



Fall 2026

Newsletter



BWSC was formed as a 501(c)3 non-profit in 2025 and is driven by volunteers with the goal of promoting, organizing, and providing walk soccer opportunities in the Greater Seattle Area.

Mission Statement

To provide lifelong opportunities to play soccer by modifying the game from running to walking, allowing soccer players of differing abilities, ages and fitness to continue to play the game they love in a healthy, dynamic and safe fashion.

Bigfoot Walk Soccer Club Board

President: Janet Charnley

Vice President: Dawn Blomberg

Secretary: Pat Walker

Treasurer: Karen Newell

At Large Members: Karen D'Ewart, Jimmy Dunn, Virginia Gleason, Tricie Hunter, Roberta Reardon & Julie Thomer

Advisory Members: Joy Cooper, Chris Hass, Jerry Lustofin, Kate O'Malley, Ted Over, Kelly Thompson & Roland Rice

Where and when we play:

- **Starfire Monday** 10:00AM Currently on hiatus - Site Manager: Don Piquette
- **Starfire Wednesday** 10:00AM - Site Manager: Don Piquette
- **Grass Lawn Friday** 10:00AM - Site Managers: Janet Charnley, Pat Walker, Chris Hass & Joy Cooper
- **Steel Lake Friday** 10:30 AM - Site Managers: Roberta Reardon, Roy Pasbrig & Jimmy Dunn
- **Eastside Sunday** 3:00PM or 5:00PM in Bellevue at Robinswood Park - Site Manager: Pat Walker
- **NEW in September! – Seattle Tuesday** 10:30 Lower Woodland Park #2 – Site Managers: Pat Walker, Chrissy Vaughn & Bonnie Rough

Check the schedule on our website for times & locations near you!

[bigfootwalksoccer.com](https://www.bigfootwalksoccer.com)

Come Join Us This Fall at Our New Seattle Location!

Starting September 15, 2026, **BWSC** and the **Lifelong Recreation** program of the **Seattle Parks and Recreation** will be offering walking soccer sessions for players 50+ at 10:30AM on Tuesdays at Lower Woodland Park.

Registration for the first 10-week session is now open and can be found here: <https://form.jotform.com/260685961812162> or our website [bigfootwalksoccer.com](https://www.bigfootwalksoccer.com).



Seattle
Parks & Recreation

Letter from the President

The BWSC board has been working hard to establish ourselves as a fully functioning entity so that you may continue to play the game you love! Check out the Organizational Updates below to read about some of our efforts that move us toward achieving this goal.

We are also getting out into the world (well, the Puget Sound area) and letting others know about us! Wow, a new program in Seattle! Did you see us at the Rhodies or at the Senior Games? Were you in the video? Yes, walking soccer in Edmonds! Check it all out!

Please also take a look at some of our housekeeping regarding procedures, rules, and conduct as these topics affect us all.

Finally, thank you to all our volunteers, from the Site Managers and their assistants, Board of Directors, clinic and demonstration participants, all the way to our three new coordinators!

See you on the pitch!

-Janet

Organizational Update: Transitioning Management from StayFit Soccer to BWSC

Extra shout-out to Jerry Lustofin and StayFit Soccer for continuing to support us during this transition period. As part of this process we have:

- Established ourselves as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- Set up an organizational structure with a volunteer board of governance and standing committees
- Written and approved By-Laws and numerous other policies and procedures
- Opened a bank account (we have to pay for equipment somehow!)
- Explored, tested and adopted a new communications/registration portal – **GameTime Hero**
- Worked with several of the Parks and Recreation departments where we play with the goal of contracting for the field rentals directly
- Created a website bigfootwalksoccer.com
- Marketed ourselves via clinics, showcases, tournaments, stickers, t-shirts...
- Recruited volunteers... Maybe even you!

Organizational Update: Volunteer Roles Filled

We are thrilled and grateful for the following people who have stepped up to fill critical volunteer positions:

- **Jerry Lustofin** will partner with the Rules and Judiciary Committee as our **Referee Coordinator**
- **Diane Perry** and **Kelly Thompson** will partner with the Game & Site Management Committee as co-**Field Coordinators**
- **Tricie Hunter** will team with the Governance Committee as our **Player Registrar**
- **Chrissy Vaughn** and **Bonnie Rough** will be our co-**Site Managers** for the new Seattle site

Give these people a BIG thank you when you see them on the pitch!

Organizational Update: Call for Volunteers

We could still use help to lighten the load at all of our venues. Join us to help keep the games running smoothly!

Site Manager / Assistant Site Manager

What You'll Do:

- Work with Board, Site Managers & Coordinators to maintain seasonal calendar
- Pre-game prep including monitoring and maintaining game management system for RSVPs & Drop-ins
- Game day duties include assigning teams, setting up field(s), handling announcements, taking down fields, checking in with referees, etc.
- Post-game communication as appropriate

Expected Time Commitment: 20 hours/season (approximately 45 minutes per game day)

What We Are Looking For:

- People who love the game and want to share it!
- Excellent organizational and communication skills

Why You'll Love Being the Site Manager: As a volunteer you will have free access to all games at the site you manage

If you are interested in joining BWSC team, contact Pat Walker at plwalker521@gmail.com

In the News!

Half-Time with West Seattle Rhodies FC

BWSC teamed with the **West Seattle Rhodies FC** for a cross-promotion event on May 24th. BWSC ran a mini game at half-time to promote the club and our beautiful game. See pictures on our website: bigfootwalksoccer.com.



www.wsrhodiesfc.com



Washington State Senior Games

This year's tournament provided a fantastic opportunity for BWSC players from different venues to play together, building new friendships and camaraderie across the league.

In unusually rainy August weather, three teams took the pitch, with the Golden Boots ultimately walking away with the gold medals. The undefeated roster included: Jim Dunham, Greg Kerns, Tracy Bobsin, Susan Sommerman, Christina Arreola, Rita Oster, Mary Gager, and Tim Greene. Tracy Bobsin sparked the offense with a multi-goal performance.

Beyond the competition, the tournament included special family connections on the field. Two mothers, Sandy Sullivan and Janine Gillespie, had the opportunity to play alongside their children, Mike Sullivan and Karen Green.

Grass Lawn Interviews and Videos

Mike Blakey's video of Grass Lawn interviews and scrimmages is now available on our website. Click [HERE](#) to view. Thanks, Mike, for the film and Chrissy and AT for the interviews!

Clinics in Edmonds!

We will be conducting two clinics with Edmonds Park & Recreation in September. Clinics will be held at Civic Park in downtown Edmonds from 10:30 to noon on Wednesday September 23rd and Wednesday September 30th.

Registration through Edmonds Parks & Recreation opens September 1st

Link: [Program detail | Edmonds Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Online Services](#)

Playing Conditions

We wanted to inform you of how we will manage our walking soccer games based on the air quality index and high temperatures. It is important that each player makes their own decision about whether to play. We will follow the parks department's recommendations or mandates if they post them.

High Temperatures:

We will adjust game lengths if temperatures are high and add extra hydration breaks. For instance, we may play three 20-minute periods or four 15-minute periods with breaks between each period. We may also adjust the field size.

Air Quality:

We monitor the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (<https://pscleanair.gov/>) and the U.S. EPA Air Quality Index (AQI) on [AirNow.gov](#).

- AQI ≤ 100 – Games proceed as scheduled.
- AQI 101–150 (Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups) – Games will proceed as scheduled. Individual players should decide whether to play. Sensitive groups include people with heart or lung disease, and older adults are recommended to reduce exposure by choosing less strenuous activities or shortening the amount of time they are active outdoors.
- If the AQI is over 151 (Unhealthy, very unhealthy), we will follow Parks Department policy and public health recommendations.

If you decide not to play, please change your status on Team Cowboy and/or email or text:

- Eastside Sunday – Pat (plwalker@mindspring.com, (425) 210-6308)
- Starfire - Don (piquettedon@yahoo.com, (206) 478-0903)
- Lower Woodland Tuesday – Chrissy (chrissyvaughn@gmail.com, (425) 442-0331)
- Grass Lawn Friday – Janet (charnley1@mindspring.com, (425) 418-0342)
- Steel Lake Friday – Roberta (rr@nventure.com, (253) 677-1087)

Website: Know Before You Go!

We have a new posting on our website called “[Know Before You Go!](#)” (Or find it in the “INFO” drop down menu on our website.) This one-page document goes over:

- How games are structured including hyperlink to the rules
- What to bring
- Communications about schedule and/or field changes

Rules Highlight: Play Safe!

A few of the walk soccer rules are designed specifically to enhance player safety. At first these may seem excessive, but when we keep in mind that the goal of walk soccer is to allow players of all abilities to continue to play the sport they love, we can see that these are all common sense and don't detract from the “beautiful” part of the beautiful game.

- Height of the ball is restricted to under 5 feet (Fouls & Misconduct Sec. 2), and its companion rule, no heading of the ball (F&M Sec. 3). Let's preserve those brain cells!
- No “blasting” of the ball in a manner that could cause injury to other players (F&M Sec. 4). Our balance, response time, and recovery aren't what they used to be.
- No physical contact (F&M Sec. 5). This includes shoulder charge, pushing, holding, backing into or stepping across another player, or obstruction.

We all want to get up the next day without bruises or needing to take handfuls of pain relievers.

[Bigfoot Walk Soccer Rules](#)

Code of Conduct: Respect

Did you know that every time you register to play with us you agree to a Code of Conduct? We have all agreed to establish and maintain an environment of respect to be practiced, both on and off the pitch, by our players, referees, and coaches.

- We have had a few incidents of disrespect directed at our referees. This is not acceptable! If you have issues or “suggestions” for the referees, please funnel them to your site managers.

Yes, “we just want to play,” but not at the expense of others. Please remember what amateur sports are all about - Fun, Fitness, and Friendship.

Thank You!

Bigfoot Walk Soccer Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit (tax 39-221-2211). Our fees cover only a portion of our costs.

Please consider a donation to help us maintain our elevated level of play! [DONATE Here!](#)

Thank you from the bottom of our soccer loving hearts!!!