



Paper Valley Youth Soccer

Board of Directors

Feb. 15, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m. by President Michele Muchowski.

Board members in attendance: Robert Gallegos, Tom Wanamaker, Marti Coan, Phil Therrien, Jerry Hameister, Amy Vandenberg, Jill Rechner, Holly Lifke, Scott Hoelzel, Michele Muchowski, Sean Johnson, Tina Wiswall.

Members absent: Peter Kimmes, Marcie Kimmes, Jerry Mortimer, Jim Schmidt, JoAnn Schmidt and Phil Kerwin.

Team Representatives Present: Shane Roh, Neenah Crossfire White.

Others attending: Justin Oshefsky, Randy Lifke, Kim Speakes, Tony Malson and Bob Lesh.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS:

Bob Lesh provided the board with information on a fundraising opportunity from N.E.W Real Deals, LLC. The company is putting together a 24-month coupon book that the club could sell. The benefits for the club include: sales on consignment, profit of \$20 on a \$35 book and no minimum sales volume. The book is broken into four sections including entertainment, food, services and retail. Other groups currently selling the book are Menasha High School. There is also a referral program that we could use with our local team sponsors to get them in the book. The books will be out June 1 and the closing date is April 15. Since the book is two years, if we don't get someone in this year, we would miss out for two years.

Board members discussed whether it would be a team or club fundraiser, but further discussion will take place at a future meeting.

Kim Speakes and Tony Malson appeared for the board to speak about the recent player resignations from FC United, the clubs U13C state league team. Speakes pointed out that when her son wanted to leave a team two years ago, she appeared before the board and was told her son's departure would hurt the team and he would not be released. She encouraged the board to follow the same precedent. Her son is on the FC United team and she said the problem here is with the parents. The coaches have taken control of the team and there are parents who have not been able to adjust to that.

Malson said if the board allows these players to be released, the team will be down to 12 players. He said there are not state league level players waiting around looking for a team, most are already committed. The release will hurt the team's chances of remaining competitive.

Tina Wiswall wanted to know who had asked for a release.

Muchowski said the board has already established a precedent that players are not generally released from the team. She noted that just a few months ago another player asked to be released from the U14C team and the board said no.

Jerry Hameister questioned the continuing problems of the team in question.

Gallegos said he suspects the problem is the players. He said the boys want to play and wondered if anyone was really asking them what they wanted.

Marti Coan suggested mediation for the team's parent groups.

Holly Lifke said she and her husband had tried to do that this year, but had been unsuccessful.

Phil Therrien said his son made the decision to leave FC United because of the negative interactions she was having with some of the other players.

Gay Johnson said that makes it a teaching moment. She noted that her son played on this team the year before and was often the target of negative comments by other players. Despite knowing he was going to be cut, and knowing all the abuse he was taking, she counseled him to finish out the season because that was the commitment he made. He agreed and did finish the season with the team, helping to get the team elevated to the state league level. She said it is a matter of integrity.

Therrien attempted to introduce an e-mail to illustrate the problems on the team. Muchowski said it was not fair to the author and that it was not in the proper context and would not allow it to be introduced.

Muchowski closed off the discussion on the issue and recognized the final guest to appear before the board.

Justin Oshefsky questioned the board about the termination of his referee assignor contract. He said he was not able to present his side of the story.

Sean Johnson informed the board that without counsel present, they should not speak to the issue at all.

Justin again asked the board to address the issue, but board members declined because legal counsel was not present.

MINUTES:

Secretary Johnson electronically distributed the minutes of the January meeting. He reported on several minor corrections and asked the minutes be approved as amended.

Motion to approve the minutes as amended by Lifke. Tom Wanamaker provided a second for the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER REPORT:

Jerry Hameister presented the Treasurer's report to the board in closed session.

OLD BUSINESS:

Code of Conduct

Holly Lifke presented the codes of conduct for players and parents.

Wanamaker said he liked the approach taken. Very simple bullet points that could be easily understood by parents and players alike.

Wiswall asked who would handle any problems that are reported.

Therrien said there is a section of the policies pertaining to that. He read from the board's incident policy.

Coan said she thought it would help players to understand what is expected of them if they have to sign the code.

Motion to approve the codes of conduct for players and parents by Therrien. Wanamaker provided a second. Motion approved.

Marti will have a coach's code for the next meeting. She also suggested the club consider having Lawrence Fine speak on the issues of communicating with players in the electronic age.

Lifke supported the idea, but wondered if a source could be obtained locally.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Registration

Johnson provided the latest figures for registration so far, noting the club was 60 players ahead of last year's pace for recreational teams. He noted that there coaches to fill out most of the teams already, though some assistants would be receiving a battlefield promotion.

Jill Rechner said there were a lot of new sponsors this year. She said a big thank you was due to Julie Roh, who helped contact many of the sponsors.

Flatgrass

Johnson provided a quick update on the teams. Schmidt said he was trying to get organized and ready for taking over the tournament.

Coaches Committee

Tom Wanamaker reported that things have been quiet. He and Johnson will work on setting up the coaches meetings for late March. They will use two meeting this year, one for the U12-U19 rec and classic coaches, the other for U5-U10 rec coaches.

East Central

Jerry Crossman was not present. Hameister asked about the player registration fees. Johnson said he would provide the completed form on March 1. The fees are due March 15.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Muchowski said the club still needs a representative to attend. Robert Gallegos said he would go.

Coan asked if links for the new Women's professional league could be added to the Web site. She also asked about camp rebates per player. Johnson said he would take care of the link and would have to research the camp rebates.

MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION:

A motion for the board to convene in closed session by Coan. Wanamaker provided a second. The motion was approved and the board reconvened in closed session at 8:58 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Coan made a motion to adjourn; second by Gallegos. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

**Next meeting: March 15, 2009, 7:30 p.m.,
Community Room, Neenah Police Station
2111 Marathon Ave, Neenah, WI**