

Naugatuck Youth Soccer

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2016 | 8:00pm Seifert Associates

Attendance: Amy Keach, Paula Gabriel, Krista Gloden, Manny Silva, Diane Teixeira, Darlene Lawson, John DeCampos, Mike Legates, Nicole Rupwani, Belmira Marques, Vicki Krooss, Paulo DeSousa, Heather Burke (coach), Roger Simoes

- 1. Call to Order: 8:21pm**
- 2. Emergency meeting held to discuss board alignment around age changes and discuss feedback and perceptions of the NYS parent/player community.**
 - a. Issue 1– Parents and coaches have a misunderstanding of NYS’s adoption of the age changes for Fall 2016. Amy clearly stated that per the rules of the state and the district (and U.S. Soccer) we are going by straight birth years. All players trying out, will try out for their respective age group. All members agreed.**
 - i. Solution: Travel Age Directors and Coaching Director to conduct an informational session with all coaches on Sunday, June 12th at 6:00pm. Location TBD. This will allow all coaches to hear one message re: NYS’s outlook on the age changes. Age Directors will also have conversations at tryouts with the parents re: NYS’s handling of the age changes – that all players are trying out for their respective age groups. Based on numbers, we may need to move players up in order to make full teams; however, it will be based on need and not on favoritism, skill, or talent. This is in alignment with our guidelines and previous actions.**
 - b. Issue 2 – Parents and players are concerned around the integrity of teams; the perception is Coaches/Age Directors will be cutting players in order to keep current teams intact. Players will not have a fair opportunity in making teams; politics will overrule.**
 - i. Solution: Uphold the bylaws which state that the age director(s), coach, and Coaching Director make the decision collectively as to which players will have an opportunity to play at the competition level.**
 - ii. All board members agreed to act with integrity in forming teams and in alignment of age groups by birth age.**
 - iii. Amy & John D. will be putting together a one-pager regarding age changes and will be sending out to all parents via Stone Alley. Paulo D. agreed to make copies so hard copies can be passed out to all age eligible players re: the changes.**
 - iv. All board members agreed, if approached by parents/players re: tryouts, we will respond that players need to try out for their respective age group. We should not be giving options of what can happen or will happen or “teams are staying the same”.**
 - v. All board members agreed our goal is to have all kids play soccer for NYS and having parents on the sidelines cheering them on.**
 - c. For future thought – we may need to relook at the Competition (classic) guidelines as these were written prior to the age changes. It is too early to indicate if changes are warranted or not; however, should be on our radar for the end of the year.**