



Meeting Minutes
Board of Director's Meeting of Thursday, June 9, 2016
Sand Creek Middle School Cafeteria
8:00 pm

Call to Order ~ Timothy Owens, President

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 pm.

Tim stated with an 8 pm meeting we know we only have the facility for a short time. Tonight's meeting will be no longer than 90 minutes.

Roll Call ~ David Sparks, Membership Committee

Dave Sparks handled roll call.

The following clubs were in attendance: AL; AV; BS; BK; BW; BH; CL; CU; CA; CP; CO; CT; FT; GU; HM; LS; LC; ME; NL; NE; NY; RA; RW; SA; NU; NS; VY; CH; HL; BE; CR;

Dave stated that here is a quorum.

The following clubs were not in attendance: AB; AM; BR; CM; CS; FU; GA; GB; HH (EXCUSED); HF; RJ; RO (EXCUSED); SC; TV;

**Reading and Adoption of the Minutes ~
BOD Meetings ~ April 14, 2016**

Colonie Soccer Club made a motion to accept the minutes and Calcios United Soccer Club seconded the motion to accept the minutes. Tim stated that in the treasurer's report item in those meeting minutes, the second line where it reads "the bottom line is we went a little over budget but over 1000 kids were able to player soccer", he wants to make sure everything is open and honest and for the record Futsal was over budget by almost over \$5,000 so he wants that correction in the minutes that it wasn't a little over budget, were over budget by about \$5,000. Some of that was up front calls such as futsal balls that we gave to the clubs and we did not ask for them back so that is where some of those costs were done. There are still the two on the floor with the amendments listed above and they were voted in.

Treasurer's Report ~ Dave Yule, Treasurer

Dave Yule outlined the handout on the financials. Dave stated that we added in a line for the bus trip that we are hosting. We may be a little over budget. Overall in general, he is not worried about the finances or how we stand at the moment and he figures we will continue the way we are which is good. We owe a few items out as

we are still operating but we are in good shape. A motion was made by the Colonie Soccer Club to approve the financial report and it was seconded by the Chatham Soccer Club. A vote was taken and the motion passed. Tim stated that the bus is full and should be a good game. There are about 58 or so going to the game on July 3rd.

Communications ~ CDYSL Scholarship Awards

Tim announced that tonight is our June meeting that is always a good night because we can award deserving high schoolers who have competed in our league with a much deserved scholarship. This year we changed things from year's past. We raised the bar on the scholarship criteria and asked for more information. Tim announced some of the changes from past year's.

Dave Yule stated that we received twenty scholarship applications so it was competitive this season. In past years it was two males and two females who won the scholarships regardless of how many applications we received.

Dave announced the scholarship winners who were in attendance this evening and they are: Julia Rossi, Kelsey Jessup and Ryan Davis. Dave stated that the three winners are outstanding students and athletes and they are very deserving of this award. The other winner, Corynn Dziezynski received her scholarship award the other evening as she could not be here tonight.

Dave gave out each scholarship award to the winners. Congratulations to all four students!!

Comments from the Floor

Tim stated that a few months ago he stated that he put the agenda together as it is presented in our bylaws so this section is here for the comments. Tim stated the comment he would like to make at this time is that we sent a survey out a few months ago about your fields and it was to take inventory of what fields we have in the Capital District and what sizes were out there. This also gave us the opportunity to say that these clubs responded and we could get the sandbags out to them that the league bought and most of the clubs have received that e-mail and told them that the sandbags were in the office to be picked up. Some are getting picked up this evening at this meeting. It is your money so it is something to give back to the clubs.

It was brought up that some miss the coach manager manual as it was nice to have something to refer back to. Tim stated that the guide had several inconsistencies so the rules apply and we did not want to put out a document that conflicted the rules. The rules will get updated in the future. It was stated that the website is not mobile phone friendly. Tim stated that eventually we can go back to a coach manual but we will not be printing them out. It will be up to each individual to either download the manual and/or print it out themselves.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

Standing Committee Reports:

1. Rules ~ Scott Swere

Tim reported for Scott as he is at a game and on his way. Tim stated that we are getting issues sent into the office such as the coach is not wearing a green lanyard, a parent is on the bench that is not on the roster, the referee is making all sorts of errors and aren't making the correct calls, etc. Tim stated that we need to be respectful of the referees. Everybody makes mistakes, nobody is perfect but let the referee ref the game.

Paul asks that if you think the referee is not capable of refereeing a certain age group, please let us know. If we don't know, we can't help fix or figure out the problem. The office will send it to the assignor and the Referee Association for them to check on the issues that are out there with the referees.

2. Registrations ~ Tammy Kishbaugh

Tim stated that the registration count to date is over 10,000 players, both travel and recreation and recreation plus. It is on par with previous years. We do see a decline in the high school age groups. Generally, around U16-U19 are trailing off but we are keeping the numbers alive which means we have more players coming in at the younger age groups and it leads to the health of the league.

3. Games ~ Paul Bascomb

Paul stated that we are getting quite a few zero tolerance issues and they seem to be parents against coaches and a couple of them are against referees. The parents are the biggest issues. Please reign your parents in. There are three zero tolerances that are currently being looked at and we are going to the fields to watch these games. It is just a game and please get your parents in control.

Kathy sent Paul the Fall Ball outlook especially with our new age matrix. The new age matrix begins in September. Dave Yule stated that maybe we can get some single age groups playing in the Fall Ball to see if we can get these teams. Paul stated that we would need to look at it for the spring league as well. The team commitment form will be updated so teams/clubs can select single age groups to see if we can put together those divisions for those interested.

Paul stated that there are teams bringing their guest passes but not the guest player rosters. Please follow the rules and bring both to the fields. They were processed in the office and given to your club registrars, so please use them.

Paul clarified the difference between guest player roster and the regular team's rosters. He explained that these are players who can play up or across on a team that is short on players. Tim Frament explained the guest player policy and how it works and how the system works. A question was asked on changing the numbers of the guest players for the teams and Tim Frament suggested that it be sent in as a rule change to the office and we will get it to the rules committee. Tim Owens read what the website stated. Tim asked Kathy to update the website to make sure it follows the document outlined in the Rules and Regulations. Tim outlines the maximum number of guest players that you can bring to the games based on the ages. Tim suggests downloading the rules as a pdf on your phone so you can always pull it up even if you don't have WIFI at the time.

Paul stated that we have about 130 games left to be played. He feels outside of the issues that were brought to our attention, we are in pretty good shape. We would like to get a little more information from the coaches when you turn in the scores on referees and such so we know that we can see where we need to improve or what is working well.

Tim stated that we have a few reports that have come in already and it continues to be mind boggling year after year at the U10 level. The games are non-result oriented and we have parents going after referees at U10. Most of these referees are young, around 15 or 16 years old. Trish will not be here for the Zero Tolerance Report but her e-mail note to Tim has stated that there has been one hearing and one of the clubs is still not forthcoming with lots of information so in her words there will be hefty fines levied against the clubs. That is the way it works.

It was asked who can make the parents leave and Tim stated that it is a referee. Tim stated that we also have other zero tolerance instances and only 3 or 4 are being filed at this time but we are hearing of issues out on the fields but they are not being sent into the office and they should.

4. Finance ~ David Sparks

Dave stated that the committee has been busy preparing the budget for next year and it will be presented to the Executive Committee at their next meeting. It will be e-mailed out to the clubs for the AGM. It will be a very tight budget.

5. Executive ~ Timothy Owens

Tim reported that the office has been diligently working on as many of your requests in a timely manner as they can possibly get to. There is a lot that goes on in the office. We have four part-time staff to do these tasks. The number of hours they are allowed to work are limited without pushing them into full time status which then translates into us looking into having to provide benefit packages. We don't know if we have the revenue to support that kind of structure. During the budget season we must consider a few things and if we have to give the level of service to provide and then we have to provide the additional hours but where does the extra revenue come from. The committee is looking at that very closely. One thing they are looking to do is possibly bring in an intern, either college student or just out of college, to help us. We are entertaining this possibility and it is a very good likelihood. The first proposal would to bring an intern in on a volunteer basis to work on our media such as our brand messaging, Facebook and Twitter and maybe into a marketing area. That is the first proposal for a volunteer intern. What if that doesn't work and we are faced to having to pay our employees more for the same number of hours that they work. We know the season goes in flow and periods of over-time. We need to watch the hours and we have to pull them back on the hours to keep the level of service we have during the full year, we have to pull the staff back a little bit and restrict their hours. Please understand when they are busy and can't get to something immediately because they are handling other tasks. Our annual operating budget is about \$350,000 and we are trying to maintain this to keep things running smoothly.

We could increase membership fees, we could increase team commitment and registration costs. These could translate into compensating either a paid intern and/or another part time employee in the office. One thing that we don't want to do is go into the tax and spend measure where we are increasing fees just for the sake of spending more money. We are trying to provide a certain service out of the office to over 50 clubs and over 10,000 players and then add in coaches and managers and they are also provided a service. Keep this in mind with some of the proposals that will come in when you receive the proposed budget and these scenarios. We are going to make those proposals.

We also have a limited number of referees so how do we get the limited number of referees to work the 2000 plus games that are looking to be played every year. Think about what the office may come up with to try to adjust to that shrinking number of referees. There was a question from the clubs on what the increases may be coming down because they are also trying to set their budgets for next season. They ask that we tell them now what you may be asking for. Tim stated that raising the membership fee is one. That fee is currently \$25 per club a year. And the team commitments may get raised too. Tim would like to see the membership fees get raised to \$100, but gradually, not all at once. It would start with a \$50 increase and then increase in future years. The team commitment for spring is currently \$110 and maybe we want to go to \$125 for ten games or keep it the same and go to an eight game season. These are things we need to consider especially when we are short on referees. They did not want to touch the registration fees at this time. It was asked if there any cost cutting measures that can be done. There were discussions on this topic. Tim Frament mentioned a few possibilities that could be changed and stated that ENYISA is looking into a few other areas too that they are pushing that we may be able to change. They won't happen by September 1st but we do need to look at these

options to see what makes things easier for all involved. We can cut certain costs in the office but we don't want the clubs to take on that extra burden. We can look at different avenues on what we can do.

Tim Owens just stated that the office staff is maxed out on their hours and it is very busy. The proposed budget will be out within the next month. Just after the fourth of July these will be sent out to the clubs.

6. Membership ~ Dave Sparks

Dave stated that the Schuylerville Soccer Club has gone inactive.

Dave stated that Waterford FC has their paperwork in order and tonight shall be a first reading for Waterford FC and he highlights a few items in regards to their membership application. Under 08-U16 teams are being looked at initially. James KIELTY, the President, introduces himself and he is trying to take the place of the Waterford United Soccer Club that has been inactive for several years. He stated that they have a real strong recreation program and they are looking to fill that void. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to them. The second reading will be our AGM in August. There were no questions.

Dave stated that we received another application from FC Empire and this shall be considered the first reading and he highlights their letter of intent. They are from Rensselaer County. Right now based on their team numbers, they would be a limited member. The second reading will be at the AGM in August. There were no questions.

7. Zero Tolerance ~ Trish Meacham

This area was reported on above under other topics.

8. Nominations

Tim Owen stated that there are several positions that are up for election and part of that process is Tim not being able to appoint a nominations chair but he can recommend one and he is recommending Dave Sparks and that needs to go before the board for their approval. NY Elite FC made a motion to accept Dave Sparks as the Nominations Chairperson and Highland Soccer Club seconded it and it was voted and approved. Motion carries.

Dave stated that the positions up for elections this AGM is the Second Vice President that is currently being held by Roy Pfeil, the Secretary position is open and there are two At-Large positions up for elections and they are currently filled by Scott Swere and Paul Bascomb. Scott is the Chairperson for the Rules Committee and Paul is the Chairperson for the Games Committee. Anybody interested in running, please send a note to the office and we can get you on the ballot and we will get something on the website along with the responsibilities are. These are two year positions.

Note: No Reports ~ Arbitration, Appeals, Risk Management

Programs

Coaching Education ~ Roy Pfeil, Second Vice President

Roy stated that there is going to be one final free F course add-on module at Henry Hudson Soccer Club area. The date will be June 20th at 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm.

ODP Program (follow-up) ~ Roy Pfeil, Tim Owens

Roy stated the cycle for this year is wrapping up and any suggestions you want to make, please send them into the office. The office will compile those suggestions and send them down to the State. This weekend is the Region I ODP Tournament for both the boys and girls.

Tim stated that any comments that you have such as suggestions that they come in the office. We are going to do what we can do make regionalization stay in our area. Tim is learning a lot of this program this year and the issues that come forward such as transportation and resources and he is only familiar with one team and he knows that 13 or 14 of them come from upstate NY so it does matter and that type of participation level will allow us more leverage in some of the decision making that downstate continues to make. It isn't a perfect system but we are working hard to make it better and having upstate NY represented and not just being told what to do. If you are involved and have comment, please send to office sooner than later.

Exceptional Senior Showcase ~ no report

No report at this meeting.

TOP Soccer

Tim stated it would be a wonderful idea to get the Top Soccer involved in our fall ball program in the 6 weeks they play. They are at one venue and everybody comes out and plays and the two programs could marry very nicely together. Tim Frament has asked if anybody has had a Top Soccer Program in their club and it is very awesome. Tim compares them to special Olympics but the difference that he knows with it is there are children with these special needs and they can't play in a regular league, when we run a program. When you can put in a program that plays along with the "regular" kids, they feel like every kid should feel regardless of their disabilities. and they feel like a regular kid just like every kid should feel. We need to find a way to pull this off.

Roy gave an example of a program he watched for Top Soccer.

Unfinished Business ~ Goal Safety Initiatives, Empire Cup

Tim stated we already discussed the goal safety initiatives. There are more sandbags in the back and if your club didn't receive them, please take them with you. We will figure how to get the others out.

Empire Cup has 45 teams as of today registered. He believes there are 25 boys and 20 girls teams signed up. Several brackets are at 4 or 5 teams. We will have brackets that need teams such as U10 girls non-competitive and U12 girls and we still have teams signing up. Tim outlines some of the teams signed up locally. For those clubs who had their own tournaments, please sign up teams to support our tournament as well. Tomorrow will have another blast of the tournament and we will look at the teams to fill in the brackets.

New Business ~ USSF player development initiatives, Birth Year Initiatives

Tim states for next year the two things have to happen. There is still the ability to stay together if you choose to do that, some younger players may have to age up. On team commitment forms, you will be able to indicate odd year teams such as U13 or U15 and we will look to accommodate those age groups. Another change is our team commitment form will be changed as well to accommodate single birth years for spring as well.

Tim wants to get away from the phrase as non-competitive. They are great games and they are competitive, they are just non-result oriented.

Meeting Adjournment

A motion was made from Chatham Soccer Club to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by the Colonie Soccer Club. Meeting adjourned at 9:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Tammy Kishbaugh
Recording Secretary

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Committee ~ July 7th, August 4th

CDYSL EMPIRE CUP ~ June 25-26, 2016

CDYSL Annual General Meeting ~ Sunday, August 14, 2016

CDYSL Constitution, Article II: CDYSL Goals

- a. To teach the game of soccer to the youth of our community.
- b. To operate a youth soccer league to help in developing the character of the youth of our community.
- c. To foster and engage in competition for the furtherance of the above purposes.
- d. To encourage and engage in other activities which will enhance and improve these stated purposes.
- e. To support the players to their highest level of competition possible.

CDYSL Rules and Regulations, Section X, Sub-section D

1. Regardless of the time and sacrifices you devote, no director, officers or volunteers receives any financial benefit or credit for their volunteer services.
2. Organization goals will be set before personal goals. Put the best interest of the entire program ahead of individual desires. We are here to serve all of the children with quality programs.
3. Minimize complaints and pettiness. Look for ways to improve the organization rather than pointing fingers.
4. Speak up when you have questions or disagree, but support the final decision of the organization.
5. Look at problems from an organization-wide perspective. Focus on the best interests of all the children and youth sports in general.
6. Treat your colleagues respectfully. Give your colleagues the benefit of the doubt. Don't jump to conclusions. They are just like doing the best to help build a quality program for kids.
7. Conflicts should focus on issues, not personalities of individuals. Courtesy goes a long way toward building harmony and cooperation.