“Grove City has taken huge strides in its men’s soccer program and facility in recent years. The difference in the quality of the field and surroundings between our first game there in 2000 and our return trip two years later was remarkable. The final phase of planned improvements will make the facility a premier venue for hosting NCAA events.”

David Brandt
Head Men’s Soccer Coach, Messiah College
History of the Grove City College Soccer Program

The Grove City College men’s soccer program is a study in teamwork. Since its inception in 1938, the game and the players have changed, but the idea of pulling together to reach a goal has remained constant. It is that common ingredient that defines the program and the men who have contributed to its success. In the history of the program, there have been just 12 losing seasons, and the 2005 season ended in a stellar fashion with a Presidents’ Athletic Conference title win. No small achievement for an independent college that believes athletics should enhance and compliment academics—not overshadow them.

As a result, men’s soccer has become one of the premier sports programs at Grove City College. By emphasizing team talent over individual performance, coaches have turned players into a unit of leaders. This approach has consistently inspired players to be competitive as well as to enhance their own leadership skills as they graduate from Grove City College and enter the larger world.

The Need Today

As with any successful program, change and growth are inevitable. And as a result of NCAA rulings governing the size of a collegiate playing field, Grove City College decided in 2001 to move the existing field to allow for further required expansion.

The upgraded field consists of more than two-thirds of the original playing surface to maintain its rich history and alumni memories. The field is now complete with irrigation and drainage and an excellent playing surface. A new area of bleachers now graces the slope beside the field affording a fantastic view of matches from any seat. The next steps in the development of the complex will be a media-capable press box, upgraded home and visitor benches and team areas, restrooms and fencing to encompass the entire facility.

The updated Soccer Complex will enable the College to broaden the scope of the soccer program and open it to a wider field of competing schools for tournaments and special games. This past year, Grove City College hosted a post-season tournament using the improvements to date. And as the facility progresses, many similar events are possible.

In the Stands

In addition to the existing fan base of alumni, students and friends, the added responsibility of attracting quality student athletes is equally important to this project’s success. Soccer games have become a “destination” event for many, including hundreds of alumni and friends. As such, the quality of the field and amenities for spectators are improvements that have become necessary.

Each visitor to a match or tournament may represent an alumnus, parent of a current student-athlete, prospective student, or simply a community member interested in the quality of a student’s educational experience at Grove City College. For all of these people, an appropriate venue and accommodations are necessary and deserved.

The Need Today

As with any successful program, change and growth are inevitable. And as a result of NCAA rulings governing the size of a collegiate playing field, Grove City College decided in 2001 to move the existing field to allow for further required expansion.

The upgraded field consists of more than two-thirds of the original playing surface to maintain its rich history and alumni memories. The field is now complete with irrigation and drainage and an excellent playing surface. A new area of bleachers now graces the slope beside the field affording a fantastic view of matches from any seat. The next steps in the development of the complex will be a media-capable press box, upgraded home and visitor benches and team areas, restrooms and fencing to encompass the entire facility.

The updated Soccer Complex will enable the College to broaden the scope of the soccer program and open it to a wider field of competing schools for tournaments and special games. This past year, Grove City College hosted a post-season tournament using the improvements to date. And as the facility progresses, many similar events are possible.

The Need Today

As with any successful program, change and growth are inevitable. And as a result of NCAA rulings governing the size of a collegiate playing field, Grove City College decided in 2001 to move the existing field to allow for further required expansion.

The upgraded field consists of more than two-thirds of the original playing surface to maintain its rich history and alumni memories. The field is now complete with irrigation and drainage and an excellent playing surface. A new area of bleachers now graces the slope beside the field affording a fantastic view of matches from any seat. The next steps in the development of the complex will be a media-capable press box, upgraded home and visitor benches and team areas, restrooms and fencing to encompass the entire facility.

The updated Soccer Complex will enable the College to broaden the scope of the soccer program and open it to a wider field of competing schools for tournaments and special games. This past year, Grove City College hosted a post-season tournament using the improvements to date. And as the facility progresses, many similar events are possible.