



**Easton Redding United Soccer Club
Board Meeting
July 13th, 2009
Easton Community Center**

In Attendance: ERU Board Members - Tony Caruso, Doug Rivard, Jean Blackwell, Mel Crannell, Bob Schwaeber, Steve Lichtman, Ron Kwiatkowski; Coaching Directors: Paul Winstanley; New Boys Registrar: Matt Maraffi, Girls Travel Director: Keith Blackwell

Public: Milan Spisek, Will Speck, Sergio Fernandez (coach AYSO)

Opening: Meeting was called to order at 8:15 PM.

- I. Public Comment:** Milan, Will and Sergio put forward a proposal to create a transitional Travel Soccer team for those player who are not sure if they want to commit to travel.
- 1) Proposal would be to address the financial concerns and the commitment requirements of Travel.
 - 2) Twelve parents have come forward in support of the proposal because they can not afford the travel program.
 - 3) Propose:
 - a) Waive the coaching fees
 - b) Bring in the 12 players to play travel level soccer on the same team (U11 Boys).
 - c) Coached by Sergio for free – but he is not a professional coach.

Tony explained the current fee structure of \$250 Registration + \$260/season for coaching fees. He also explained that the professional coach eliminates biased parental influence. Coaching needs to be cleared by the Coaching Director (Paul) and that the program needs to follow the travel curriculum vs. recreational. The proposal put forth would bypass all the protocol that has been put in place over the last eighteen months with respect to try-out process and professional coaching structure.

Milan argued that Sergio is a legitimate coach. Paul explained that a level of certification is required which included experience with another team. Paul also explained that there are also concerns because all three parent coaches would have a child on the same team. This goes against the foundation that ERU has set within the club.

Doug – asked if this is a financial issue or is it that the team wants to stay together. If it is a financial issue, the club grants scholarships.

Ron commented that this appears to be primarily an effort to keep the team together and not merge them into the ERU system. Paul asked if they intended to move to the club program and Milan stated possibly in one or two years.

Mel suggested that the club can solve the financial issues and merge the 12 players across the existing 4 U11 Boys teams.

Tony asked – why not stay with AYSO, AYSO select of Rec Plus? Tony has a hard time rationalizing the change to the ERU process when there are other viable alternatives. Tony also wanted to state for the record, ERU is one of the least expensive Travel Programs in the South West District.

Board Decision: No special team will be permitted. The board agreed to set up one additional tryout for those players who are interested in playing in the existing travel program. Players will be assigned to existing team in the same manner as all other players in order to be fair. Tony will communicate this to the players' families. The tryout will be held on 7/21 at 3:45 on RCC1.

The ERU Professional Coaching Criteria includes: D License or higher or high school/college level coaching experience.

II. Secretary Report – Agenda is attached for reference.

- 1) The June 15th and May 11th minutes will be reviewed during the June meeting.
 - Mel made a motion to accept the 5/11 minutes, second by Doug, all were in favor.
 - Doug made a motion to accept the 6/15 minutes, second by Mel, all were in favor.

III. Treasurers Report: Greg Frierson

Nothing to report.

IV. Registrar's Report: Jean Blackwell

Jean noted that U9's will be required to buy a Uniform kit.

4) President's Report

- a) Professional Coaching – limitations discussion
 - i) How to handle conflict of interest issues?
 - (1) Include process in by-laws
 - (2) League Director and Opposite gender Coaching Director will weigh in on coaching issues that might be a conflict of interest.
 - (3) If Coaching Director appoints his own employees, needs review and approval from Travel Director and Opposite Coaching Director.
- b) Mel Made a motion to accept these principles, Ron seconded the motion. All were in favor. Specifically: No Professional Coach can be named as head coach for more than 3 travel teams. The Head Coach must be on the Roster as the head coach.

5) Travel Directors Report.

- a) 2008/2009 combine program was very successful
- b) Try-outs went smoothly
 - i) Complaints were addressed through use of professional evaluators.
- c) There are teams playing in each age bracket
- d) Lost 10 starters from the spring 2009 U11 Girls Connecticut Cup Championship Team (girls left to play premier for CFC and Western United Extreme)
- e) Teams were combined at the U10 level to solve numbers issues.

6) Meeting Adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Ron Kwiatkowski
Secretary
Easton Redding United Soccer Club

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Board Meeting Agenda

July 13, 2009; 8:00 PM @ ECC

1. **Public Comment.**
2. **Secretary's Report: Ron Kwiatkowski**
 - Approve Minutes from previous meeting.
3. **Registrar's Report: Jean Blackwell and Matt Maraffi**
 - Fall Registration numbers.
4. **President's Report; Tony Caruso**
 - Seasonal newsletter to better communicate with members. Summer newsletter just sent.
5. **In-house Program Report; Jean Blackwell.**
 - R. Nunes Contract?
6. **Referee Coordinator Reports: Steve Edwards & Mel Crannell**
7. **Field Coordinator Reports: Ron Kwiatkowski & Steve Lichtman**
8. **League Director Reports; Robert Schwaeber & Keith Blackwell**
9. **Coaching Director's; Paul Winstanley & Neil Phillips**
 - Tryout results. Finalize team numbers & Coaching assignments.
 - Max teams per professional coach? Max teams per organization?
10. **Treasurers Report: Greg Frierson**
11. **Old Business**
 - Bylaws – Steve Lichtman.
 - Next meeting date & location. RBGC, August 10th at 8:00 PM.
12. **Any other business?**
13. **Meeting Adjourned.**