

Fairfield County Football League - Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: 2/13/14

Meeting commenced at 7:40p

Carmen Roda welcomed the group and new representatives to the start of the 2014 season. Everyone introduced themselves around the table. No formal agenda was distributed. Carmen went around and asked which representatives would be filling its town's FCFL board positions. A list would be circulated after the meeting.

Key Discussion Points:

Board agreed 2014 start date would be 8/18/14

First 3 days no pads.

8/21 can practice with Pads.

8/30-31 Mandatory Jamboree for all teams.

Carmen and Tom Grace discussed the possibility of teams playing scrimmages against non FCFL teams the first Friday of practices. A few teams did this last August. Everyone agreed it was a good idea but strictly up to that town.

\$1,500 FCFL dues are due by the May board meeting.

All organizations must submit a copy of their insurance policies by the May board meeting.

All committees especially policy and rules must lay out a time line to update or introduce new items so they can be voted in if needed by the April meeting.

List of all coaches from each town must be submitted as soon as possible.

Long discussion about inviting all youth coaches to a HS spring practice session to learn and observe and get on the same page in regards to legal contact and other areas of coaching. Coaches would then group by grade to confirm everyone knows the rules for that division. This event would replace the coaches' social that takes place at the Piedmont club in Darien. Marce volunteered one of his Staples HS practices.

All coaches require CPR/First Aid, in addition to the above spring HS practice session and must complete the CDC online concussion certification. Carmen highly recommended all coaches complete the USA Football coach's certification program.

Long discussion about whether coaches should evaluate, using a numbers ranking system the referees after each game. Carmen mentioned this could possibly work providing refs can evaluate coaches. Head of refs to come to the youth HS springs session to further clarify legal contact. Confidential evaluation of refs is still open for discussion. The idea is the refs with the highest points ranking would ref playoff/Championship games.

New Canaan brought up the complaint/video previously circulated at the end of the 2013 season regarding a Ridgefield 6th grade team that allegedly condoned players deliberately trying to hurt its New Canaan opponents. NC also said the coaches were celebrating on the sidelines after the NC kid was hurt. Video would be circulated and then revisited.

NC informed the board, that the NC board unanimously approved the reinstatement of Coach Dave Jahns, a coach that was suspended indefinitely from coaching as a result of the "trophy burning" incident 3 years ago. The group agreed that this coach was not one of the main culprits and thus everyone agreed he could coach again in 2014, subject to each town's board's approval. Would be discussed at March meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm

Submitted by:

Tony DePasquale
Secretary