

SWYSC BOARD MEETING – MARCH 13, 2008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pete MacDonald, Juergen Klingenberg, Melody Holiday, Pete Loyola, Kathy Bobbitt, Rob Blunt, Joe Powers,

Members Absent: Ray Bobbitt, Ken Bishop

Members Arrived Late – Jeff Geller, Skip Parry, Woody Pendergast

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

MOTIONS MADE:

Steve motioned to purchase equipment for goals at Gavin/Daniels and for equipment related to goals. Not to exceed \$1,000. Skip seconded.

Approval of minutes – Woody moved to approve, Juergen seconded.

Deb Lehane – made motion to pass to move to complete club model. Skip seconded

Pete Loyola made motion to accept positions presented and have Rick as parent rep for Coaches selection. Pete will be the parent rep for the coaches committee – not Rick. Woody seconded.

Motion for the grade eligible play up Joe to approve to adapt to Rob Seconded

May Day – Teams are coming in. There is a meeting of the May Day Committee and the scheduling meeting is set for April 5th.

Training – Rob Blunt was thinking about some informal training. Kids could be ready for training before fields ready. In conjunction with Skip, Rob was also thinking about some strength training, movements. Rob has not formalized anything as of yet. Gym time available \$25/hr at Maple Ave Middle as well as other area gyms. Jeff can assist with that if Rob needs the assistance.

Steve – Since the nets have not been replaced in awhile, Steve is replacing a lot of the nets at Gavin and Daniels for the Tournament. The Club was aware the expense was coming. Steve is looking to buy 3 sets of modified goal nets, 2 sets of full size net at a cost of approx. \$150/pair. Steve purchased some in the fall for Daniels Road. Steve stated that they are plain generic nets. Motion made by Steve Dorsey to purchase 2 sets full size nets at \$300, and the necessary modified sets needed for approx \$125/pr. The cost not to exceed \$1,000.

SWYSC Board Meeting

March 13, 2008

Page Two

Steve to purchase balls. It was suggested to upgrade the quality of the balls used. The club used to use a \$7-8 ball, a Bryne ball. Steve upgraded to \$13 ball, an Adidas. Jeff Geller suggested a \$25 ball for quality. Give each team a ball for the day and have them give back at end of day. Each field gets the balls. Collect at end of day. Jeff stated it would be approximately \$800 for balls. Jeff as others felt strongly that it is the most important part of game, it is the game. Steve interested in purchasing about 40 balls. Deb would contact Anaconda if the Board agreed to let her. Steve and Jeff to get together and get some pricing. Jeff or Steve to send email to Board to approve or not.

Debbie – treasurer’s report. Operating at negative - \$3,600. Until May Day. A lot of money going to Daniels. Still need to collect for indoor fees from the U14 A Boys, U12A Boys, U17 Boys, U14 Girls A team.

Deb interested in moving accounts – to Saratoga National. The seem to have a better interest on the savings.

Dennis – Gorilla Soccer at Gavin with the 4-6 year olds. Need volunteers to help for a little over an hour on Sundays until April 20th. It is 9:45 – 11:00am. Melody volunteered a couple of soccer players in her Religious Education 8th grade class to do as a community service project.

Skip wished we could have thanked many others at the mixer aside from recognizing Dave Carr.

Juergen – Parents really enjoyed the responses from people there at Sportsplex for the ACL injury from Saratoga Orthopedics. Need to make sure that these group gatherings get attended. Rick suggested that someone should make it mandatory. Board contacting players and parents monthly letting them know of club functions. Maybe a monthly newsletter. Is this the best time to have them held during practice nights? Publish schedule on the website. Make use of time for idle parents. Set up for subcommittee meetings. Get subjects lined up for topics for the newsletter. Send out a monthly news letter. Recommend sign up for the informational classes. Juergen stated that there could be an email feeler regarding what parents and others want to hear about. Other parties Skip has been contacted by wanted to charge. Skip did not want to have a charge this year. Skip to promote as Fundraiser. Pete mentioned that as a committee to help with Volunteers and get guest speakers. Which ones are critical. Which ones do we need.

Entertainment books – Skip mentioned the books, but nothing was agreed upon. Question was asked several times by Melody with not formal response. Unaware if this is a go or not.

Complete Club Model – Dennis helpful in the club model. Does management consultant on professional basis. Dennis had meeting about ½ to 1/3 coaches attended. The Club needs to vote if possible regarding three general directions the club can go. 1) stay where we are, some years premier teams, some years there are not 2) complete club model – doing things necessary to have resources to provide most beneficial playing experience for players from 4 to highschool and beyond.

Starting this spring, with focus to keep U10-U12 players in this Club that would normally go elsewhere. Player would not find better place to go. 3) feeder club model – complete club model up to U12 then develop affirmative relationship with other clubs to help the player grow. Rob thinks club leaning toward the complete club model. Rob not sure we have the ability to do the complete club model. Dennis to make it work on the player side keeping the 4-6 that would normally leave and attract 2-4 players we normally would not attract and get them to want to come to us. Dennis states that the Club would need volunteers, possibly a pool of parents especially for the funding side. The extra training would be costless, extra tournaments would be costless. Our Club for such would be very inexpensive compared to the Alleycats, Blackwatch costs. This would really be a key area. The Club obviously could not go from A to Z tomorrow. Pete feels that we are going along as far as we can go based on resources financial and participation wise. Not wrong to think we can creep along. Down side potentially Dennis can see that the 4-6 players that would have left and stay extra year or two that the club cannot accommodate them after that, would be the only downside Dennis could see. If done right not too much of a risk. Dennis can potentially see a downside with parents and Board members. – trying to make it work and after a few years it does not work.

Rob can see this going to paid coaches and outside help. In the complete model in the end when classic and challenge (premier or select) type soccer would determine whether coaches were paid or volunteer. Traditional coaches who work with B level players. Good coaches come from a lot of places. That B coach may provide a lot of benefit for the A team. By becoming a complete club model we are not saying we want to be the best club in the region. We are trying to provide additional training to players to make them better. This could certainly benefit all the players. Pete asked Jeff what he feels having been on both side. Jeff stated to be the best community club we could. If it stops at U12 or U14 and doesn't diminish what Saratoga Soccer does, then that is fine. If the U15 /U16 this is what we have, this is what our club offers. The U14 for club level is where we should focus on. The Club has a boy side trainer – Miguel can get it done as long as the practice is outlined. Every A team should have a paid trainer. The only

reason a player left was due to coaching or training. Kathy sat at Board of Directors meeting and the philosophy of club from prior years was that we would NEVER be those clubs, and look where we are today. Skip asking if there is a team that we have that we can provide more training for. Pete Loyola stated we have come a long way. Possible we can compete at Premier level. Our Club doesn't have the numbers to compete at that level like Long Island. The more paid connected coaches that come in will help with the credibility. Keep good credible coaches in. Skip was stating that all teams could learn. Rick stated that is was the coaching, money. Extra training and have kids play at levels they will be playing in. Players that play in division 1 can get some good guest players to interact.

Dennis stated on size and at final team placements that Saratoga is the overall 4th largest at CDYSL. The other area clubs drop off after that with. There are 63 named clubs – with CDYSL. But how as a Club do we gauge success asks Pete Loyola. State cup and Super Y with players from all over the region. Want to be in the top half of CDYSL division to be successful. If we are in the bottom half, are the teams in the wrong division? Look at overall club, what is the win/loss record. How many players retained, how many left. Deb stating from the pulling players as Rick did so we get the player pool, so we get the financials in. Adirondack growing in the Northern area. Need to identify key players. Pete states that this club model is a concept. The Club should commit ourselves to put our club in the position to get these kids to the D2 level in college. The concept is to put the resources in place starting at the U10 level. IT is the target level where the 4-6 players haven't left yet. Keep those players by providing training outside the CDYSL league starting with the U10, U12, U14 together in fitness training or skills training. Or on a tournament team.

New positions – Ray's proposal –

Technical Director – Miguel Hoyos
Asst Technical Director – Ray Bobbitt
Director of Select Soccer- Mick Gregg
Director of Coaches Education – Jeff Geller
Director of Boys side – Jeff Geller
Director of Girl side – Joe Powers
Director of Academy – Ray Bobbitt
Director of Rec Soccer – Dennis Ward
Director or PR – Juergen Kllingenberg
Specialty Training – (GK, fitness, etc.) –

Player selection committee – Miguel, Ray, Jeff, Mick, Joe, Dennis (non-voting)

Coaches committee – Miguel, Ray, Jeff, Skip, Dennis (non-voting)

Open to have Dennis made a voting member – When it comes to the coaches committee there is room for people who don't have an A license but know the game and can ask questions. Dennis felt that good idea to get non coaches on the committee who can prevent coaches from dividing up the players amongst themselves.

Woody stated that he suggested others to be on some of these committees like Ted Henderson for Player selection committee. Stephanie Geller would be good. The Club needs to seek out women who are qualified to get into the club. Joe Powers suggested Lynn King, the former Modified Soccer Coach at the Middle School who is also very interested in coming into our Club.

Director of Advancement – possible not called PR. Could get more people interested in it. There will always be tension between the soccer guys and the non soccer guys. They need to have what is needed to be said on the players selection committee, or coaches committee. People like Patty Rice, Sarah Cooper. Rich states that we are not going to question Miguel, Ray, Jeff, Mick. This may be a Bylaw, or things in the future. Parent reps possible. Player selection committee will always have technical director. That most likely would be a policy and procedure entry. Mick asked to be on the coaches selection committee, not player selection committee. Rob stated that having a parent on the coaches committee that we see our coaches in a certain light. A parent may be able to cast some different light on coaches. One possibility that we should have someone there that could represent these issues. A parent, and they would be on the inside. Maybe there is a possibility that we have a parent rep at each committee meeting.

Grade eligible proposal – play up policy – if only 1 or 2 grade eligible players that could make the higher level team, they would be able to play up. If three or more players then they would stay on the age appropriate team. The decision is made based on the try out. A bunch of girls going to school with friends want to play with these kids, not other kids they do not know. It is not a “social” it is a peer type things. If you have a group of 4 or more, you have that peer group playing together. The point for the 2 or more is just for critical mass, not for social. This is player friendly. And in the long term may be team friendly, possibly. Give these people a choice. Lets not create a cast iron policy. Mark Klotz not sure if this fits into a policy as he understands it. It may not be achieved by the way the policy is written. If you have an A,B,C team you have two on B team and one on A that player on A is precluded from moving up. Those players will play on age, the B upper level player will be on the age eligible. They will be the better player on that team. Skip states this is just a criteria to follow, not cast in stone. Woody agrees with Ray. WE are trying to build competitive club – keep kids on age. Make the exceptional player issue and then there potentially could be 4 players moving up.

SWYSC Board Meeting
March 13, 2008
Page Six

With the Complete Club model they would be playing tournaments and training and friendly games with the older age players. Expands the soccer world, if the CDYSL team is not the most appropriate. Pete states that high school soccer mimics college soccer. Pete states he sees the travel players at Skidmore that are not developmental, not conditioned, just play zone soccer.

Kathy thinks that it is a good idea – to get these things up on website – as they are approved. With the Bylaws – the Refund Policy, Kathy has. Player joining club late – Need to get up on website. Do these policies need to go through Steve for final proposal. TO get on website before tryouts. Put on document when it was approved into Policy by the Board. Mark Klotz needs to have it go through the Policy and Procedure committee.

Jeff holding clinic at Daniels Road the same week as NY Premier Soccer Request , July 28-Aug 1 and Aug 4-8 – after 2pm that week Daniels would be available.

Motion to adjourn at 9:12pm by Skip Parry, Pete Loyola seconded.