

VolunteerHub Achieves the Goals of Midwestern Soccer Clubs

up the 'jobs,' which takes about one to two hours initially," explains Rudibaugh. "[Then the coordinator] just checks on the site randomly for sign-up, about 10-15 minutes a week."

Not only has VolunteerHub streamlined Ohio Premier's volunteer coordination process, but it has also boosted volunteer statistics. Here is Ruth's outlook on recruiting parent volunteers: "If you want someone to do something, you have to make it as simple as possible for them to do it!" VolunteerHub is helping Ohio Premier achieve that goal. Since implementing its "Hub," the organization has seen an increase in volunteer sign-ups. "Volunteers who have worked in the past love the ease of the new system. [They can sign up] at their leisure, from home in front of their schedules. It makes it very convenient for parents," Ruth comments. Ohio Premier has also noticed a decrease in volunteer no-shows. "I would say this is due to the ability to print out their job description and their location and time," Ruth says.

What features does Ruth personally like best about VolunteerHub? "How easy it is to manage internally and externally," she replies. "Parents need to be able to navigate through a site that is user-friendly. [VolunteerHub] is user-friendly!"

❖ continued on back

Two large soccer organizations in America's heartland have found an answer to volunteer coordination in the form of VolunteerHub, an online scheduling application that provides ease of use and convenience for both event coordinators and volunteers. Read on to discover how these clubs have streamlined scheduling hundreds of volunteers for multi-day events.

Ohio Premier Girls Soccer Club—Dublin, Ohio

"If you manage hundreds of volunteers for your event, this is a must-have product," advises Ruth Rudibaugh, Director of Operations at Ohio Premier Girls Soccer Club. Last year the Dublin, Ohio-based organization turned to "the Hub" as a volunteer coordination solution for the OP Invitational, an annual two-day soccer tournament it hosts each September. "[The event] requires a great deal of volunteerism to make it a success," explains Ruth.

The club counts on its members' parents to provide those volunteer hours. With approximately 450 members, Ohio

Premier estimates its potential volunteer pool to be around 900 individuals (two parents per player). When asked about the days before online volunteer registration, she comments, "We had roughly four separate coordinators contacting their respective parents . . . via email, telephone, and on the field to sign up. It was a great deal of time and effort, and parents were not prepared to just sign up on the spot." Then Ohio Premier learned of VolunteerHub. Since implementing the online scheduling application, volunteer coordination time has been drastically reduced. "We now have one volunteer coordinator who sets



SOLUTION AT A GLANCE

VolunteerHub

Dramatically reduces the amount of administrative work involved in scheduling volunteers.

Provides instant online access 24/7 for both administrators and volunteers.

Automatically emails registration verifications, reminders, and “thank you” notes.

Increases registration by enabling volunteers to sign up quickly and easily.

Improves program coordination by monitoring and restricting the number of volunteers expected.

Manages groups who supply volunteers and records which groups a given volunteer belongs to.

Provides a hosted solution with servers monitored by support staff in a secure facility 24/7. There is nothing to install or maintain.

Lets volunteers update their own contact information, keeping the database current and up-to-date.

Assists with record-keeping by tracking and reporting volunteer hours.



Greater Libertyville Soccer Association—Libertyville, Illinois

Just a few hundred miles away in Illinois, VolunteerHub is also scoring big with the Greater Libertyville Soccer Association (GLSA). For the past three years, the organization has put its Hub into play to coordinate volunteers for the tournaments it hosts. Each Memorial Day, GLSA runs the Libertyville Cup. It is the largest single-site tournament in the Midwest, with 340 teams competing on 22 fields over a brief three and a half days. GLSA also holds an Octoberfest competition on Columbus Day, filling soccer fields with 300 teams. “These are multi-day events with a multitude of shifts and job descriptions,” explains GLSA Board Secretary Sue Schory. In fact, each event requires the help of over 500 volunteers.

Like Ohio Premier, GLSA also depends on the members’ parents to staff these events. The organization requires four volunteer hours per player each season. “Our participants are required to fulfill a commitment or pay a required buy-out fee. We attempt to track exemptions, completions and no-shows as well as scheduled volunteers. We deal with over 500 volunteers in a very short span of time. [Before using VolunteerHub] tracking and scheduling were very difficult,” states Schory.

After learning of VolunteerHub on a website for non-profits, Schory’s association decided to use the online scheduling program to manage its tournament volunteers. “While it is still time intensive—approx-

mately 25 hours per week in the 3 weeks prior to the tournament—it is a much more efficient and accurate way to track volunteers,” Schory comments. “[VolunteerHub] allows volunteer autonomy and accountability. The volunteers have control.... The majority of our members appreciate the convenience of self-scheduling,” she continues. Sue reports that GLSA also has noticed a decline in scheduling errors since implementing the management software. ❖

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Get details at www.VolunteerHub.com or call (877) 482-3340. Pricing starts at \$49.95 per month and scales with the number of active users registered with your VolunteerHub website. A free trial is available.

VolunteerHub is a product of Carr Engineering, Inc., developers of web-based solutions for automating and streamlining organizational workflow. Since 2003, over 200 customers worldwide have used Carr Engineering’s products to manage their front-line operations.

Carr Engineering, Inc.
5433 Haverhill Drive, Dublin, Ohio 43017
Email: info@volunteerhub.com