

## WSA Board Meeting Minutes August 23, 2010

WSA Board Attendees: Alex Anvari, Larry Berman, Michael Byrne, Todd Coleman, Lauren deBruijn, Mary Jane Liu, Wes Malowitz, Elaine Marino, Steve Rowland, and Bart Shuldman. Other attendees: Robby Casey and Dan Woog.

7:30 Wes Malowitz, WSA President, called the meeting to order.

Bart Shuldman made a motion to vote on the approval of the minutes from the June 14 and July 12 Board meetings. Elaine Marino seconded the motion. All nine voting Board members present approved the motion.

Financials: Mike Byrne, WSA Treasurer, presented a statement of financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. Mike noted that the WSA bookkeeper categorized receipts and expenditures using a framework that provides greater detail than previous years. The report was given a precursory review by the Board. Mike Byrne noted how a reserve account was accessed this year, with \$50,000 withdrawn to current expenses. Mike also mentioned how the WSA is operating at close to break even, and discussion ensued regarding the amount of the reserve that should be maintained. The WSA's financial commitment to Field of Dreams was also discussed.

League: Alex Anvari reported that he had had a meeting had taken place with Mickey Kydes, Coaching Director, and several of the MKSE coaching staff. Alex mentioned that a coaching clinic would be offered to Rec and Travel players, to take place in September, and suggested that a jamboree be held in October (separate from regularly scheduled League games). Alex discussed registration levels for certain League age groups, and noted that Grade 3/4 Girls registration numbers were lower than last year. High School girls registration numbers were lower, although it was mentioned that this would increase once SHS teams were selected.

Travel: Bart Shuldman discussed the "premier creep" issue that affected U12-U14 teams this year, and discussion ensued re efforts that could be made to help retain these players. A U12-U14 Boys parent meeting was mentioned, and Dan Woog offered to attend. An end of fall season survey was suggested, in which parents could reflect on the coach's performance to date.

Reminder: Travel-wide parent meeting at Long Lots School scheduled for September 15.

Referees: MJ Liu discussed our new referee assignor, Katrina Leo, and new rules affecting referee requirements in the CJSA. Katrina will administer the Travel referee schedules, while MJ will process timecards for League referees. Referee clinics will be held during the season. It was noted that November 7 is the last day of League play, while November 14 is the last day for Travel.

Discussion re parents who act confrontational with referees ensued, and what the WSA could do to address this problem. The CJSA consequences of parent and/or coach ejection by a referee were discussed. It was noted that CJSA handbooks will be given to every manager at the Travel Manager training session at Long Lots School computer lab, on September 2.

Volunteers: Lauren de Bruijn discussed the SHS ball boy/ball girl program, and participation from Travel teams. She mentioned the upcoming U9 Beach Party on August 25 and the Pre-season training Ice Cream Day on August 26. Both of these events are being coordinated by Lauren and Elaine Marino, Publicity Director. Wes Malowitz mentioned a cereal food drive for the Gillespie Center in downtown Westport, sometime in October. Elaine and Lauren agreed to contact WSA parent Brian Rutter, to organize. WSA Photo Day was discussed, and it was decided will be held in Spring 2010 so it does not compete with school photos.

WIN2011: Wes suggested a volunteer meeting in October, and it was noted that we need to be aware of Cup dates. WIN2011 will be held on March 19-20, 2011. Wes asked that Elaine obtain request a fee estimate for WIN2011 website development from Paula Jones, a paid professional who assisted with WIN2010. Robby Casey mentioned that another local soccer organization is having a Martin Luther King Day tournament, which may draw teams away from WIN2011.

The problem of trash on Westport fields was mentioned, and MJ Liu noted that this is primarily a League problem, and not so much a Travel problem. Reminders will be sent to all teams regarding trash.

9:30 Meeting adjourned.

Discussion ensued re certain expenditures reflected in the report. It was suggested that a player whose family bought a home outside of Westport in April, and who nonetheless tried out for WSA Travel for the 2010-2011 season. This player was offered a roster spot. Jeff Boley made a motion to vote on withdrawing the roster position for the player, given the player's out of town status, which was seconded by [someone]. The results were 3 in favor of the motion, 6 against and 3 abstained. The motion did not pass.

Alex Anvari, Co-Director of Rec soccer, provided the end of year report. Discussion ensued re successful "colored jersey" trial period for Grade 2 players, and how this measure promoted team unity. Alex Anvari recommended that all Rec players Grade 2-6 wear colored jerseys for 2010-2011 in lieu of the traditional reversible jersey. Discussion ensued re the understanding that if a player's team changes from fall to spring (due to the mix of teams being affected by children playing sports other than soccer in the spring), or if the player changes teams voluntarily, the WSA will not pay for the new colored jersey, as this is the parents' responsibility (in addition to paying for the colored jersey at the start of the season in September). Bart Shuldman made a motion to have Rec players wear "colored jerseys" for Grades 2-6, which was seconded by Mike Byrne. The motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that new jerseys are required for the Grade 7/8 age group, as the traditional reversible light blue jersey is no longer a standard item at Athletic Shoe Factory. An alternative to the traditional jersey was suggested, in the form of two t-shirts (one white/one navy blue), the cost of which are cheaper than the traditional reversible jersey. Wes Malowitz made a motion to use the white and navy blue t-shirts for Grade 7/8 Travel players, which was seconded by George Kindel. The motion passed unanimously.

10:15 pm. Meeting adjourned.