

A Message from the President



Happy Holidays from Roseville

My sister came to visit me this last summer and as we were catching up, she lamented that in her new job as a school principal, her "days are so long, but the years pass so fast!". Those simple words of wisdom ring true for so many of us.

Because here it is December, and my sister was right, the year passed so fast after many long days. I already don't remember everything I did in the early days of January taking over the presidency of this great club, but I do remember the feeling. Excited, nervous, yet confident.

Excited, because since my very first day of coaching in the recreational program back in 2009, I knew that this club was special, the people, the community, the parks, the passion for soccer. I was nervous about letting all of you down, especially the kids, the traditions and the countless hours that now generations have invested into this club. But as someone who has been here for nearly 15 years and has the perspective of 'what works well' and 'what can be improved', I was confident that 'my vision for the club' together with your help, would be guided by a mix of tradition, innovation, and the right intentions.

Re-reading my first email to the club from February, I must commend the board & staff, and of course our COO Evin Nadaner, for the tremendous progress we made towards our 5-year plan. In the true spirit of a year-end message, here is a quick recap:

- **We added staff, on and off the field**, for a more sustainable club structure.
- **We offered more coach education clinics than ever before**, resulting in improved coaching skills and with that, a better experience for many of our players.
- **We enhanced the recreational soccer experience** by offering ALL coaches a comprehensive season-roadmap with weekly training sessions.
- **We enhanced the competitive soccer playing experience with a record number of teams**, offering access from Bronze to Premier leagues, and am proud to say that starting in 2024, we also will have a team competing in the NPL for the first time!
- **We started rebranding the club under one name, both the recreational and competitive side**, to better reflect who we are, with one logo. Roseville Soccer Club. Because **WE ARE ONE**. One Philosophy, with the same methods, principles, and style of play. Logo to be revealed in January.
- **First Teams:** As you may have learned from emails last week, starting in 2024, Roseville will have a female semi-professional soccer team competing in the [WPSL](#), and a men's team starting in 2025. Right here, minutes from where you live!!
 - **Roseville players now have access- and the ability- to play for their home club**, from U6 grassroots levels all the way up to semi-pro.
 - **Our semi-pro teams will expose our players to college scouts from all over the country, right here in Roseville!**

- **Our 'first teams' will afford us an affiliation academy.** If you want to play for our first team(s), JOIN the Roseville Soccer Academy! More info soon.
- **You will have Iron Rose home games to attend next Spring/Summer,** rooting for your home town club.
- **Player Development Pathways** Our U15+ player development pathways currently lead through **Germany** (boys) and starting in 2024, to **France** for female players. We are also working on a connection to **other European countries.** Education first, then soccer. Combining both is the key to success. **Stay tuned...**
- **Facilities** Our pursuit for access to an Indoor/Outdoor training complex and building a clubhouse/facility where parents can hang out while their players train is still a work in progress, but with **City's 10-turf field complex coming in 2025,** we will soon have access to a year round training facility allowing us to expand our program, for which we are already in the planning stages, incl. the possibility of a **recreational spring league.**
- **Sponsorship** We continue to pursue corporate sponsors on the national and local community level to assist with player **financial aid, to off-set club expenses and to invest in our players.** If you have ties to any companies who may be interested, please send them our way.

In closing, when at a recent day-job related holiday mixer I heard the phrase 'trying to make space' to explain how we struggle to slow down and enjoy the holiday season, I knew exactly what that meant. I, too, am trying to 'make space' to get myself into the Holiday spirit by listening to Christmas songs, calling childhood friends and catching up with family members that live far away.

It also is a time for reflection. The first thought that comes to my mind is '**Thank You**'. Thank you for entrusting me as a volunteer to lead this club, thank you to my fellow volunteer board members and paid staff for their support and tireless hard work, thank you for YOUR business, and your patience on some of those days where our club perhaps struggled to provide you with the experience that you and your kids deserve. Like in any relationship, there are good days and bad days, which is why we need to continuously pick each other up & keep moving forward... TOGETHER!

Speaking of together, for 2024, let us all never forget that the ultimate goal is to watch our kids play, and fall in love with the game of soccer, with a smile on their face, in this great community of ours.