



# *Ocean State Soccer School*

## *Board Meeting Minutes*

### *Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

Present: John Montanaro; John May; Jeff Wallace; Keb Brackenbury; Bill Gallagher; Rosemary Stitt; Pat Corso; Erin Watson; Stephen Souls; Bob Jones.

1. Minutes – February – approved as presented.
2. President's Report
  - Professionalism and Attitude – it's key that the board members are professional and are not critical or negative of one another's efforts, or of the organization, and moreover are supportive of one another and the organization, particularly when talking to other members. Any instances to the contrary will be discussed at board level with all parties involved present and may result in disciplinary actions.
  - Budget meeting – John will propose a date for a budget meeting, most likely during the first week of April. The monthly financial report for February is not yet available from Jeff Wadovick.
  - SRI AGM to be held 3/26/12, 7:00 pm at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Warwick. The board voted to approve OSS's support in favor of proposed three Policy Changes that will be voted upon in the meeting:
    - 1) Team Roster Limits – Current Rule - Each and every team may not have more than three (3) communities; *Proposed Revision - Each and every team may not have more than three (3) four (4) communities. If approved this change would be effective September 1, 2012*
    - 2) Underage Players – Current Rule - U12 and younger teams may NOT be comprised of more than 3 players who are two years younger than the team's age group. In no case may U12 and younger teams be comprised of players who are three years or younger than the team's age group; Proposed Revision. Exception: In the case of tournaments only, an unlimited number of U8 players may play on a U10 team and an unlimited number of U10 players may play on a U12 team. *Proposed Revision – eliminate this rule.*
    - 3) Laws Modifications. The FIFA "Laws of the Game" shall be modified as follows....LAW I A match shall be played by two teams, each consisting of not more than eleven (11) players, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper, except in the following age groups it is highly recommended that the number of player
      - U6 3 v 3 (no goalkeeper)
      - U7-U8 4 v 4 (no goalkeeper) - *proposal would change this to 5 v 5 with goalkeeper*
      - U9-U10 6 v 6 (with goalkeeper)
      - U11-U12 8 v 8 (with goalkeeper)



- Board Member Duty Sign-ups – Jeff Wallace will circulate a schedule of the rec season with 2 hour slots for board-members to sign-up to be present at the field, answer questions of parents and generally to be an ambassador for OSS.
  - Coaches' Meetings - March 20<sup>th</sup>, competitive; March 27<sup>th</sup> rec. All board members are requested to attend if possible.
  - Goalie Clinic - OSS has a Goalkeeping Clinic for Spring 2012 for all OSS Rec and Competitive Goalkeepers for ages U8 and up. Class 1 will be for U8-U10 and will be held March 26<sup>th</sup>: 7:00 to 8:00pm at SK Extreme in Peacedale and April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>: 5:00 to 6:00pm at OSS Back Fields. Class 2, for U12 and up will be held March 26<sup>th</sup>: 8:00 to 9:00pm at SK Extreme in Peacedale and April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> : 6:00 to 7:00pm at OSS Back Fields
3. Registration Report - 330 competitive; 505 rec – rec registrations are continuing and we're currently ahead of the 490 this time last year (last year's total rec registration was 548). Jeff is appealing for parents of both U4 players and U8 girls for coaching assistance. OSS will be holding coaching clinics for all U4, U5 and U6 coaches, 5-7pm on the first 4 Mondays of April (2<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>) at our fields, to be lead by Challenger Sports. Should both boost coaches' skills and confidence as well as increase coach retention for future seasons. The first 90 minutes of each session will be practical/field demonstrations and the last 30 minutes will be theory/discussion.
  4. Treasurer's Report – nothing to report – financial report for February not yet available from Jeff.
  5. Members' Comments – Bob Jones suggested that the board should have a tighter focus on budget given the net loss from FYE6/11; also recommended adoption of an improved curriculum to boost skills' enhancement.
  6. Old Business
    - Winter Futsal Tournament Status – John is going to send out a survey to all of the coaches and will use input in deciding whether the repeat the tournament next winter. Consensus is that most coaches and players seem to like the tournament and that it definitely filled a gap for our players given the previous absence of many playing opportunities in the winter.
    - Calendar Fundraiser Status – will be getting printed calendars on Thursday as well as the explanatory letter that will go to each player along with a pack of 10 calendars. Discussion on incentive prizes suggested i-Pods or TVs as possibilities. Pat will organize a meeting prior to the 20<sup>th</sup> (comp coaches' meeting).
    - Summer Camp Planning – John May shared the budget for the camp as well as the draft flier.



## 7. New Business

- Challenger Sports Training/Uniforms – uniforms from Challenger are in progress but the board voted retroactively to approve.
- Policy and Procedure Changes – the board approved a number of policy changes, all of which had been drafted in a policy committee meeting in February (these included: adoption of the SRI concussion policy; procedures for playing up and elimination of the restriction that one coach can only coach one team). These changes had previously been notified to the membership and posted on the OSS website.
- WWIS Contract for winter/spring 2012/13 – discussion was centered around balancing cost and the optimal facilities for our teams. Concern was raised that WWIS (\$180/hr) would make OSS very expensive compared to other leagues. The difficulty of getting space in the NK schools was also discussed – John recommended an OSS representative going to NK school committee meetings such that our request for space is therefore publicly voiced and is recorded in the meeting minutes. John will come back to the board with a firm proposal on the WWIS contract.
- Competitive Coaches' Approval – the list of competitive coaches was emailed to the board on March 14<sup>th</sup> and was approved 6-1 (but with the assistant coach for 1 U10 girls team being replaced with two other assistant coaches who have already participated in futsal and practices).
- Rec Lanyard Program – Jeff is working to get coaches' passes in lanyards – targeting to have them ready for the rec coaches' meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- DTT Nomination – John proposed Chris Parente, a U8 coach as the new DTT (unpaid position) but a vote by the board was deferred given the desire to meet Chris (hopefully at the next board meeting).
- Tournament Coordinator – Rosemary was voted as the Tournament Coordinator – will be the point person to advise tournaments organizers know how many OSS teams are coming to future tournaments as well as channel any other information, hence avoiding the situation that arose a couple of years ago when one of our teams was not given a slot to play.
- High school Senior College Scholarship Committee – will review applications in April.

## 8. Monthly Reports (5 minutes each please)

- Equipment/Foundation – nothing in addition to issues already covered from above.
- Development – nothing in addition to above.
- Competitive – nothing in addition to above.
- Referee Report – 75 refs; will enforce rules towards any coaches who unreasonably dispute the coaches' decisions and/or are disruptive.
- Operations – need to let Allie's (doughnut shop) know of what we'll need and when ahead of the rec season starting
- Safety – 1 incident from a recent Futsal Game with a girl breaking her finger (not diagnosed for 2 days after the incident due to delay in getting treatment). No further requests for financial aid since the last board meeting – 4 applications approved this season.