

Hartwell Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 2nd, 2012, 7:00 PM

Location – GHS Room B104

Attendees: *Mary Kay Brophy, Joan Norman, Sandy Gardner, Dave Baker, Erik Barbieri, Betty Davis, Andy Pinkowski, Mike Newhouse*

Not Attending : *Matt Tierinni, Jim Wadleigh*

Guests: *Jen Tindall, Laurie Boyd*

Meeting was initiated at 7:00 PM.

Administration

February meeting minutes were not approved. Mary Kay Brophy asked that members read them before they are approved.

Magnet School Field/Lights

They are moving forward with top soil and seed at the magnet school. We were not able to get approval for sod because it would have been a change from the original CREC plan and any changes require change controls which require time, and they are already behind so they did not want to pursue change controls for this change for Hartwell. This means that we most likely won't be able to use the fields in the fall. It would be unwise to use the field for 12 months after seeding because it takes 12 months for the root system to mature. Although we may not be able to use the field in the fall, it was suggested that we consider having a ribbon cutting and perhaps a game under the lights for PR. As long as the use is limited – we may be able to use it for special occasions in fall 2012.

Recreation Soccer

Jen Tindall and Laurie Boyd attended to represent the rec program. The rec side is in the process of creating the teams and putting together rosters. They want to put the games and practices into the League Athletics system so it's similar to travel. That way parents will get the reminders. It's a little more difficult for rec because coaches change things up more often and practices times often shift at the coach's request. The rec side needs a "field" person to keep things up to date.

Laurie Boyd reported that she is contacting those who don't pay and we are doing a better job collecting money as a result of the registration system changes which delete the record after 5 days of non-payment.

We are down in numbers in the spring (compared to last spring). This is partly because with the younger age – last fall didn't go well and some people may not have returned. It was suggested that we survey people who aren't coming back to find out why. It could be partly because of other sports in town. To address this issue we could work with the other sports (baseball and LAX) to coordinate practices better so kids could do both sports. Others thought it was that some sports register before Hartwell and parents might have a "one sport per season" rule so other sports beat

us to it. In order to get registration info out earlier/better we should relook at getting registration info distributed through schools and look at the use of lawn signs – or other new ideas. It was noted that we need to make sure that at the younger ages, the kids have a great experience and want to return. One additional idea was to have a big opening day event like baseball does.

President Update

Mary Kay gave an update on the Rec T-shirt Sponsors. All sponsors returned for 2012 except Constantine Hardware. They were one of the original T-Shirt sponsors so it was sad to see them go. They were replaced by Silver Dahlia. Joan will send a list of rec T-shirt sponsors to the Board so they can see a list. We have a waiting list of 4-5 sponsors.

There were about 200 families at Hartwell's Dick's Sporting Goods Day.

The Rec Referee class is next week. It's free for up to 20 participants. They may change it next year and make people pay a nominal fee so that we ensure people want to do it. In the past some of the refs never actually signed up to ref games. In some cases parents signed the kids up and the kids never wanted to do it. The class is being run by Grant Manning, Will Demers and Joanne Marcoux.

On April 14th the UCONN Women's soccer team will play at Addison. The clinic is at 11 AM for U11-U14 travel players. The game is at 1 PM. At half-time there will be recognition of the Varsity Soccer Players. The players will be given a dry-weave champion shirt funded by Hartwell. Some varsity girls won't be there because of a school trip to Spain and a LAX trip to Florida. Mary Kay is looking for girls from Hartwell to present the shirts to the H.S. players. She suggested 6 rec girls and 6 travel girls. Mike Newhouse will work on getting names for travel players and Laurie Boyd will get rec girls' names. On April 21st there will be a UCONN Men's game and there will be a similar format of clinic/game. Betty Davis will take photos of the events.

The Youth Module is underway for travel coaches. While it's not a prerequisite for coaching next season, Mike Newhouse indicated that someone with a license would be looked at first for a coaching position.

Tournament Update

Andy provided a tournament update. There are 220 teams which is the largest tournament so far. Last year there were 211 teams. Kevin Suarez is doing a great job as the ref coordinator. He has 233 refs so far.

Andy is still looking for food vendors and has asked the board to reach out to any contacts they may have. Erik thought he had some contacts he could reach out to – people he had worked with through his job. Joan indicated Subway had expressed interest in selling sandwiches in the past.

Betty Davis will be taking photos of the tournament and the subject came up about whether we can post photos of players without their permission. Hartwell had a registration feature where you could opt out of photos but Dave Baker reported that no one has actually opted out so Hartwell players would be no issue. Dave indicated that for out-of-towners the tournament is a public setting so there is no expectation of privacy and taking and posting photos is not an issue from a risk management perspective.

The subject came up about how we penalize a parent who doesn't show up for their volunteer slot? Could we charge them a fee? Force their child to miss a game? The board discussed the best

way to handle this. There was no clear answer. This year we may be short volunteers so it could be an issue. It was decided that we tell Team Managers that any no-show spots had to be filled by the manager so hopefully parents felt bad and didn't skip their volunteer slots. Andy wants to make sure we reiterate to parents that working the 3 hour volunteer spot is NOT optional.

Travel Update

Mike Newhouse gave an update on the Try-outs for 2012-2013 Travel seasons. They will be having goal keeper tryouts for U12-U14 prior to the regular field try-outs. The regular field try-outs are scheduled for the first 2 weeks after Memorial Day weekend so the Goalie try-outs will have to be before then. They would expect that someone who attends the try-out and is selected is committing to goal 50% of the time (per season). They will pick the goalie for the team first and then pick the field players.

Mike would like to get a better idea of how many kids will be coming to try-outs so they can plan accordingly. Mike and Eric are beginning to plan out the tryouts. They plan to be there and to use Challenger resources, and coaches who have no conflict of interest with their child or childrens' age groups (an example would be Grant Manning).

They are hoping that there will be more of a coach/trainer relationship this spring and the trainers will be exposed to the kids prior to the try-outs which should help in the evaluation.

The cost of the program needs to be flushed out and in order to do that, Mike and Eric need to put a cost to the program including the proposed training for next year. Also potentially included will be changes to include the tournament registration fees for Hartwell Tournament. Mike needs financials from Matt to do this analysis along with training costs from Eric. This info will be presented at the next board meeting.

Mike has added a new FAQ to the website about goalkeeping policy. He will be discussing this at the upcoming coach meeting. No one should play more than 25% in goal over the course of the season for U9-U11 unless it is mutually agreed upon between the coach, parent(s), and player.

It was suggested to Mike to invite Dave Clarke to be part of Travel Committee. Mike will reach out to Dave this week.

Mike indicated that coach intentions will be due prior to try-outs.

The travel coaches' practice schedule was finalized over a month ago but now coaches are asking for changes as if they haven't seen it before. They are trying to work with the coaches to accommodate requests.

Mike will be discussing concussion management at the Travel Coach meeting. We need to put concussion information on website and create a policy for concussions for Hartwell. Then we need to track and record incidents and make sure coaches are following the policy.

DOC Update

Next year they will be moving back to an A, B, C structure for U9 rather than 3 even teams.

This spring the U9's will be having four 4v4 Saturdays and can schedule friendly games on the other Saturdays. The boys will be 9:00-10:30 and the girls will be 10:30-12:00 at Addison #5.

Erik is working with Tom to update the Rec guidelines for spring.

Miscellaneous Items

Got a call from Glastonbury Youth Football that they want to use G.W. fields in the future.

Need to put together a policy around field closings including what time we close fields (baseball closes by 3 PM) and how we communicate it (e.g. scrolling website marquee and/or e-mails). Mary Kay suggested this needs to be written up and approved by board. This is a TBD assignment.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM. The Next Board meeting is Monday, May 7th.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Norman

Secretary

DRAFT