

WSA Board Meeting Minutes July 12, 2010

WSA Board Attendees: Alex Anvari, Jeff Boley, Mike Byrne, Lauren deBruijn, Mark DiMaio, Jessica Donahue, George Kindel, Mary Jane Liu, Wes Malowitz, Elaine Marino, Bart Shuldman and Graham Smith. Other attendees: Robby Casey, Mickey Kydes, WSA Coaching Director, MKSE coaches Pete Doneit, Bamba Fall, Paul Melitsonopoulos, Kelvin Mutambo, Felipe Ribeiro, Kristin Ryan, Ferid Zimic, and WSA parents Rick Chernok, Julie Chernok and Stacey Konowitz.

7:32 Wes Malowitz, WSA President, called the meeting to order.

Wes provided the end of 2010 spring season report, and thanked Westport residents Melissa and Doug Bernstein, who have sponsored the t-shirts for the Tots and Pre-K program for 2010-2011.

Mike Byrne, Treasurer, submitted the Treasurer's report, noting that the WSA will no longer give Travel managers a \$150 stipend per season for a coach's gift/end of season party as will eliminate the \$10 stipend per player given in June for Travel players gifts.

Bart Shuldman, Travel Director, provided a report on the Travel program for 2010-2011. Discussion ensued regarding the U14 Boys team, and the limited number of players who tried out for that age group. Discussion ensued re suggested action taken to attract players from other towns, as well as the supplemental tryouts to take place in August. Discussion ensued re the number of players who moved down to a lower level Travel team from the spring. Bart Shuldman called the parents of each child who was moved down to notify them, before the new teams were announced.

Graham Smith, Equipment Director, reported on the status of goals and nets. Jeff Boley raised the issue of goals that are not weighted down properly with sand bags at Wakeman, and the dangers of such. It was noted that referees should not allow games to start without at least two sand bags on the goal frame.

Mickey Kydes, Coaching Director, gave a summary of the tryout process for 2010-2011, and recommended that FAQs be given to parents next year (before tryouts) to notify parents that players may be moved down.

WSA parents Rick and Julie Chernok and Stacey Konowitz asked that the WSA consider means to keep players age U12/U13 within the Travel program, since several players left the WSA to join a Division III Premier soccer program this year. Discussion ensued, and included adding an additional (optional) day of practice for these age groups.

A question was raised re the tryout process, and whether the coach's assessment of the player's performance (from the season that just passed) is given more weight than the player's performance during tryouts.

Discussion ensued re 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.