

Timberline Youth Soccer Association
Minutes of Board Meeting Conducted
April 9, 2008

Meeting Called to Order 7:00 PM

Members Present

Mike Pruitt, Chuck Vallentine, James Simmons, Jo Pate, Hal Hutton, Tim Sonnier, Brad Martin, Ron Contreras, Don Gay, Pete Wakefield and Brent Griffy (proxy for Agustin Colchado of Bear Creek)
Terri Cahill - Administrator

Guests

Eric Johnson – Coach of Dynamos 90/91

Mr. Johnson addressed the Board to explain that some of his game reports did not get to the scorekeeper due to some mail problems. Ms. Cahill explained that the system was not tracking some of the forfeits correctly. She has had to reconfigure the way Affinity scores and tracks forfeits. Mr. Johnson asked about the red marking on the scoring boxes in the standings. Mr. Hutton explained that the red mark around the box referred to forfeits and the red number in the box would refer to a red card given in a game. Mr. Johnson gave a copy of the game cards he had to Mrs. Cahill to have her double check the scores in the system.

Minutes

Motion to approve

President

Mr. Pruitt wanted to use his time to discuss the Governing Documents listed below.

Administrator

Mrs. Cahill reported on behalf of her U11 coaches that some are upset or disappointed that there is not a playoff for the U11 teams. She went onto say that one D3 coach, older than U11; felt there wasn't anything for the Div. 3 teams. This coach felt that STC was designed for D2 teams. Mr. Pruitt explained that he felt that we are trying to get into step with what the U.S. Soccer Federation says that we should be doing and that is developing the player and do away with championships. Mr. Vallentine added that EDDOA is only doing championships for the 11v11 groups. Mr. Pruitt stated that clubs need to make sure that their U11 coaches and parents are aware of the thought and reasoning behind the 8v8 format. Mr. Simmons added that a notice or statement was sent out to coaches at the beginning of the season and he will make sure that a follow up statement is sent out to his coaches.

Old Business

Soccer Start –

Mr. Martin wanted to make sure that those clubs wanting to utilize Soccer Start were clear about the guidelines set forth by STYSA. He noted that the clubs that were interested were not present. One important point being that it only applies to Div. 3 and Div. 4. players. We must submit a program request to STYSA; it's fairly simple and could probably be done quickly. We need to submit a player count and what we think the growth will be. We don't have a program in place for Spring but need to get things set for Fall if that's what we want to do. Mr. Martin said he will be happy to work with those that are interested in doing it.

Mr. Martin brought a U11 unaffiliated item before the Board, we had a couple of U11 unaffiliated teams asking for their bonds back from the Fall. The bonds were held due to the teams not showing for their playoff games. The teams did not notify TYSA until the day before that they would not be there. Mr. Vallentine asked as to how much time was given to the clubs regarding a U11 playoff. Mr. Sonnier responded that a three week notice was given to club administrators. Some administrators did not share the information with their coaches. The club presidents upheld the decision to hold the bonds.

Trophies

Mr. Martin noted that there has been a 28 day notice given regarding changing the rule in the Redbook regarding trophies. It has been addressed at previous Board meetings that trophies will not be provided by TYSA and now the 28 day waiting period has passed.

Mr. Martin made a motion that the trophy provision in the TYSA Redbook be deleted, as previously discussed. Mr. Simmons seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Governing Documents –

Mr. Pruitt explained that there are drafts of the governing documents for clubs to review and consider. Each club will be delivered their documents today in order to trigger the 28 day notice provision that the current governing documents require for amendments. Mr. Pruitt went on to explain that one of the changes that will be noticed is the lack of geographic boundaries. There is also a super majority vote which is required for amendments, elections and budget. This is based on the fact that there are three of the clubs paying 90% of the costs. We also want to continue to be a political arm of STYSA. Our problem is that we have surpassed our saturation point when we went past 7000 players. TYSA can not get more votes past that point. Sixty-eight percent of the membership has only 37-38% of the vote. This is taxation without representation. You will see in TYSA a reflection of the concept of super majority in votes on elections and amendments. His hope is that people will see that over the last 18 months TYSA has been able to streamline its efficiency and cost and the result was that the excess monies were sent back to the clubs and parents. There are provisions regarding clubs paying their fees in a timely manner. The old documents required that 2/3's of the total membership of your club if you want to separate from TYSA. The new documents would require an action of your club board and validation of this with required signatures of the President and Secretary of the club board to withdraw from TYSA pending any liabilities financial or otherwise. It is also easier to join TYSA. Fundamentally and philosophically an association is a group of members who join together for a common purpose. From the administrative, his job is to meet the needs of its members. He was given a mandate to make this association functional and fiscally responsible.

Mr. Pruitt asked Mrs. Cahill to make sure that Mr. Zylker, Mr. Colchado and Mr. Cerda received an e-mailed copy of the documents this evening.

Mr. Gay suggested that documentation of a Board's wish to change status be validated by more than two signatures. He cited Conroe's obstacles that they have faced with such a situation. Mr. Pruitt asked Mr. Gay to write it up and send it to him in the next few days to take a look at.

Mr. Pruitt wanted it noted in the minutes that the 28 day period is started effective tonight. He will hand out the documents before everyone leaves for the evening.

After the president reports, Mr. Pruitt revisited the governing documents item. One area he wanted to point out would be the change in the Referee Board position. Due to the prohibition of paid Board members and the indirect relationship so that there is remuneration. The new proposal would have a referee representative on the Board that would be ex officio non or a nonvoting position, but at the same time there will be a provision for a budget for the referee committee to use for education, mentoring and retention. They wanted to provide a quid pro quo understanding the importance of referees. Mr. Sonnier responded that you can't get remunerated for the position that you serve on the Board. An example would be a VP of Publicity receiving an advantage for the association and got some type of compensation for it, which would be illegal. Now if that same person went out and refereed a game and got paid that would not be a conflict of interest to his position on the Board. Mr. Pruitt responded that the conflict comes when we have a Board member voting on issues that may impact whether or not that referee particularly remembered his organization is recompense directly for services rendered to the association. That's a conflict of interest. We're saying the referee occupies a very unique position because of a proposal of budget, you may be putting funds into a budget that a person, referee assignor or referee representative may benefit directly from those funds. Mr. Sonnier said that you could look at this in a broad or general approach that each president's club gets remuneration from the association and what is voted on here. Mr. Pruitt countered that it needs to be looked at in a very strict or narrow approach. Mr. Pruitt then went on to offer Mr. Sonnier that if he had a revision he could send it to him in the next few days for consideration.

STC

Mr. Hutton clarified that Meyer fields would be used for challenge and playoff games the last weekend of April. Mr. Hutton explained how the seeding and challenge/playoff procedure works for STC. He explained that if the top Div. 3 team did not want to challenge it does not go down to the next in line; there would be no challenge game the spot would go to the Div. 2 team.

President's Reports

Aldine United

Mr. Cerda replied by e-mail that he would not be able to attend tonight's meeting.

Bear Creek

Mr. Griffy explained that Mr. Colchado's mother had passed away. Mr. Griffy reported that Bear Creek would be doing and end of season tournament with Cy-Fair. This weekend Bear Creek was having their Fun Day.

Cy-Fair

Mr. Sonnier reported that they are collaborating with Bear Creek on the end of the season tournament. Cy-Fair is hosting a 3v3 tournament on the 26th and 27th. On May 3rd and 4th, Cy-Fair is hosting the boys and girls ED STC district playoffs for U15 and up. On May 17th and 18th, Cy-Fair will host all of Dir. Cup top to bottom. Mr. Sonnier is really hoping for some irrigation relief on his fields. This might be the year! Apparently, history has it that some other individuals had high hopes for the same thing 15 years ago. Tim's feeling lucky this year.

Mr. Sonnier also reported on the aeration machine. It's an amazing machine and plugs were made 4 inches in every direction.

Conroe

Mr. Wakefield reported that they would be having Board elections next month. He also asked about the U11 age group and where will the Board be on it. Mr. Pruitt explained that we typically follow EDDOA. Mr. Hutton had explained that the rumor thus far has been that U11 and U12 would be 8v8 but it has not been voted on yet. Mr. Wakefield also asked if we knew what the fees would be for next year. Mr. Martin replied that he did not know what STYSA's fees were yet but he figured the overall figure to be close to what this year's was.

Kingwood Alliance

Mr. Zylker e-mailed that he would not be able to attend tonight's meeting with his apologies.

Klein

Mr. Vallentine reported that there would be an end of the season tournament going on the last weekend of April out at Meyer Park as well as the challenge games. Everything else is going on fine.

Mr. Pruitt announced that Mr. Vallentine was now the president of TSC. Everyone applauded.

Texas Heatwave

Mrs. Pate reported that they are working on irrigating the brand new fields at Lindsay Lyons and building some office space out there as well.

Texas Rush

Mr. Simmons reported that Texas Rush was just accepted into the USSF Development Academy. They are also working on their new fields. It is moving along very slowly. He went onto explain that the project would give Texas Rush 9 additional new fields and hopefully a clubhouse/offices.

Board Member Reports

VP of Coaches

Mr. Hutton is working on what the best way to utilize the reports that were sent. He asked that all the presidents have their clubs check out their coaches licensing or have the coaches themselves look at their own administrator screen in the Affinity system.

VP of Publicity

VP of Scheduling

Mr. Broughton e-mailed two weeks previously with his apologies that he would be out of town on a business trip. He would have been able to attend if the meeting had remained the first Wednesday of the month.

Treasurer

Mr. Martin reported that he had been asked if we had a special fee structure for in-house teams and the answer was "no". Mr. Martin also reported that he followed up on some of the PDF teams/players that were not showing up in the Affinity system in the Fall are now showing in the system for the Spring.

Mr. Martin asked that clubs examine their coaches licensing certification listed in the Affinity system. Mr. Hutton answered that he had received some reports from Mrs. Cahill to showing all the coaches certifications or lack there of. He went on to say that he believes that a lot of the one's not showing a certification actually have one but it's now showing on their screen.

VP of Referees

Mr. Sonnier attended on behalf of Mr. Friedman.

Executive VP

Mr. Pate e-mailed earlier in the day that do to work he would not be able to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next meeting: May 7, 2008