope is that every child who plays tackle football with SYC will take with them some of these values in whatever it is they choose to do in life, be it play football or not.

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.sycva.com/tacklefootball> or our Facebook page @ <https://www.facebook.com/SycFootball/>.



Remember that we are guests at the schools that we are permitted to use for our sports

DO NOT bring food or non-water beverages into the gyms. They are not permitted.

Do not allow siblings/guests to roam around the school halls. Respect the grounds of the school.

We can lose our privileges if we do not follow the rules!

## New Pitching Machine Donated to SYC Softball!

Thank you Mr. Will Smith of RavenTek in Herndon for donating a Jugs pitching machine to our softball program! Mr. Smith also volunteered to run a hitting clinic for our players. Thanks again for your generous donation!



Newsletter Sponsors for 1/2 Page Ads Available—Contact [Nancy Cannon](#) for prices and availability.



MISSION STATEMENT: Springfield/South County Youth Club provides athletic programs for boys and girls ages 4 to 19 that promote character development, good sportsmanship, and exemplary behavior. We strive to establish a nurturing and supportive environment which reflects, respects, and celebrates our differences, while embracing the richness of diversity within our membership.