

Dear HSC family and community:

I am writing to offer some information regarding our club location as well as some history and plans that are in the works for the future of our community soccer family.

**History**

In early 2006 Utz and Hanover Soccer Club entered into a 10-yr lease for the current Utz field space. Clark’s fields were leased to us, with Utz as our sponsor, at a later time approximately 5-6 years ago.

The lease was any non-profit, volunteer-based organizations dream. A local business supporting us through development of a beautiful field location at no start-up cost to the club! The only conditions were that once established the club would maintain the fields at their own cost, which we did through registration fees and that Utz would guarantee field space for 10 years only. As quick math shows, we are now 5 years beyond our 10-year lease.

Our club’s relationship with Utz has always been positive as they’ve continued to support us in other ways through many more donations and we know we’ve continued to keep a great soccer experience local and affordable for thousands of families. We’ve seen kids who played through our program come back in high school and college as referees, trainers and even coaches! A true full circle community effort!

**Current communications**

In May, Utz came to our board to inform us that they plan to expand their plant operations and that expansion will take that building and parking well into the soccer field space, making it unusable for continued soccer play. While this is going to require our club to relocate, yes, our board acknowledges and is forever grateful for the partnership that has allowed for so much growth of this sport to remain in Hanover. In truth, it is probably noticed by our members that more and more tractor trailers are present in the current parking space and that it’s slowly becoming less safe for our additional traffic to add to the congestion.

Growth is a positive thing and we are proud to be associated with a company that has benefited the local economy for 100 years!

**Planning for the future**

We reached out to the Conewago Township Maintenance Manager who was happy to facilitate the start of discussion around our club being a potential fit with the township’s Plum Creek Community Park (located at Mt Pleasant and Airport Rds).

In June, I attended the Board of Supervisors workshop meeting where I presented the attached document to begin said discussion. The meeting lasted approx. 45minutes where I gave some club history, and assured them of our commitment to keeping our non-profit group for the community kids and families benefit.

You can find video of the meeting on the township’s facebook page. Dated June 21st, BOS workshop.

<https://www.facebook.com/conewagotwp/videos/514185112963036>

I also met with the Conewago Valley Soccer club board members who we currently work with to provide “Super Soccer Sundays” to our u8, u10 and u12 intramural soccer teams. The teams look forward to this weekend every season as it allows them to have their first TOURNAMENT experience and it’s always a fun time. Our two clubs are excited about the prospect of being even more local to each other which would provide more collaboration opportunities to benefit the local kids. We are both non-profit, volunteer-based clubs, serving our local and neighboring towns for the love of the game.

We currently play on 15 acres and park on 4 acres of land between Utz and Clarks fields. We have requested an approximate 20-acre spot of land of the 104-acre park with intent to take some maintenance responsibility off of the township by maintaining the space we use just as we do now on Kindig Lane.

I have requested our club be back on the August BOS workshop meeting agenda to continue this conversation.

In closing, we are adding a section to our website in the next week to include a section about club developments to keep our families and community in the loop.

Thank you for your continued faith in our club and help in encouraging your child(ren), grandchild(ren) to get outside and put a ball at their feet!

Yours in soccer,

Amy Redding, President

Hanover Soccer Club