



Paper Valley Youth Soccer

Board of Directors
September, 28, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:33 p.m. by President Michele Muchowski.

Board members in attendance: Muchowski, Sean Johnson, Robert Gallegos, Jim Schmidt, Jerry Hameister, Jerry Mortimer, Jerry Crossman, Marti Coan, Phil Therrien, Chris Trudell, Justin Oshefsky, Tina Wiswall, Holly Lifke, Scott Hoelzel and Tom Wanamaker.

Members absent: Pete Kimmes, Marcie Kimmes, Amy Vandenberg, JoAnn Schmidt.

Team Representatives Present: Brian Start, Neenah Revolution; Shane Roh, Neenah Crossfire – White.

MINUTES:

Secretary Johnson electronically distributed the minutes of the 08/24/2008 meeting prior to the meeting. Trudell made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. Scott Hoelzel provided a second. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

JoAnn Schmidt was ill and no treasurer's report was provided. Newly elected treasurer Jerry Hameister said he and JoAnn were working out a transition for the month of October.

Johnson reported that former treasurer and CPA Dave Hillebrandt had agreed to review the books and complete and past due IRS paperwork. Hameister said he would contact Dave and make the arrangements.

GUEST PRESENTATION:

David Hesson of Raven Manufacturing presented a fundraising idea to the board. His company produces products made from carbonated sugar – similar to Pop Rocks – that could be sold to produce profits for teams and the club. The Neenah Inferno sold the products in August and September in a successful fundraiser.

He proposed the club consider a program like the YMCA uses for its football program where the players pay a fundraising fee up front and pick up the products when they pick up their equipment and jerseys. In that model, players must sell a certain amount to get their fundraising fee back. Players would have to sell \$40 worth to break even.

Johnson said the club had just published its registration rates for 2008-2009 and adding a fundraising fee for this year would be problematic.

Phil Therrien asked if the club had any similar programs. He experience with this kind of model in the past.

Jerry Hameister asked about families with multiple players in the family.

Hesson said he would be willing to help the club coordinate its efforts.

Therrien recommended the club's fundraising coordinate review the program. Marti Coan will meet with Hesson to talk about the programs and report back to the board. The board will review the proposal at its October meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mahler Park –

Johnson reported there was nothing new with the town. He said the board's action will depend on whether there are options with the school or town or Clayton.

Tina Wiswall reported that she would be meeting with the school district prior to the next board meeting. She asked several questions about usage, insurance and maintenance and said she would report back at the next meeting.

A volunteer who had offered to inquire about options in the town of Clayton did not attend the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Kimberly Clark Grants

Johnson reported the results of recent applications for KC Community Partner Grants and informed the board of several trends they should be aware of.

1. A current trend could have PVYSC reach the maximum allowable in grants with only two to three teams receiving them.
2. More folks are applying with no information on how they met the 30 hours of service requirement.
3. Coaches from Recreational teams have applied, putting the club at risk of violating the rule on applicants not benefitting financially.

Therrien said the club must make sure there is documentation. He said several employees from KC have been fires for abusing the program.

Jerry Mortimer suggested we ask for written documentation going forward for all KC Grants that come to use for approval.

Gallegos said the club should play no role in determining if teams access the grants. He said teams that are organized the tap the grants and can document their efforts are entitled receive them. Lifke agreed, saying it would become a logistical nightmare for the club to try and sort out.

Approved Trainers

Jim Schmidt suggested the club needs to have a better handle on trainers working with teams in the club and require them to meet the same standards as coaches as it pertains to risk management.

It was the consensus of the board to hold them to the same requirements as coaches for risk management. All trainers should have a valid coach pass before they are allowed to have contact with players.

Lifke cautioned against referring to trainers as approved, since it would give the expectation the club was saying certain trainers were better than others.

Coaches Code of Conduct

Muchowski proposed a written code of conduct that all coaches would be required to sign before they could begin working with a team. Currently, the club has not code of conduct for coaches. She noted several recent episodes probably could have been avoided – or would have been easier to deal with – had a code been in place.

Coan agreed, noting it was essential for the safety and well being of the players.

Therrien also raised the issue of a parent code of conduct. He said he has witnessed some sideline behavior that is unacceptable.

For both issues, Mortimer said there not only needs to be a code, but specific repercussions for violations should be spelled out.

Muchowski and Therrien said they would work on detailed proposals for the October board meeting.

Coaching Applications

Muchowski proposed the club now require all coaches interested in coaching a classic team to complete a coaching application before the team is assigned and registered. Currently, the club receives them from all age groups that have a club-sponsored tryout, but not the teams above U15.

Coan said those coaches are still an important part of the club and there should be more involvement between the club and those teams.

Therrien asked how other clubs do it. Muchowski reported that Appleton requires all coaches to complete an application. Johnson said that Oshkosh does the same.

Mortimer inquired what East Central does and whether there was a model already in place that the club could follow. Jerry Crossman said East Central does not organize things to that level.

Lifke raised the issue of the clubs liability if there are coaches with teams and the club does not have a good grasp of their qualifications.

Wiswall wondered how the expectations would be communicated and what the repercussions could be for non-compliance.

Mortimer wondered if trainers, managers and others should also not complete the application process. How would it fit in with the code of conduct?

The general consensus was that coaches and assistant coaches should complete the coach's application and code of conduct. Managers will complete the code of conduct.

Tryouts and Registration

Muchowski asked the board to consider changes to the tryout registration process by making the tryout registration the same as player registration and requiring both fees to be paid at the time of tryouts. This would help to alleviate the current situation where a coach is threatening to take his team to another club, as the players would already be registered to PVYSC. It would also reduce the instances of players committing, then bolting to another club before the team can get organized and get its registration paperwork filed.

Johnson explained that this is a method several other clubs already employ. Parents write a separate check for the tryout fee and the player registration fee. The registration fee is cashed when the player accepts an offer with a team. If the player does not accept the offer, the check is returned to the parents.

Crossman said such a system could help prevent the club hopping mentality that has cost PVYSC an entire age level at U14.

Trudell made a motion that all classic team tryouts use the player registration form as the tryout form and that both tryout and registration fees are collected prior to the tryout. Crossman provided a second. Motion carried.

Referee Assigning Contract –

A new contract for Oshefsky to continue as referee assignor was presented to the board.

Lifke asked how it compared to other clubs in the area. Muchowski said it was in line with what clubs in East Central are paying. It is below some clubs and higher than the smaller clubs.

Coan asked what the responsibilities of the assignor were. Oshefsky explained his role in making sure referees are assigned and the process of working through The Arbiter system, as well as the data entry involved. Coan asked for those specific tasks to be spelled out in the contract.

Crossman questioned the cell phone expenditures. The contract calls for the club to reimburse 50 percent of the plan overages. Justin explained his plan, and said that some months there are no overages, but when dealing with tournaments, overages can top 1,000 minutes.

Gallegos made a motion to approve the assignor contract. Mortimer provided a second. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

East Central: Jerry reminded the board the club affiliation fees are due Oct. 1. Additionally, there will be a League Organizer session in early January.

Flatgrass: Oshefsky said the Flatgrass committee is considering a design-the-logo contest for the 30th year of the tournament.

Registration: Johnson reported the room at Shattuck is reserved, flyers are at the printer and approved for distribution in the schools.

Coan questioned why the club does not have a recreation director. She noted that registration times were determined by the team schedules of classic and state league team parents and coaches, not what is best for recreation parents. She is concerned that no one has a vested interest in making sure the recreation program is successful.

Gallegos said the board is always concerned about the recreation program. He noted the efforts of several individuals who spend a lot of their time taking care of the recreation program.

Johnson introduced a guest who had been invited to join the board to assist with the recreation program. He introduced Phil Kerwin, who has been involved with the recreation program with his children for several years as both a coach and parent.

Johnson made a motion to add Kerwin to the board as the recreation director. Trudell provided a second. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Mortimer reported a parent had e-mailed him with problems negotiating the Web site and undelivered e-mails. Johnson said he would check on the navigation bars, but noted that all board members except one reported their e-mail addresses were working both times they were tested. Muchowski noted she was receiving e-mail through the site.

Coan brought copies of previous newsletters the club used to publish. Johnson said the first electronic version can be ready to go out before registration. He needs content to make it work. The deadline is Oct. 13.

MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Gallegos made a motion to adjourn; second by Crossman. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

**Next meeting: Oct. 19, 2008, 7:30 p.m.,
Community Room, Neenah Police Station
2111 Marathon Ave, Neenah, WI**