

AYSO REGION 13

Board of Directors' Minutes

March 7, 2017

Call to Order: John Sweet called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. In attendance were: Adam Yatsko, Angel Mazareigos, Anne Tipton, Dan Jeffries, Heidi Taylor, Ivonne Penichet, John Fong, John Sweet, Kim Fitzgerald, Marco Quezada, Neil Weinberger, Pam Vigil, Scott Davis, Steve Hawkins, Steve Haegelin, and Vic Gutierrez.

February Minutes: The minutes were previously approved via email.

Regional Commissioner's Report – John welcomed the Board as the new RC, and led a brief overview discussion about changes ahead in the coming year, and about long term goals/changes for R13. He discussed the new IT system and website, Blue Sombrero, and informed the board that he will circulate information when he has it about upcoming webinars for training on the new system. There was discussion about how it will affect registration, and volunteers, if players don't need to register at the clubhouse. It was generally agreed that we might require players to confirm their online registration at the clubhouse as we must still verify DOBs of new players.

John addressed the new Calendar Year/Age Division rule, losing U19 players, and there was general discussion about its influence on Grad Series in May. Neil mentioned that he heard from National that the exact age range for the U19 age group may still be adjusted. There was brief discussion about other new National rules for age divisions: build-out lines, no throw-ins, headers, punting, etc., and how to address these changes in coach and ref trainings.

John led discussion about a trending down-tick in registration for the past few years. He would like to the board to consider new ways of attracting players and retaining existing players. There was general discussion about a possible AYSO 13 Club circuit – with paid coaches - to focus on player development. This would be a competitive step above the Extra program. There was discussion about offering a “playground soccer” program for you players (ages 3, 4 & 5). There was discussion about the market for these programs, and about the possible recent decline in our youth demographic due to rising housing costs our area. Dan mentioned that even local schools are seeing a decline in enrollment.

John led discussion about changes to the Board, open Board positions, and introduced Neil as Assistant RC. DeWayne McMullin will take over Angel's position as Treasurer. The Board needs a new Secretary as Kim is leaving. Steve Haegelin will replace Pam as Tournament and Special Events Director, and Heidi will be looking for new DCA's before she leaves the Board, and Ann will be Director of Instruction. There was general discussion about the need for a new Fields coordinator to replace John. John will email the Board a list of the Board vacancies.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOSC – April 1-2, 2017. Pam reported that we are posted on the National website with 29 teams registered. Pam will reach out to the teams registered for the Spring Cup to bolster registration (Al Prado will send her a list of the teams). She reported the following schedule of fees: U10 \$450 / U12 \$475 / U14, U16 & U19 \$500, plus a \$250 ref deposit (on R13 website). There was general discussion about why

U16 and U19 pay higher fees, how to attract upper division players (perhaps lower fees or offer refunds), and about possible player “burn-out” with the timing of BOSC so close to the Spring Cup. Pam reported she is ready with concessions, medals and pins, we just need more teams. John will announce BOSC to coaches working on Spring Cup teams and have advanced team coordinators follow up. Pam will draft an email to BOSC coaches to encourage them to sign up by March 17 (last day of registration), and commit to 10 hours of volunteer duty, to get a \$100 team refund.

VIP Festival – Vic reported the festival will be held on March 26th from 2:00-5:00pm at South Pasadena Middle School. Neil reported that he is waiting for the Spring Cup schedule (starts on 3/26) to confirm his U12 volunteer players. Pam reported she has pins and medals and water bottles that can be distributed.

Coach’s Report – Heidi submitted a report via email (see Attachment 1). Heidi reported that there are 20 teams registered for Spring Cup and most have been confirmed. **All Stars** - Heidi reported that R13 All Stars teams did well overall, especially BU10 and BU12. She would like to post pictures on the R13 website and Facebook page. **Grad Series** - Heidi reported that Grad Series has been challenging due to all the rain we got, and that many teams didn’t get to play more than 1 or 2 games in 5 weeks. She would like to offer a \$25 refund/discount when players sign up for another tournament. There was general discussion about players dropping and refs having a hard time covering games, and about bringing medals back next year.

1/C (“Spring”) Cup - Ivonne will email John, Neil and Vinh when the Spring Cup uniforms come in. She will then will arrange 2 pick-up days for the coaches.

Galaxy Night – John led discussion about whether to purchase tickets for Galaxy night for the Spring Cup program. Previous year’s purchase of 500 tickets cost about \$8500 (\$17/each) and included players, their families, board members, coaches and assistant coaches. The cost of the tickets was covered by the YDP fees, but the region lost revenue on the program. It was generally agreed that a count will be taken of how many coaches and kids will participate the Spring Cup program, and the Board will determine how many tickets to purchase.

*A **MOTION** to purchase Galaxy Night tickets for R13 Spring Cup program was seconded and passed.*

EXTRA – John reported that tryouts are happening, and that we are opening a 13U tryout as well as there appears to be demand for the age group. Whether the team will be formed will be discussed at the end of tryouts (March 24th and 25th).

Fall Training – Anne reported that training dates are scheduled as previously reported – August 5th and 26th - with a possible additional date in September if needed. An early U12 class may be scheduled with date TBD. Anne reported that R13 will need to offer many Safe Haven classes during the summer to get volunteers up to speed for Fall.

Referee’s Report – Steve reported the upcoming RA meeting will address both ref certifications and rule changes as they affect U10 and U12 refs, both new and returning. Steve expects Fall ref training to be especially challenging due to the new National rules, as they are somewhat vague and some have no specific details outlining consequences of breaking them. There was discussion about the build-out line, punting, offsides, etc., and how players will need to learn different rules at different divisions, and so will the refs and coaches. He hopes a form of “mandatory” training classes will help create a smooth Fall

season. Steve and Kevin are working on a ref training calendar and will present it at the next board meeting.

There was general discussion about Clubhouse scheduling and how to avoid conflicts as team formation meetings are held there in July and August, as well as coach training, safe haven and “welcome to the region” meetings. John suggested we sketch out a training calendar for refs, one for coaches, as well as a facilities calendar to keep track of availability at the Clubhouse.

Scott Davis reported that there were a lot of missed games due to the rain at All Stars. He led discussion about “Mentoring Days” on the field to help refs with new rules. Mini tournaments were suggested. The proposals will be revisited at the next board meeting.

Fields – Marco reported that we are losing Muir North to another baseball field, that they are skimming the NE corner. The Spring Cup could lose the area entirely unless R13 pays for a temporary construction fence, which could give 3 or 4 teams room on the field. He suggested we could use that area for U8 or U10. Marco reported he had a conflict with a man practicing on the field Marco was scheduled to use. Marco wants coaches to report interlopers to a board member so R13 can protect its rights and permits for use of the fields.

Financial Report – Angel reported for Grad Series a net profit of \$1400. All Stars is at \$8,500. Spring Cup checks received are at \$15,500. Final MST is at \$30,700 with bills paid. She reported she and DeWayne will meet with John to go over the Treasurer duties. Heidi requested Angel’s help finding an old receipt to replace a broken bownet bag.

MY2017 - John distributed a draft 2017 Calendar for the Board to review for Fall season dates. It was generally agreed that Serj will need to choose the registration dates (he is currently traveling) – usually scheduled for late May. John will meet with Serj to determine registration dates.

There was discussion about how late registration negatively affects team formation. Heidi suggested “wait-list registration” instead.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

- John will email the Board a list of the Board vacancies.
- John will announce BOSC to coaches working on Spring Cup and have advanced team coordinators follow up.
- Pam will draft an email to BOSC coaches to encourage them to sign up by March 17th, and commit to 10 hours of volunteer duty, to get a \$100 refund on registration.
- Ivonne will email John, Neil and Vinh when Spring Cup uniforms arrive.
- Steve and Kevin will prepare a ref training calendar for the next board meeting.
- John will meet with Serj to determine Fall registration dates.

NEXT MEETING – April 6th

ADJOURN – *Motion to adjourn. Seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:49pm.*

Respectfully submitted by Kim Fitzgerald

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Attachment 1

2017 March Coach Report

Area 1C Cup.

We have the following number of teams from Region 13:

BU10 - 6 teams 72 tix

GU10 - 5 teams 65 tix

BU12 - 3 teams 45 tix

GU12 - 3 teams 46 tix

BU14 - 1 team 18 tix

GU14 - 2 teams 32 tix

278 Galaxy tickets needed for players and coaches.

All Stars

Our teams did well overall in All-Stars. Especially BU10 and BU12. Attached is the breakdown. Most Area and Regional teams still have playoffs this weekend.

Section

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BU10 Section - Trejo wins Area. Proceeds to Section Play in Riverside.

BU12 Section - Chung wins Area. Proceeds to Section Play in Riverside.

BU14 Section - Way placed 6th in Pool Play. No Playoffs.

GU10 Section - Sindici 3rd Pool Play. 3rd in Playoffs.

GU12 Section - Becker 3rd Pool Play. 3rd in Playoffs.

GU14 Section - Nguyen 3rd Pool Play. 3rd in Playoffs.

Area

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GU14 Area Serdar 1st Pool Play. 2nd in Playoffs.

BU12 Area Brookbanks 5th in Pool Play. No Playoffs.

Playoffs this weekend

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BU10 Area - Petherbridge 1st in Pool Play.

BU14 Area - Cook 2nd in Pool Play.

GU10 Area - Kreinberg 4th in Pool Play.

GU12 Area - Burns 4th in Pool Play.

Regional - Playoffs this weekend (3/11, 3/12).

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BU10 Regional - Adhami placed 1st in pool play.

BU10 Regional – Quezada placed 6th in pool play.

BU12 Regional - Evans placed 3rd in pool play.

BU12 Regional – Kalvinskas placed 6th and Walker placed 7th in pool play.

GU10 Regional - Martinez placed 11th in pool play. No Playoffs.

GU12 Regional - Sahand 1st in Pool Play.

Grad Series

It was a challenging season due to the rain and many cancelled practices and weekends. To counter, an extra week was added as well as games were moved to and added to Sunday. In the end most teams played 5 games and some played 6 games. Extra clinics were also added to try to make up for rained up clinics.

Thank you to all the referees who helped out by covering games without a certified referee. Thanks to Brian Bonham for setting up the needed coverage. In what looked like a good amount of referee volunteers at the time of team formation ended up with a deficit and coverage was needed. Unfortunately due to need for coverage, I don't think the program was able to fulfill the goal of referee mentorship.

With the new National Age matrix, there will be many U7 players moving directly to U10. Should be offer something U7/U8 tournament in late spring to help the players with the transition?

At the last board meeting, we discussed offering a discount to the Grad Series families for fall registration. I think in the end, thanks to the hard work of Roger and Marco and the flexibility of the coaches and families involved the program was a success. If the board decided to offer a discount, I would suggest \$25.

An additional suggestion would be to collect fees during registration to lock in player and have fewer drops prior to the season.