

SWYSC BOARD MEETING – February 7, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete MacDonald, Woody Pendergast, Juergen Klingenberg, Melody Holiday, Kathy Bobbitt, Steve Dorsey, Jeff Geller, Deb Lehane

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Powers, Rob Blunt, Ray Bobbitt, Ken Bishop

MEMBERS ARRIVED LATE: Skip Parry

MOTIONS MADE:

Melody motioned to accept the exceptional player policy – Woody seconded. Motion to approve the concept that Juergen and Jeff had for a mini World Cup/Camp in summer. Kathy motioned to approve, Melody seconded.

Motion made to begin meeting at 7:10 by Melody, seconded by Juergen.

Approval of minutes for January. Mick Gregg questioned the player pool policy. Kathy Bobbitt explained. Pete MacDonald explained it is created as a fairness issue.

Woody Pendergast motioned to approve the January minutes, Deb Lehane seconded.

Good news – U14B boys coming along nicely. Kathy Bobbitt stated that registration went well. Steve Dorsey regarding the bylaws. They are in the process of defining committees to review. The 12 B boys are doing well. Dennis Ward is doing a great job with them. Dennis will be starting what is called Gorilla soccer for 4-6 yrs old 6 weeks starting March 2nd into April .

Woody did goalie training with Keith Dolan at the Sportsplex. Debbie stated that she still needs some team payments. AnneMarie has pulled roughly 4 yrs of financial records together.

Jeff Geller on 1/27 had taken 100 Saratoga Wilton soccer players tubing at West Mountain. Juergen – uniforms and on line store. There have been some good sales. The parents are sporting the merchandise. Downforce graphics will do the banners for the sponsors when needed. Skip wanted to mention the progress in the last 6 months that the club has taken forward. The Club is far ahead of where it was last year. Skip believes that we are making a stronger club. Skip stated that he has been watching the teams at practice and at games.

Deb got together with Anna Marie and the accountant that Juergen knows Al Janik. Debbie stated she learned a lot of good stuff. Once bylaws applied, it could take 9 months or so. Al Janik recommend the the Club does not file taxes. The IRS wouldn't worry about it. The Club would have to issue 1099's to the paid coaches. Pete had stated that he had given Miguel \$300 from the account that was set up for him. There is still \$50 in that account

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Jeff Geller and Ken Bishop had asked that Gavin park name the new road going to the back fields Hoyes Lane. Kathy suggested to resend the email to all managers for parents regarding Miguel and his situation and the account that is available to contribute to.

Help with the Sponsorship is being requested by Juergen.

Team placements are now out. Teams and Coaches can see where their team is placed. There is an appeal date of Feb 11th at the Sand Creek Middle School.

Play up guidelines – Dennis combined in one packet, the play up policy along with the player placement. The Club needs to establish competitive teams and place the player at a comfortable level for that player. Dennis stated the Club would not make a player go somewhere they were not comfortable.

4 phases for player placement per Dennis. All players play on age appropriate teams. Most competitive aspect would be considered. If a player plays up then the best players that have moved up would leave space available for the better players from lower team to move up. This would however leave the lower teams weaker. Playing on age is the most appropriate level to consider with two exceptions. This would be an exceptional player with an athletic skills beyond their peers. They would also have to be in the top 1/3 of older age group as a player. This type player would need to be at higher age team.

At tryouts determined that if there were fewer than 3 players, they could try out for pool of older age. If they proved to be a starter for either team, it most likely would be on the older team. Players on Rec plus status – if player joins after tryouts, they should be put on an age appropriate team. The Club retains the right to adjust teams for the outdoor season. If two or less players are placed this way, the competitive impact on the team is not as great. Specific saying for social purposes the Club is willing to make this adjustment knowing the Club is not in the competitive aspect for this team. These exceptions are because the Club wants to please the players, only if players' interest takes precedence.

Mick Gregg had some questions regarding the play up policy. He felt that this was rewarding the individual over the group. He felt that this would have to be player initiated. The player selection committee would make the final determination regarding this player and if the player is eligible. Mick also asked if we putting something in place to check on these particular players say 10 years down the road to see where the players are at that point who the Club had selected to play up? This all works into the classic and challenge soccer with Rays plan for the Club.

Kathy Bobbitt stated that we needed to put something in place as it was “rampant” within the girls. There are presently 16 girls playing up and some sort of guidelines needed to be put in place.

Mick would also like to see something in place regarding coaches if we are looking to become a better Club. From a coaching perspective, what the Club expects of the coaches. Mick stated that he would like to be part of the coaches selection committee. Skip stated that if we make a social exception then this puts the accountability back to the parents.

We are diminishing possibility of this team by allowing player to play on team. Mark Klotz sees the policy as a RIGID policy, making the Club limit the number of players playing up. The Club also wanted to eliminate the coaches making the decisions as there is a conflict of interest. Player selection committee has the job of determining if player in top 1/3 of team. Rigidness is in part for players requesting. Kathy stated there are many reasons why kids playing out of age group. The soccer minds that met for this policy realized maybe 2-3 of these kids are playing for other than their soccer ability. The rigidness is for the player/parent request. The Club requested an area where there is some flexibility in this policy.

Mark Klotz stated that you cannot think out every situation in the decision making. The Club section has the flexibility. Woody when he first looked at this and due to the dates of August 1 to December 1 stated that there are going to be several kids in different grades. Woody stated that he has seen maybe a handful of kids that were exceptional. HE does see the lower levels more. We want to be a Travel Club and be competitive and not here as a social aspect. That is what Rec is for. Presented this as a package. There should be a small committee if there is truly an exceptional player allowed to play up. Making the final decision would be that of the player selection committee. This starts new and there will be no grandparenting. This is for the 08/09 season. Skip suggested discussing this with parents. The Club needs to give information to parents whether it be by website or email from the Club. Dennis states there is no problem with the exceptional player. Kathy would like to see no grade eligible vs grade eligible. No social exceptions made. That exceptional player would only going to A team and would not go to B team. With grade eligible there is allowance to go to B team. Woody suggests that we need better representation. Dennis stated that delaying the final vote doesn't hurt it. Depending upon how quickly the club can move into the long term plan.

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Tryout dates. – Coaches committee formed by April 9th. Applications by April 25th.
Recommendations made by May 8th Board meeting.

U10 - Sat May 31st
U12 – Sat June 7th
U14 Sat June 21st
U16 and Above – Sat June 28th

Team selection meeting Sat July 12 and Sun July 13
Teams not to schedule anything on tryout dates

Melody to email managers for May Day meeting at Lillians on March 5th.

Mixer date March 8th Saturday at Lillians. The Club purchased a Jacket to give to Dave Carr. Laura to go ahead with the planning.

Jeff, Skip and Pete wanted to have some ZEST to the tournament. Especially for the U10's on Sunday. The Club would like to have in place a pilot program at the U10 level – shooting strength – juggling skills – Exhibition game possible. Suggested by Mick.

Juergen – summer camp. Juergen noted that there is a gap between May Day, tryouts and when the indoor season starts. Juergen suggested a 1 week long camp at Daniels Road. It could host kids 7–14 not necessarily club kids. This would be one way to get money for the club. Possibly in August where there is nothing really soccer wise going on. There could be reimbursement for the coaches who are doing it. Set up like a mini World Cup. Balance teams and play round robin type play. See if the Board will provide – Aug 4-8 or 11-15 – Coever camp at Gavin. Pete to check dates with Gavin. Exposes new players to the Academy type situation. Promote tryouts, promote Gavin Rec program. Learn how to put on good camp. Small tournaments 3 v 3 – use the Daniels Road fields – See if Gavin available.

Club model – emailed to people. Travel and Premier – or Classic vs Challenge.

Ray to produce the feeder club model. Help us look at models simultaneously. Hope to get a consensus. Juergen made a good point stating that the word “Challenge” has a miss concept and that the Club may wish to change the terminology – To Select or Premier.

Policies and guidelines. Need policy manual and bylaw review. The policies are the operating procedures. Scholarships – how much money should the Club have set aside for scholarships. Maybe change the terminology from scholarship request to financial aide as we already have a “Scholarship” that senior can apply for.

Mark stated that we have a list of things from bylaws that they have recognize that they need committees for. When is a good time to determine what is priority.

Registration – players drop. Juergen does not see the teams out there doing the sponsorship. This would help with a lot of the team financials.

Jeff and Pete securing indoor training space for next season. This should be done now in addition to Sportsplex. Jeff went to Maple Avenue which he states has the best facilities. Mon and Friday 7-9pm. Sat 12noon on is everybody. Up to \$25 hr. He is checking additional spaces.

Kathy Bobbitt gave some information on the charity to Haiti she did last year at the May Day. She collected used soccer shoes to send to Haiti. Juergen made presentation to put information on the website. He would like to have it with our May Day information. Collecting used soccer equipment to send to Haiti. The contact was made last minute last year. Kathy took email to pass on to families who registered to May Day. Last year Kathy brought to John Erickson's mom. She stated that Haiti is in desperate need. To give to all teams as a flyer or as a download with May Day information.

Promoting Tuesday night talks. Parents voiced a interest for someone on health and nutrition. On the 26th of February – Saratoga Physical Therapy – John Villa – referees – would like to talk – Marcia Frasier - U12B girls has father that wants to volunteer on biophysics. – Fundraiser – training module – These are all ideas Skip has for topics he has heard from parents that they would be interested in.

Skip would like permission – to pursue the entertainment book. No official motion was made.

Pete wants to have a 24 hr soccer game for charity. Just a thought.

Motion to adjourn at 9:10pm made by Pete, Juergen seconded.