

SSL Meeting Agenda

7:00 PM April 13th, 2016

Round Table Pizza Gig Harbor

Topics for discussion:

- Coach ejections / suspended for a game
- More information from refs on ejections
- Coaches arguing rules and the coach is wrong
- Confusing situation. Coach ejected after a game by different ref than he was warned by. suspension was served (2nd game of double header). SSL board needs to talk to Smitty(?) to be sure the information about coach ejections gets back to the board so we can address it. Clarification about when refs can eject coaches - They can anytime, but generally one warning before ejecting. SSL might want to come up with a template for coaches (or board members?) to provide feedback about refs.
- Splitting 5/6 & 7/8 into 2 divisions based on records for more reasonable games/scores
- Would like to attempt. Maybe not a true A and B split, but make some attempt to make things more even in the schedule. Ideas discussed included having 2 divisions with the option for the lowest team in the top tier and the highest team in the low tier move up or down for the next season. Will try to seed teams in the end-of-season tourney to make it competitive.
- Honor the Game ceremony – all coaches to participate and what it means
- Remind coaches that they are expected to participate - it's for the kids! Reminder that the recognition isn't for the all-star player of the game. Try to recognize effort, good attitude, sportsmanship...
- SSL representation at HS championship weekend
- Invited to Starfire during HS championship weekend... sounds like SSL would rather do their own thing. Maybe all-star of end-of-season tournament games before the final games

- Game quarter times / age appropriate rules
- E-mailed out a reminder of age-specific rules.
- Readdress the league substitution rule. Coaches/Teams are confused or not informed.
- you can add players from other teams or have younger player move up for a game if the total # of players on your team is less than 13. 13 is the max # if you do this.
- Request to schedule next year's home/away dates at the end of this season. (discussion)
- Going to try to do this during the summer for next season's games. Try to have all teams from a club be either home or away.
- Zero participation thus far from opposing teams (club wide) on the picture rosters (including highly negative responses when asked to participate)
- Only a small participation thus far regarding identifiable sideline managers
- if both are SSL requirements what is being done to communicate this to the officials, and what is the consequence when teams refuse to participate
- Critique these at the end of the season - maybe give it some teeth for next year (forfeit game if you don't have it?)
- There is concern about Mr Stockton (Tacoma) presence the field and his communication with officials during game time (instructing them), creating an uncomfortable situation.
- Someone (Orting rep) will call him
- coaches and parents are concerned about some refs not controlling the game against unnecessary roughness (recently a concussion with taunting afterwards and broken arm from slashing)
- Some responsibility falls on coaches to work on this in practice and recognize and deal with it during the games. General consensus is that the refs could call the games tighter.
- Question or concerns for discussion regarding SSL Tournament:
- is the SSL board working on preparation of the rules for the SSL Tournament, so they can be distributed to clubs with a registration packet within the next month? When can we expect to have the packet?
- more or less the same packet as last year.

- Will there be an A and B division this year, and will number and strength of schedule be taken into consideration ? (i.e. some teams played only 10 games, while others played 13 and some teams standings are higher because of an easier season schedule)
- yes, rank will be based on win percentage not number of wins to deal with uneven number of games.
- Have the officials been ordered for the tournament. If not can SSL start to do so? Tournament puts added pressure on finding good officials.
- SSL can be involved. We need a schedule from LTLC.
- can we request a specific official not be allowed to ref, as he was soliciting players on our field last year
- Yes
- will SSL 'encourage' all clubs to participate this year? It should be highly encouraged to promote the growth of the sport throughout the region.
- Yes
- LTLC would appreciate a deadline for registration so that number of fields can be secured, and soon.
- is SSL sending out informational flyers to clubs and encouraging participation? Or is that LTLC's responsibility?

Other stuff - SSL might provide pinnies for tournament all-star game players.

Treasurer's report given. ~\$17K currently in our balance, with ~\$8 or 9K payment to be made to the refs next month. Expect \$8 or 9K surplus (maybe a bit less with the pinnies).

Treasurer is checking into why the gov't doesn't recognize our tax-exempt status. Would like to resolve before taxes are due (may 15)

Reminded of the benefits of a local club becoming associated with a school (like an ASB club). Get better field rates and higher priority for use.

Problems with some coaches starting to favor their better players (more like select teams). SSL might draft a letter to the clubs stating the expectations about playing time, honor the game participation...). Orting rep said he would draft something.

