

**Newtown Soccer Club
Open Meeting
Minutes
May 11, 2015**

Present: John Premus, Maureen Trivers, Denise Sullivan, Derek Bobowick, Tony Leuci, Dawn Gargano, Rebecca Carnes, Linda Hess, Jody Hulina, Chris Whorf, Ryan Lyddy, Vinny Alvarez, Wendy Chard

Meeting called to order 7:05pm

1. CFC
 - No update as no one from CFC was present
 - Tryouts for CFC will be held w/o 6/1 for boys and 6/8 for girls

2. Rec League Update
 - 2 U14teams & 2 U5 teams added
 - Southbury Girls U8 Rec team (14 girls) is working well, we have been getting good feedback
 - Southbury has declining numbers in REC and Travel and want to investigate more joint work with NSC
 - John P. setting up a meeting with Southbury President to discuss
 - A. Leuci asked how many participation trophies do we need.
 - o R. Mortis will send the #'s for REC teams
 - o Each Travel team manager must submit Sportsmanship Award and team info to Tony
 - Discussion on Rec +
 - o Linda Hess said it's going well
 - o Only 3 teams though
 - o Hooking up with other towns and U16 travel
 - Confusion on who pays the referee when a NSC Travel team plays a REC team. It was agreed that the REC team would pay the referees.
 - Keith Miller is working on spring U6 skills training
 - Rec is flat to up which is good, as population in the town is down
 - A. Leuci need to think about multi-sport kids and their commitment to their Travel team. Other sports are more strict which leaves teams shy of #'s and it's unfair to the team
 - o J. Premus "Can we carry some training players?" Maybe offer a reduced fee, no guarantee to play
 - o In cased where kids leave teams in the Spring the Club holds open tryouts to backfill
 - The coach for the GU10-04 has only 10 players asking if we can balance teams better and also what the club position is when a team is wining by 6 goals
 - o Rebecca provided background on how teams are selected and that in the end a lot comes down to car pool rides, etc.

- She has been pushing for Parents to step up as Division Coordinators to help balance the teams
- Discussed adding players to the losing team instead of “penalizing” players by removing kids from the field
- D. Sullivan asked if players are ranked at the end of the year

3. Travel

- Girls’ U11, U12, and U13 teams in state cup and boys U11 & U12 teams still in state cup
- U8 skills clinic has 40 kids, very popular with good feedback, it’s a large group
 - Both boys and girls practice at once and it’s at a good price point
 - Maybe use skills training to evaluate players to address aforementioned inequities
 - 7 week deal, so far the kids like it
- U12-U14 3rd Night practice has 23 participants
- 14 participants for keeper training, M. Brennan
- U12 girls have practice on the same night as skills training which was disappointing to the kids/parents.
 - Let’s consider blocking off Monday night for skills moving forward
- Travel tryouts w/o 6/8
 - What skills are we looking for?
 - Individual skills, Tactical play, 1v1 and 2v2, coach-ability, etc.
- What are the cutoff dates for each age group? These are posted on the website

4. Memorial Day Tournament

- 51 boys teams and 31 girls teams with more signing up
- Schedule will be up by the end of the week
- Ref \$ is \$30 for center and \$20 for assistant (U9 is just 1 ref) and refs are paid in cash
- Team managers didn’t realize they had to sign teams up nor did they know that their parents had to volunteer

5. Memorial Day Tournament Volunteers

- Volunteer update
 - 4 Food vendors plus Rita’s Ices (cannot have food vendor @ Treadwell because of contract new owner signed with the town)
 - Still in need of water donations for refs
 - B. Neumeyer and Gerace working to getting High School volunteers
 - J. Drew working with soccer post for Spirit Wear (if any)
 - Univ. Bridgeport Women’s players on Saturday, Sacred Heart Univ. men on Sunday

6. Referee
 - No update
7. Admin and Field Maintenance
 - FFH needs sandbags on goals
8. Tier One update
 - No update on lawsuit and possible use of field by NSC moving forward
9. Special Needs
 - No volunteers until this weekend where we got 3
 - 10 kids, 9-11 behind HS on Saturday
10. Other Business
 - No update
11. Minutes

The Minutes of the April meeting, both open and closed were accepted without objection.

Adjourned: 7:55 p.m.