

ANZA - IJSL  
REPORT FOR THE SEASON 1992 - 1993

Last years rumours that the Portsdown Road fields were to be closed down caused considerable consternation, but fortunately we completed the season. This year our worst fears have come to pass, in that the Sports Council in their infinite wisdom decided to turn over half the football pitches to an archery target area. This happened at the beginning of the season, and it meant splitting up our games between two venues. The situation has become worse in that the whole of the Portsdown Road area will be denied to us after Easter, and all of the remaining cup games, and all of the medals days will be held at Tanglin Fields (Minden Road).

The beautification of the pavillion at Portsdown Road goes on apace, and mayhap we may enjoy the benefit next year if we get "our" pitches back.

We will not know until at least July which pitches will be available for soccer next year and we are monitoring the situation closely. It is easy to be cynical when the finals are being held away from Portsdown Road for the first time in most participants memories, but ANZA soccer will continue.

The programmed matches commenced earlier this year in an attempt to gain a couple of spare days to compensate for the rain, and was a successful experiment.

All of the groups were quickly filled, with a large waiting list developing for the younger age groups. This was despite expanding the 5 - 6's from six teams to eight. Subject to numbers, it is hoped to be able to field eight teams in the 7 year age group next season also.

The under 14 league was reduced to four teams as in previous seasons, with some of the older group playing at UWC.

It shows the continued level of parental support with nearly 600 registered players competing in 36 teams.

We are still short of girl players, only one or two per league are playing at present, and the standard is equal to that of any of the boys.

There were two tournaments which are now regular fixtures in the calendar, in which the under 12's took part.

One is the Jepun Hitam tournament, in which the team performed very well, coming third behind Milo and Japan, the other is the South East Asia Youth Soccer Tournament. The SEA tournament this year was held in Kuala Lumpur, and the under 12's and under 15's played against teams from Bangkok, Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur.

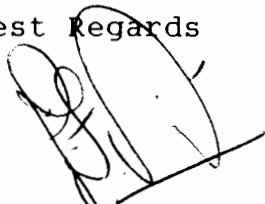
Both teams came a creditable second, as we had an very young team in each case compared with the opposition. Next year the tournament will be in Bangkok, who won both competitions this year, so competition will be strong.

Thanks must go to the coaches during both tournaments, they were Mr Andrew Bennett and Mr Vlad Budnik for the under 15's, and Mr John Palmer and Mr Brian Ollier assisting yours truly with the under 12's.

Thanks must also go to Mr Tony Shield who left Singapore at the beginning of January to work in Hong Kong. He has been involved with ANZA Soccer for a number of years, and was Chairman for the past two seasons. We hope to see him again at the end of season function where we can express our appreciation personally.

Thanks and appreciation are extended to all who contributed to make ANZA soccer successful throughout another eventful season, and co-operated in the smooth running behind the scenes. The co-ordinators, coaches and referees give of their time freely and deserve more praise than they usually get on Saturdays!

Best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P.F. Dixon', written over a horizontal line.

P.F. Dixon  
ANZA - IJSL Chairman