

## SWYSC BOARD MEETING – JANUARY 9, 2008

Members present: Kathy Bobbitt, Rob Blunt, Steve Dorsey, Skip Parry, Joe Powers, Deb Lehane, Juergen Klingenberg, Melody Holiday, Pete Loyola, Pete MacDonald, Jeff Geller

Members absent: Ken Bishop, Ray Bobbitt

### **MOTIONS MADE:**

Meeting to begin by Skip Parry, seconded by Rob Blunt.

Approval of past minutes by Juergen, seconded by Skip Parry – pass, no changes.

Dave Carr should be the recipient of the award at the mixer. Pete will get him something appropriate. Other mentioned for awards were John Jayco, Ceil Drosky, Steve Pierce.

Melody motioned to pass the player pool policy, Deb Lehane seconded.

Refund policy letter – Skip motioned to pass, Juergen seconded.

Skip motioned to accept the Proposal Structure of the Club, Jeff seconded.

### **MEETING MINUTES:**

Deb Lehane submitted a Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet. This was for the period July – December 2007 when she took over.

Juergen reported that there has been \$1,400 - \$1,500 in on line sales for club merchandise.

501(C) status – Ann Marie Pendergast is working very hard and was able to piece together 4 years of financial information so far.

Past tax situation – Deb Lehane stated this is still a question. Has the Club ever filed? Deb is asking for help from an Accountant. Juergen has a contact names Al Janik. In the past a 1090 was filed but sent back as they did not have the Club “On File”. Pete will pull together a group “A finance committee” to include help from Al Janik.

Deb also asked to implement a voucher system to pay bills. She wants to have a rubber stamp made of Pete’s signature as it required 2 signatures for checks over \$500. It is a time consuming process to find another person to sign that check along with Deb. This would allow her to pay invoices quickly. Julia VanZandt has a problem with this idea.

Deb will put something in writing and present it at the next meeting.

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Some teams are opening team accounts in 'Saratoga Youth Soccer Club' name and it is very confusing for the bank. It needs to be in the team name. Pete would like to have the finance committee kick this one around.

The winter mixer for the SWYSC is on January 19<sup>th</sup> at Lillians. Team managers need to get a list to Laura asap as she has to have the final count by Jan 16<sup>th</sup> to Ray at Lillians.

Team Placement forms - Need 16 team placement forms. They have to be to CDYSL by Jan 25<sup>th</sup>. Pete MacDonald stated he only has Tim Roselle's team. Pete needs these forms by January 18<sup>th</sup>. Dan had a question regarding play date. Dan is to check with Steve Porto for date of Wilton Days as his U14 girls area committed to this Wilton Day. Melody will check with CDYSL for no play date. Do the U14's get another date beside the Wilton Day.

Dennis asked if he submits a team for the outdoor session and then withdrawls that team if there are not enough players, is there a fine. Pete M. advised him that if it is done by the withdrawl date given by CDYSL, then there will be no fine. Pete will look over team placements and see if teams are in the "wrong divisions". He will then check with coach.

Play up guidelines – essence of guidelines – entry point of player, team, or club. What is good or makes sense for player for development. Looked at exceptional player which would be a player in the top 1/3 of team. This player would still have to try out at both age groups. This would need to be consistant throughout the Club and with policy and not a random sense of playing up per Rob. Rob has concern with policy. He states that playing with peers would be more comfortable. Rob not sure he would want to have a 5<sup>th</sup> grader playing with 7<sup>th</sup> grader. CDYSL does not allow anyone to play down. The Club should begin making policies using the framework that CDYSL has. Template should be not for our club to play up. Policy perspective this has to have an opportunity for case by case situation. Not just assign by grade level. The players are better suited to play with peers. If a coach recommends that a player play up. That coach must write a letter Joe stated and suggests that if there is an in between player and if the coach feels they can play up but are not necessarily in the top 1/3 level of team.

Player selection committee and chair for that committee. These kind of decisions should be left to the committee to decide per Dan. Pete would like to set some type of parameters. There cannot be a policy that is so flexible that it doesn't fit with the Club standards. The Club does need a play up policy. But there is a balancing act. The player may not make it when playing up. Jeff suggests that the kids, lets say 5, that have the ability to play up should stay with that team to make a strong team. There is a player that Dan recommended to play U16 who is a U14 team eligible, but this is due to her size and not her grade level.

The player is not in the top 1/3 of team and does not have much ability. Joe is asking that there be some room in policy players who fall into this “gray” area. Not how teams get picked. This is just a piece of the player selection. The Club should get all the boys side and the girls side and take a look and see who wants who. The Coaches should see how players stack up.

Rob stated that this doesn't work. Pete believes this was how it was years ago. Rob stated that those players in the “gray” area cannot be in the team selection because the play up policy excludes them. The Board needs to talk more about team selection. Dennis states that the Club is basically the selection committee, somewhat. How do you disallow siblings playing together. If both players are grade eligible that is a different situation then these “gray area players” .

Julia asked if a line could be added to the policy that the Coach can make a consideration to allow these children to play up. Once a player is released to next level. No one wants to stick their neck out and tell a player they have to go back down, if they do not make it on the ‘A’ team.

Skip asked if there is a better way to educate the parents regarding the play up policy. Deb stated that you can put a PR spin on it and state that if spots available on upper team, go to lower aged team to fill first. Skip stated in younger ranks we need to set precedence for the parents to understand the policy. Jeff Geller was at both meetings regarding play up policy. The Objective of Club he believes is to make a competitive club vs. a Rec type fun club by allowing peers to play together. Joe Powers asked that we should work with school and their coaches and play as a whole community.

The Club needs some kind of policy in place soon. The Player selection committee will be where these players that are in the gray will be placed. The Club needs to see how everything fits. It will be up to the Player selection committee to determine who plays where. Jeff also stated that an exceptional player and a play up policy, may need to be separated into two policies. Deb thought that if child below grade, that would be play up player, where the policy would fit. If they are grade level, they should be eligible to play with grade. Player would need to be top 1/3 of team as the policy states now. Julia cautioned not to be just grade eligible due to some players size. There may be exceptions. Joe was not at the last committee meeting. Pete stated that there is enough strong opposition to vote this through. Pete would like for Rob and Joe to get something together with a group and arrive at conclusion. Pete not interested in ramming this through. This needs to be done properly and to have this Board agree at some point. Let Ray know to have one more meeting and have Rob, Joe and Jeff there. Not able to vote on this tonight.

Kathy stated if child comes in club now, after registration then she would roster as Rec plus player. Then that player can practice with A and B teams. Coaches can evaluate this new player. It may be possible to move a B level player up to A and place this new player on the B team. This Rec plus status player gives the coaches time to evaluate this player. Kathy would have the coaches in the age groups evaluate. Ray's concept is to have age group trainer. This could be one of the coaches. Joe Powers likes the player pool and Rec plus status. This would prevent what happened to Joe when he got calls and players just added to B team. Dan has 18 and Joe has 17 players. Dan said 16 is unrealistic in Club setting. The Coach has to look at over all good of the Club. Although 16 is what Dan prefers, this was not possible. SWYSC is not a professional club. Pete feels that the numbers fall with the team selection committee. Pete likes the process regarding adding new players. Dan would recommend adding a cut off date and have that player automatically Rec plus if registers after that date. Coach has lead way up to certain date. That Rec plus status should not be in place until December. If player does not make tryouts Kathy feels that the player should be put in this procedure. There should be exceptions like new player moving in town, not the same as a returning player just blowing tryouts off. Julia would like to see a date for determination. Coaches admit it should not take long to determine the players ability.

Brian Marshall asked why if we are trying to serve our community, do we allow outside area players on a team and have no room for our community players. Brian stated that Clifton Park does not take any players from outside until their players are all placed.

This Club has always been an open player policy.

Proposal structure – Not voting on every single word, voting to support the concept. Miguel states that the Club needs a Technical director, Director of coaching, Director of Classic Soccer. As well as age group trainers. These could be coached trying to keep people at level developmentally. Skip motioned and Jeff seconded.

Dennis and the Club models. Dennis stated briefly there are four models.

These models are being reviewed by small groups. Differences with Travel only, year to year or feeder club. Include everyone up to U12 help them develop and then move the top players elsewhere to develop fundamentally. This needs to get developed soon. This should not wait until next year. The Club needs to proceed with this. Dennis, Pete, Skip, Rob, Ray to put together recommendation to propose to Board. Activities to influence the 2008/2009 season in the complete club model. Need to have things in place a few weeks before tryouts . This is to retain the club players that would be leaving normally.

Tryouts – anyone welcome. Ray, Kathy, Woody, Jeff, Rick, Pete. Combine play up policies in context with tryouts. Pete will get with Ray.

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Coaches selection committee. – Pete asked and Brian stated that he will help out and Jeff is interested in being on this. Also have Skip, Ray and Miguel possibly.

MAY DAY -

Director – Melody/Pete

Volunteers – Ray and Deb Lehane – looking to turn over and Ray will walk her through process

Concessions – Kathy, Melody and Laura

Field Marshall – Rob Blunt and Joe Powers

Tshirts – Juergen

Pete Loyola – Refs and scoring with help from Jeff

Clean up – Ken Bishop

Shoot out – Woody Pendergast

Field and goals – ask Dan if he is part of that – line the 2 Mondays prior for field lined – volunteers at least 3 days in row. There needs to be a separate person in charge of painting and they need to be there at time of field lining. Daniels road coordinated at same time for field lay out and lined.

Parking – Skip agreed – Need to get a hold of farmer Vincek.

Equipment and balls – Steve Dorsey

Sponsorship – Rick, Juergen – Rick gave list to Juergen and Juergen will try to get more. Stewarts and Adirondack Trust. Joe to ask Debbie regarding Ayco Financial. Joe will ask CDPHP.

Collecting stuff for Haiti – Kathy Bobbitt

Steve to report – Bylaws. Jan 30<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting. Still have Feb target date. There is a lot there.

Skip PR – Goal keeper and banner guys.

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Sportsplex – Pete Loyola gave update on the U8 – have 23 kids had first practice first game this Saturday – kids seemed pumped – already 17 teams signed up.

Bob Crandall keeping the lead. Could get some more kids. Team is about 1/3 full. Kathy handed stuff out yesterday. She tried to submit the electronic roster but the two adults listed did not do the risk management and it will not go through.

Keith Dolan had first goal keeper training. Skip had a speaker for the first of the Tuesday night talks at Sportsplex during practice times. Skip would like to see this continue during practices. Miguel being technical director would be good to get with Skip and Lee.

Juergen asked how many players registered but not paid. Kathy stated that there is just one on travel and two on Rec.

Dennis stated there will be a Rec spring program at Gavin \$45 for residents – K-6 . This will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> – to June 14<sup>th</sup>. Just finishing up flyers for it. Play on Wednesdays.

Motion to adjourn – made by Steve Dorsey, Juergen seconded at 9:35p