



## *Ocean State Soccer School Minutes of Board Meeting Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

Present (includes quorum of 6 board members): John Montanaro, John Resendes, Jeff Wallace, Bill Gallagher, Pat Corso, Rosemary Stitt, Stephen Souls, Tom Miller,

1. Minutes from August board meeting – passed as presented with no changes or amendments.
2. President's report:
  - SRI Council Meeting – will be held at 7pm on Monday 26<sup>th</sup>, September – main issues to be covered:
    - Community Rule – proposal is to modify the rule to limit 3 communities per team but to dispense with a limit on the number of communities per age group (currently there is a cap of 5 communities per age group). *All board member present supported John's proposal to vote yes to the modification as presented.*
    - Clarification of concussion rule.
    - Inclement weather policy
    - A few house-keeping issues.
  - Executive Board Meeting/Financial Audit – John will set up a date for the week of September 19th to classify all items from last year. Going forwards we need to make sure that each director agrees with budget at the outset of the year so that we know what we're performing against and which programs are making/losing money.
  - Changes to bylaws approved at AGM – need to be signed by John and Rosemary.
3. Registration Report - 635 children are registered for Rec with 82 coaches (635, which compares to 670 registrations in 2010, includes 19 on the waitlist; 3 leagues are still open). 217 are registered for competitive.
4. Treasurer's Report – income was down during FYE6/11 compared to the prior year (due to a number of factors), coupled with higher expenses (also taxes and water bills were paid a little late – carried into FY11) all of this led to a net loss for the year. However, income for the first 2 months of this year is in line or higher than the prior year.
5. There are a few open board positions – CFO; VP; Equipment. Nominations as well as volunteers would be very welcome.
6. Old Business
  - Winter Tournament Status – John Resendes updated on various issues: Dave Covell has worked on an on-line application form that is ready to go; the Need Permission to Host Form has to be approved by SRI; the initial payment to West Warwick Civic center will be \$2400 followed by 3 installments. As a priority we need to get commitments from competitive directors and coaches from other organizations to make this work.



- The new Mass Email Process (to ensure consistency and branding) is working well however John as well as the rest of the board needs to get copied on all mass emails.
- Stephen Souls to follow up with Dave Covell on getting everyone an Ocean State email addresses;
- Recycle Program (Rosemary) – 5 blue recycling bins are out; a volunteer has arranged for Whiteman's, our trash contractor will take recyclables away have them transported to the state's recycling center at no additional cost to us.

#### 7. New Business

- Team Formation / Late Registrations – John commented that previously we'd had dedicated team formation nights and while we probably don't need to return to that process, we may need to have some time allocated at a board meeting in order to have a clearer picture on how many teams to form. One problem is the large number of late registrations (Jeff commented that had to know the high volume of late registrations ahead of time, he would have formed 8 additional teams) and related to this, we need to consider ways to get more registrations ahead of the deadline (possibly by increasing the late registration fee as well as by stronger communication that failure to register on time means there's no guarantee of a place on a team). John added that we need to be continue being cautious about maximum team size i.e. we shouldn't over-load teams since it's a burden on coaches and potentially compromises quality – should ask coaches if they can accommodate an extra player (provided we have a jersey).
- Referee Program Description / Application – *a motion was proposed and passed by the board for a Referee Program description and application form to be posted on the website. Specifically, we need to formalize who can sign up to the program and/or any exceptions; costs and expectations.*

8. Middle School Soccer Fest – Tom Miller (present) requests to use the back fields from 2pm on Friday, Oct 14<sup>th</sup> until 7pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>. *The board passed this request* (provided the fields are available – John Montanaro will check on availability).

9. John Montanaro and his wife would like to establish a memorial (or similar) at OSS in order to keep the name of their son John alive. A number of possibilities were discussed such as bench in the back-fields; naming one of the fields and/or dedicating the Eagle Scout water fountain.

#### 10. Monthly Reports

- DTT – keeper training is under way with 2 URI keepers participating. 17 children are enrolled (a good number) and an additional session it going to be set up (John Resendes is looking at feasible dates). Kyle Froberg did a coaches' session last Saturday – Kyle did a really good job; got asked a lot of questions. URI Women's night for OSS was held recently – they handed out shirts that were autographed; OSS Men's night will be Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 4 OSS teams will be playing (2 rec, 2 comp).
- Referee Report – John May could not be present.



- Equipment/Foundation – Everything went well with the start of the season. One goal has broken brackets – the best quote received is \$90 for maintenance – John Montanaro ok'ed proceeding.
- Safety – no reports of injuries; nothing to report.
- Operations
  - One of Bill Gallagher's scouts wants to undertake an Eagle Scout project and a feasible proposal would be to construct a water fountain next to the gazebo in the back field. This would need a filtration system while additional expenses would be the fountain head and related fittings. We can try to get the filtration system donated but otherwise costs would be under \$1000 – Bill will present costs at the next board meeting. *The board approved spending up to \$1000 for this Eagle Scout project.*
  - The well in the backfield needs to be replaced – the best price from 2 bids received is \$6500 (this would cover the motor but not labor; expected life is around 6 years; bids received are from the original installer and a local guy). *The board voted to accept the bid for \$6500 and to proceed as soon as possible.* Bill also discussed aeration, which costs around \$350 and acre (for 10 acres); doesn't think this rate would be negotiable. Given budget considerations, aeration can be skipped this year.
- Competitive
  - The Marriot in Nashua is offering the same rate as last year (including free breakfast). The board supported John's proposal to commit us to stay there again for the Memorial Day tournament next year.
  - Make-up tryouts have now been completed and there's a message on the website informing parents that decisions on team formation will be made in early October; once the SRI vote is concluded on the communities' rule team formation can proceed.
- Development
  - Given the problem of some kids not being available on certain nights for practices, we should add a question to the registration about which night they can't make.
  - Also, coaches need to be reminded that the first coaches of the day need to put flags out and the last coaches of day should bring them in.
  - Kids shouldn't hang on goals and goals shouldn't be moved during the week.