

Timberline Youth Soccer Association

Minutes of Board Meeting Conducted

January 16, 2008

Meeting Called to Order 7:05 PM

Members Present

Mike Pruitt, Chuck Vallentine, James Simmons, Don Gay (proxy for Pete Wakefield), George Cerda, Mark Zylker, Mark Broughton, Tom Pate, Jo Pate, Agustin Colchado, Hal Hutton, Andrew Naudin, Brad Martin, Hal Hutton, and Rick Friedman
Terri Cahill - Administrator

Guests

Lonnie Brauner – Cy-Fair
Tom Ward
Carlos Hill
Zack Bolt – Cleveland Area Youth Soccer

Mr. Bolt addressed the Board about his club, CAYSA, wanting to become a part of TYSA. Mr. Pruitt let him know that a club needs to have minimum of 10 teams. Mr. Ward came to help introduce Mr. Bolt to the Board.

President

Mr. Pruitt asked the members of the Governing Documents committee to stick around after the meeting for a quick meeting.

Mr. Pruitt informed the Board that their clubs might look at having additional umbrella insurance. The State's insurance may not cover certain events.

Administrator

Mrs. Cahill reported that she is still receiving information about the teams. She has all the Div. 2 teams but is still waiting on some Div. 3 teams. She needs the field registration forms by Friday, January 18th. She will find out more information from Affinity on this matter and will pass this on to the club administrators if anything is needed from them through the system.

She informed the Board that there is a scheduling Webex training set-up for herself and Mark with Natalie at Affinity. If anyone else would like to be a part of it, please let her know so that she can pass on the information to Affinity.

Mrs. Cahill reported that STYSA has imposed a fine for the two teams that did not show for the Div. 3 ED playoffs and that the fine will be passed onto the club, which was Klein.

Finance report

Mr. Martin passed out a 2007 Budget without contingencies that was approved at the beginning of the season. On the back side of the sheet was a 6 month financial performance. He pointed out the areas we under spent, such as awards and the coach/referee development. The personnel item is a bit misleading due to the addition of Terri Cahill as the administrator this year and the addition of a payroll service, as well.

Mr. Martin asked how the Board would like to disperse the surplus. He explained that he used the Fall player counts in figuring out how much each club gets refunded. He reminded the Board that there is nothing extra in the budget to cushion late payments of the clubs to TYSA for fees to STYSA.

Mr. Pruitt opened the discussion of the refunds up to the club presidents. Mr. Naudin expressed he would like to take a prudent approach to the disposition of the money. He would like to see a reserve for any "bumps in the night" or late payments. Mr. Colchado offered what about 80% disbursement. Mr. Pruitt added that even if the money is refunded to the clubs they can choose to keep a reserve to handle such items.

Mr. Zylker asked if we are here to develop the sport of soccer and the love of the game by the player or for the clubs interests. He would like to see some of the money used for those players that cannot afford to play soccer. There are some good programs, like Soccer Start. He would like to see 10-20% stay with the association and used for referee development, scholarships and Soccer Start. Mr. Pruitt posed the question, if the association or the club is in a better position to fund the numerous projects, such as Soccer Start? Where is the better impact? Are the clubs better able to judge what is best for their club and area?

Mr. Naudin felt the 10-20% idea was good and with this money do some good projects to bring some unification to the association. Can we become a project driven association and become leaders in that area?

Mr. Vallentine gave his position, that this is what was tried in the past. Unfortunately, the monies did not get to the right places. His club handles a lot of scholarships within their own club and they need that money for it. Klein's numbers, as well as other clubs numbers, are down from last year. Mr. Vallentine agreed that he feels certain projects should be funded by TYSA but to have a line item number might not work. Mr. Naudin agreed that each club needs to do what is best for their own club. He continued that if the clubs want to turn around after receiving their refund to give money back to the association for a certain project, that's okay too.

Ms. Pate added that Heatwave would like to see the money come back to the club. Heatwave has different projects, including their own scholarships, which will benefit from the money.

James Simmons has the same position he has had since December, and that is that those monies were put forth not to necessarily support "pet projects" but to pay fees. Since the real costs were less than estimated the money should go back to the club. Rush would like to use some of the money to support programs that benefit soccer in their area.

Mr. Pruitt asked again are we okay with keeping the reserve at 6 months?

Mr. Martin added that the clubs will need to be diligent with their payments for STYSA fees in the Fall and Spring. There will not be the cushion to cover. Mr. Pruitt reminded that the 6 months is operating budget, not to cover the shortfall of fees. Mr. Naudin added that we need to look that this budgeting is working based on this Board composition. What about in 2 years and a new Board, will it still work? He would like to see the Board err on the side of caution.

Mr. Vallentine motioned to refund 90%, which would be \$81,000, pursuant to the formula put forth in Mr. Martin's report. The motion was seconded by James Simmons. The motion was carried by all with one opposition by Mr. Zylker from Kingwood Alliance.

Mr. Martin added one more point about the unaffiliated bond issue. Mr. Martin brought up scenarios about bond refund options. He made a recommendation that if a team withdraws before scheduling the team gets their bond back. If the schedule is posted but no games have been played, you get your bond back. If you play a game you do not get your bond back. Mr. Pruitt added that the registration fee we charge now does cover our costs for an unaffiliated team to play with our association. Mr. Hutton stated that if schedules are run and they pull out then the bond is forfeited. Mr. Martin added that the fees should follow the same policy as the bond. Forfeiture could occur in other situations: if they fail to appear for away games without 24 hours notice, if they forfeit more than 3 games, if they fail to pay tournament fees. Mr. Broughton wanted to make sure that phone numbers are available to the clubs.

Mr. Hutton made the motion that we modify the bond structure as presented by Mr. Martin in regards to forfeiture (24 hour notice on away games, forfeiting 3 games and failing to pay tournament fees), clarifying that once schedules are posted there will be forfeiture for withdrawal. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pate. Motion was carried unanimously.

Old Business

Monthly GBM –

Mrs. Cahill reported that to continue at the Hilton the cost will be \$75 a month. Mrs. Cahill received help from Mrs. Pruitt in regards to connecting with the Community College District to utilize meeting space at little or no cost to TYSA. She reported that we have the option of using the Lonestar College – Parkway Campus, in the Greenspoint area, for free each month. She is verifying dates with the coordinator. Mrs. Cahill explained that if the College has a special event we could get bumped from the room but that Lonestar would try to offer us something else, room wise.

Older age groups playing with HYSA

Mr. Hutton explained that there has been talk of combining these age groups with other associations due to the lower numbers. Mrs. Cahill reported that she spoke with Joy Gammon, HYSA administrator, in regards to this issue. It would require someone from our Board attending HYSA's monthly Board meeting to make the request. TYSA would play as unaffiliated and would have to designate one field as their home field. Everyone unanimously agreed not to go in that direction. Mr. Broughton volunteered Mr. Zylker to contact someone at BAYSA in regards to having this play group play with them.

New Business

Coaches Meeting

Mr. Hutton asked that we do a coaches meeting as close as possible to the start date as possible since we are still learning the system. Mr. Broughton offered January 31st as a date. Mr. Hutton agreed. All presidents agreed that the 31st would work. Mr. Hutton asked Mrs. Cahill to contact Lonestar in regards to a meeting room for that date.

South Texas Cup

Mr. Hutton explained that any team not playing in the Director's Cup is figured in with our numbers going to STC. He explained that last year was difficult with playoffs due to the game play going all the way up to the date that the team information had to be sent to STYSA. This was due to the amount of rain outs that we had and the start date of the high school teams. He suggested that any Div. 3 team, that looks like they will finish first in their bracket, needs to designate that they are interested in challenging for a position in the STC. We might want to designate a date that they need to do this by. It's hard to know who will be in first. Mr. Gay asked if the U11 will play 8v8 or 11v11 for STC. Mr. Hutton responded that it would be 11v11 and that is based on STYSA.

Mr. Vallentine asked if a Div. 2 team could play Spring season and Director's Cup. Mr. Hutton explained the pros and cons of the situation, such as scorekeeping, the possibility of games forfeited, bracket size. Mr. Broughton explained the confusion of scorekeeping and the games counting. Mr. Hutton offered up the question about whether we, TYSA, will allow: 1) Teams to play in both Director's Cup and season play? And if so, do we count the games? Mr. Naudin said he felt we should allow teams to play both and count the games. Mr. Hutton asked if there was an objection to that and no one spoke up.

High School start date

Mr. Hutton spoke with the Board that we need to time it to start at the end of the high school district play. It can not be put off until after the high school district playoffs. Typically in the past they have played 8 games which are hard to get in before STC, especially if there's rain. He will take the topic off-line and talk with Mrs. Cahill about the start time and then e-mail the decision to the Board in about 2 weeks.

President's Reports

Aldine United

The Aldine Warriors won the State playoffs and the U13 team came in second. Mr. Cerda reported that they are doing different things to promote their club. They are working on fields and on Soccer Start in their area.

Bear Creek

Mr. Colchado would like to know the progression of a team going from Div. 2 to Super2. Mr. Pruitt advised Mr. Colchado to contact EDDOA directly. Mr. Hutton added that at this time there is no direct method of getting into Super 2. Mr. Colchado clarified that the U11 age group plays 8v8 at the Super 2 and Div. 1 level. Mr. Hutton confirmed.

Mr. Colchado reported that they have complaints on a certain parent that is also a coach and some questionable actions. Mr. Pate asked Mr. Colchado to forward him the letter or letters and he will forward it to the State.

Cy-Fair

Mr. Naudin has been looking at ideas to promote soccer not only for the sport for all the TYSA member clubs. A way to grow youth soccer in our area. He took a look at what the Dynamos have done with HYSA to promote it. He found limitations in that idea. A day that all the clubs come together and put on a TYSA event with the Dynamos. A way that parents could come to one location and learn about the opportunities in their area. The key would be to find a central spot that the team could train but would also be equidistant for all the clubs. He was under the impression from Ed Loucks that there is money available for such an activity. He looks at this as not only benefitting youth soccer but all of our clubs. He would like to sell it also to the Dynamos explaining that these people are not only at the event to see what youth soccer opportunities are in the area but also potential audience members at their games. We need the help of the Dynamos and the State. The media buy would probably be in the range of \$4,000-\$6,000. Mr. Pate asked Mr. Naudin to write it up and send it to him. Mr. Pruitt felt that this was an exciting venture for all involved.

Mr. Naudin also informed the Board that Cy-Fair had their yearly Board elections and that Tim Sonnier would be the new president as of February 1st.

Conroe

Mr. Gay reported that they have a lot of players who switched over to baseball. Their fields were wrecked by some four-wheelers doing donuts. They are waiting for the fields to be fixed by the City.

Kingwood Alliance

Mr. Zylker asked Mrs. Cahill to request from Affinity additional training or refresher registration course with Affinity.

Mr. Zylker was wondering if there is some way we can help fund soccer for those players who cannot afford to play soccer now that the State does not fund Soccer Start. All the players are Div. 3 and below. Those players who are identified as Soccer Start players would play at Kingwood Alliance at minimal cost, except the cost of the STYSA insurance.

Klein

Mr. Vallentine reported that his Board has approved to have their Div. 3 teams travel starting next Fall/08. Due to the fielding impact of the PDF teams playing at Meyer.

Mr. Vallentine asked for an update on the governing documents. Mr. Pruitt reported that he will meeting with the committee after the meeting. From a practical standpoint, it would be good to delay elections until the governing documents are done and then to give a 30 day notice. This should be happening within the next few months.

Modifications should be able to be made fairly quickly. Election is usually in June and the hand off is in the summer. Mr. Pate felt it is worth the 30 to 60 days to get the new governing documents done. He continued that we have to remember that the legal work of the documents is being done for free but that is also at the cost that we are on that law firm's time.

Mr. Vallentine reported that their numbers are down about 300 or so. They are trying to figure out why their numbers are down and trying to differentiate themselves from FFPS. Klein produces better players and has better coaching/training.

Motion was made by Mr. Vallentine to let the new governing documents, once approved, to set forth the process for the new elections of officers. Motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Texas Heatwave

Ms. Pate reported on the referee class they had last weekend and the lack of attendance.

Texas Rush

Mr. Simmons reported that the Pro Camp went well. Spring Kick-off Camp begins next week. Everything is going fine.

Board Member Reports

VP of Coaches

Mr. Hutton addressed the Board earlier in the meeting regarding the high school start date, coaches meeting and Cup play.

He explained the differences about the coaching module. If any club is scheduling a coaching clinic they need to contact Lupe at the STYSA office. If a smaller club doesn't feel that they can get a clinic going, they can contact one of the bigger clubs or combine with another small club to do it. Mr. Naudin let the Board know that Marty Espinoza would be offering a "E" Coaching clinic February 8-10 at CyFair.

VP of Publicity

Mr. Contreras e-mailed earlier in the day that he was not able to attend.

VP of Scheduling

Mr. Broughton reported on his scheduling Webex with Affinity the other night. He continued that Linda Miller and Natalie DelFrancia are receptive to offering more classes. He fully intends to have the schedule ready and games to start on Feb. 9th.

Treasurer

Mr. Martin addressed the Board with the financial report at the beginning of the meeting presenting the 6 month budget performance.

He asked the Board if he had the approval to add the SPAM filtering to the e-mail service

VP of Referees

Mr. Friedman was introduced as the new VP of Referees beginning Feb. 1st. He reported that the on-line registration is up and going. They are even taking registration up until the night before. Registration has to be done in advance. They have had to cancel a class this weekend due to low numbers. He is very concerned at the low numbers.

Executive VP

Mr. Pate had nothing to report at this time.

Rule Proposals for the Winter GBM, scheduled for the first weekend of February, in Austin.

Currently, Mr. Pruitt, Mr. Vallentine and Mr. Cerda will be attending on behalf of TYSA.

Rule 1: No, term should be limited to 3 years.

Rule 2: Yes, we like having a rec. person.

Rule 3: Yes, if the other passes. Amend for 3 years.

Rule 4: Yes, support rules committee change.

Rule 5: No

Rule 6: No
Rule 7: Yes
Rule 8: Yes
Rule 9: Yes
Rule 10: Yes, with amendment for clarity.
Rule 11: Yes
Rule 12: No, resubmit with clarification.
Rule 13: Yes
Rule 14: No

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Next meeting:

Wednesday, February 13th at 7 p.m. at the Lonestar College – Parkway Campus