

ASA Travel Club Player Fee 2010-2011

May 2, 2010

To: ASA Travel Families

In the past few weeks the ASA staff and the Travel Committee have been meeting to plan the budget for the next soccer year. Unfortunately the current year has proved to be very difficult for us financially. The move to a club-centric model has led to new expenditures, the recession has led to an increased demand on our financial aid resources, we had fewer fully paying players than expected, and the County is increasingly removing services that ASA now has to pay for.

As a result, the player fee for 2010/2011 will increase. The new player fee for all players will be **\$1,650**. This is an increase of approximately 15%. In addition, the tournament component is being eliminated from the fee. Going forward players will be responsible for all tournament expenses. We also, reluctantly, have to reduce the amount of financial aid we give out.

There may also be an additional fee placed on each player in ASA by the County. We do not know the how much this will be but it will probably be in the range of **\$16.00** for the year.

Personally, this budget cycle has been the most painful I have been involved with. We all fully realize that these increases may provide additional hardships for families in our community. But we feel that our job is to provide a realistic budget that allows the Club to meet its financial obligations for the next fiscal year.

The Travel Committee and ASA feel confident that we are providing a very competitive program for Arlington travel soccer players. We have researched neighboring travel clubs and have found that our fees are similar to comparable programs. We have generally found lower fees in Clubs that have yet to move to a more centralized model to meet IRS regulations.

Moving forward, ASA needs to put much more effort into fund-raising. ASA has formed a fund-raising committee and it is my hope that we will begin to see a sizable increase in fund raising revenue next year. We are actively seeking volunteers, particularly with professional expertise in fund-raising.

The ASA Travel Committee is committed to building a transparent and collaborative program, if families would like to meet about our fees, please let me know. If there is enough demand we can set up a meeting. Also, please remember that the Travel Committee monthly meetings are open and anyone can attend.

Richard Easby
ASA Travel Committee Chair