

## 2013 FALL SOCCER REPORT

First, I would like to thank all the lodges, ER's, and soccer committee persons for all your hard work and efforts towards this wonderful youth activity. It's Elks like you that show the fine people of your communities, that Elks Care and Elks Share.

We will be holding our annual State Soccer Shoot Championships this coming October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>. It will again be held here in Jefferson City. We will be serving a pizza party for all the traveling soccer families here at the Lodge 513. <sup>October 4th & 5th</sup> Saturday morning we will hold the shoot followed by an awards ceremony, and luncheon. All participants will receive Elks Drug Awareness literature, Certificate of participation, Elks Drug awareness soccer balls, Medals, pins, and the winners will receive trophies. Always a great time is had by everyone.

Then we will again be taking our Missouri winners to the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Elks Mid-America Regional Shoot being held in ElDorado Kansas on Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>. That is one of the finest programs I've been fortunate enough to be involved with. It is a full weekend of fun and games. As with all of our soccer shoots whether it be local, district, state or regional, everything including lodging and food, is of no cost to any of the families. All being funded by our State Elks Association.

Today, soccer is the worlds most popular sport. It is predicted that soccer may be only one generation away from being a top sport in our nation. All Elks should be taking advantage of this opportunity to be more visible. Be loud and be proud. I can't think of a better way to be more visible, than to have our Elks banner flying at every soccer field in every Elks community.

One of our charges, as Elks and citizens, is to provide wholesome, character building, out of school activities, to the youth in each of our communities. Soccer, as well as all of our Elks youth activities, is an opportunity for us to make a positive impression of Elkdom in all our cities.

Surely your lodge has soccer mom's and dad's in it's membership. May I suggest that this is a perfect opportunity for you to get new membership involved in lodge activities. We all know that "involved" members make better Elks, and fewer new members drop their membership, the first year, if we get them involved and make them feel appreciated.

I wish to thank Rich for his support, <sup>&</sup> Brian for his future support of this program. And as always Otto for all his encouragement.

Thank You

Kevin Cook

