



Club teams Onetouchables (left) and South VN, of the greater Portland Soccer District face off against one another on Sunday Nov. 13. Both teams are classified as Division-4.

Club sports make use of CCC fields

By Matt Senn
The Clackamas Print

Who are these strange people who are taking over our campus? All over Clackamas Community College there are sports teams made up of youth students that look like they're six. These teams that you have seen are just a portion of the groups that use our campus.

"We have tons of groups who use our facilities," said Jim Martineau, CCC athletic director, organizations alike that are using the campus facilities for many events ranging from gymnastics or the Relay For Life to adult softball leagues.

You may have seen many of these teams playing softball or other sports on the back fields by Clairmont or a men's soccer team practicing by DeJardin. Maybe you've even seen a youth sports game going on during a Saturday morning.

Some students wonder, "how do I get on to that team, does the college even have a men's soccer team?" or "man the college must be desperate for new enrollees." A few of those groups are CCC Associated Student Government, the Three Rivers and Pacific high school leagues, North Clackamas Christian HS, OC Youth Soccer, along with several soccer leagues, the Portland Baseball Club, EOT Girls Basketball Tournaments, Oregon City Chapter of Relay For Life, dance competitions, wrestling clubs, an adult softball league and Clackamas County milesfour mile walk/run.

In order for these teams to be able to use the campus, they have to go through the athletic department and Assistant Athletic Director Kayla Steen.

"They contact Kayla, she lets them know what space is available and what the prices are to rent them," said Doty Coburn, athletic department secretary. Coburn also mentioned that Steen is in charge of scheduling for all the organizations.

During the fall, there are many high school cross country teams that use Clackamas because of the college's central location and

because many of these schools don't have an area large enough for cross country. Recently the West Linn and Milwaukie High School teams have used the course.

Many high schools have used Clackamas not only to hold meets, matches and games but also to use the college's facilities for practice purposes. "We have used the tennis courts for practice many times and sometimes we use the gym for basketball practice in November," said Bruce Reece, Oregon City High School Athletic Director.

Other sports like tennis, youth soccer and the various adult leagues will most often happen on the weekends. "[These events happen] all though the year and summer, a lot [of the events] occur on weekends as well," said Martineau.

The college often offers the facilities for use by other organizations as a way to be more involved in the community and as a great recruiting opportunity.

"We get huge benefits [from] having several thousand high school athletes on our campus each year at different events. It definitely helps out with recruiting," said Martineau.

Recruiting and public involvement isn't the only plus that Clackamas gets out of its athletic facilities. Many of the groups using CCC pay for the gymnasium, field or court they use.

"We do charge for most events mostly to cover the cost associated," said Martineau. "The rates for rental vary depending on several factors: Which facility is needed? Does the event require [overtime] for custodial or campus safety? Does the event require a supervisor from the college? We don't charge the youth soccer league to use the fields. If it is a charity event, we generally don't charge. If we do charge it would be just to cover the cost of the staff."

The benefits to the college run beyond money and recruiting, they're also a service to the students. You can't join the high school teams (you could try, but your chances are probably pretty slim) but there are adult sports leagues and youth sports clubs that can be found online. You're already at CCC, why not take advantage of it?

Balance of power shifting in NWAACC womens soccer



By John William Howard
Sports Editor

Normally a fledgling program takes time to build a legacy. They struggle for years in futility until they finally strike gold and begin to gain traction. Other times, the complete opposite is true. Some teams hit the ground running and find immediate success. One of those teams is the still rather recently formed Clackamas Community College women's soccer program.

Started up in 2002, Cougar's soccer finished the season an impressive 15-5-2, taking second in the powerhouse Southern Region in just their first season of play. Since then, the Cougars have made even more progress, winning an impressive six region titles and three NWAACC titles from 2004-2011. Clackamas has made it to the final four every year except 2006, when they lost to the eventual NWAACC champion Spokane CC in the first round and in 2009.

This year Clackamas has again won their region title and will be hosting a quarterfinal match but there are some questions as to the strength of the southern region versus years past. Yes, three teams from the NWAACC south, Clackamas, Lane and Clark have all advanced past the first round but the days of complete dominance seem to be behind us. The East and South aren't alone in women's soccer any more.

That's not to say that the North and West haven't been there. The two conferences have seen plenty of appearances in the final four and championship games but neither conference has won a title since 2003. That was before the NWAACC split into four divisions and the team that won, Northern Idaho, is no longer a member of the league.

The balance of power seems to be shifting. The South and East are still dominant, accounting for five of the eight teams still alive but the Northern region is beginning to rear its head with two representatives

and an impressive 2-0 defeat of the East's number three seeded Yakima Valley. The South is having a down year, coming in second to last in non-league play just above the pitiful western region.

Part of that shift comes from a switch that the NWAACC made a few seasons ago. It used to be that the South would play the North and the East would play the West. It wasn't uncommon to see a 10-0 win for a southern or Eastern team and both divisions dominated until region play began. Now the South and East face off and the north and West face off. This pitches the two strong conferences against one another and the two weak conferences against one another.

That creates a problem. Squads from the power regions that would normally roll to easy victories in non-league games are starting to lose more often when matched up against better competition and teams that would normally get steamrolled are able to make headway when playing much weaker competition. That can create the illusion that the south has faltered and the North has taken its place, if the casual fan isn't careful.

But is it really incorrect? Could the perceived success in the Northern region turn the tables on the NWAACC and create a new power conference? I think so.

People tend to look at wins and losses rather than the strength of schedule, so a team's attractiveness to recruits will be based on that team's record, regardless of who they play. An Everett CC team that normally would have finished 0-3 against the powerful East now finishes at a respectable 2-1. All of the sudden, soccer players from around the area take a second look at the team that won the "strong" North division and back away from teams in the South and West. What started artificially now begins to gain some substance as the north continues to improve and work toward its first NWAACC title in eight seasons.

Time will tell. It could be that the south will bounce back and the North and west will fall into mediocrity again but now all eyes turn to the last three rounds of the playoffs. That's when the true test of superiority will be taken. Will the North finally rise to the top? Will the South reclaim the NWAACC title for the first time since Clackamas won in 2007? Or will the East continue its reign? We'll just have to wait and see.

2011 NWAACC Women's Soccer Non-League Play

Division	Record	Points
East	13-7-2	41
North	11-6-5	38
South	4-10-4	16
West	3-11-2	11

Upcoming Events



	Volleyball NWAACC Championships Clackamas vs. Tacoma @ Mt. Hood CC	Time/date 9 a.m. Thursday Nov. 17
	Women's Soccer Final Four Game 1 Final Four Game 2	Time/date 10:30 a.m. Saturday Nov. 19 1 p.m. Saturday Nov. 19
	Men's Basketball Clackamas vs. Linfield JV	Time/date 7 p.m. Friday Nov. 18



All photos taken by John William Howard The Clackamas Print

The goalkeeper for South VN clears the ball after making a save. The Greater Portland Soccer District features 12 teams that play on Sundays around the area.