



Photo by Jess Andresen Jr.

USING THEIR HEADS — Local women soccer aspirants (from left) Donna Witthoef, Joyce Pacheco, Martha Giannetti and Carole Cislaw find the game is not a grueling sport.

SKIRTING SPORTS

Women Make Soccer More Fun Than Work

By FRANCES PINKERT

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Soccer is a grueling game.

Or so everyone thinks.

But a group of local housewives and working women who have taken out the gruel and left the glee find the sport very satisfying indeed.

"People have the impression soccer is tough," said Winnie Cullen of Fullerton, who is in the process of organizing a soccer league for women.

"But we play just for fun and exercise. Our games are not rough."

For those who might scoff at the idea of modifying the rough-and-tumble sport into a game less taxing, consider Mrs. Cullen's view of the plight of the housewife when it comes to exercise.

"Most of us are involved in some kind of sports when we're young — I was a softball fanatic myself," she said.

"But you reach a certain age and there's not a lot you can do. You get married and you still can't do anything but bowl. Soccer gives many women a chance to do something."

Mrs. Cullen became interested in soccer through all America Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO). She and five other AYSO mothers who turn out faithfully for the youth sport decided to get together and form a board so they could start their own league in September.

So far the interest has been good. Mustering enough strength to form four teams, the women practice once or twice a week and have games on Sunday.

But as in any sport, manpower, or in this case, womanpower, is needed, Mrs. Cullen said. She would like to recruit as many women as possible to get more teams before September.

"Age doesn't matter," she said. "There are women from 25 up to 52 on the teams. Everyone gets her share of exercise."

Mrs. Cullen said women who are interested in joining the league may call her at 870-8637 for details. Others who may be contacted are board president Carole Cislaw at 828-2506 in Buena Park or Christine Carniglia at 827-0425 in Cypress.