

Northwest District of the Connecticut Junior Soccer Association

January 18, 2017 Wyndham Southbury Plaza, Southbury, CT

Attendees: Dave Brouillette (Wolcott), Scott Shakely (Litchfield), Nick Meglio (Bunker Hill), Dave Hendy (Shepaug), Deb Krayske (Watertown), Scott Stoffler (NW United), Andie Greene (Woodbury/Bethlehem), David Shannon (Litchfield), Tim Holland (Southbury), Paul Maloney (Wolcott), Julie McNally (New Milford), Dennis Fowler (Terryville), Harry Allison (New Fairfield), Steve Vetter (Brookfield), Cari Boucher (New Hartford), Cindy Langer (New Hartford), Glen Gleissner (Middlebury)

Not in Attendance: Danbury, Torrington, Sherman, Winchester United

Public Comment: None

Minutes: The minutes are posted on our website, please review them. Going forward, we will distribute the minutes at each meeting and approve them before they are posted to the website.

Treasurer's Report: Dave will keep us posted on the goal purchasing. They are working on a having one source to purchase the goals from at a discounted rate.

Registration: No new report. Travel team commitments are due by February 28th, online team registration begins January 25th. The spring season will begin April 1st and the last day will be June 18th. There will be no games the weekend of April 15th & April 16th and May 27th & 28th. The team scheduling meeting will be March 8th. Coaches need to attend the coach's meeting on March 22nd. It was noted that some coaches complain that the same information is presented each year and coaches would prefer more time to do their scheduling with the other coaches in their division. Dave said that he would talk to Cory and they would make an effort to start the meeting on time.

Banquet: This year's banquet was successful. We have four clubs (Torrington, Watertown, New Fairfield and Bunker Hill) who still owe the district money for the banquet, please pay as soon as possible.

State Report: CJSA is still looking at the goal sizes and field size requirements. It's looking like there will be a range of sizes for both goals and fields. New rules are coming down for the fall about when a game is out of control because of coaches or parents. The referees will be responsible for keeping the coaches under control or removing them from a game and the coaches will be responsible for controlling/disciplining and out of control parent. Dave recommends starting to educating your coaches now.

Classic Travel: In the spring, we will follow the same guidelines that we followed last fall - we will allow the age exceptions that we made (2-3 players per team), but we will not make these exceptions again next fall. Dave suggested that next fall, any 8th grade U15s should play on a U15 team. Northwest United commented that this would do away with the U14 boys' bracket as most of the teams this past fall had U15 8th graders on them. Also, Dave suggested that in order to have a higher quality A division, that we look to get some towns surrounding the district or some of the town who have gone to Southwest District to join us (such as Danbury or Bristol). Northwest United suggested looking at New York state clubs along the border as well. All agreed that

this was a good idea. We may need to come up with an incentive (no district fees, money towards a tournament) to entice teams to come and join us. Glen suggested that if we get enough teams, we could have two divisions and have a playoff. It was suggested that we get rid of the residency requirement for A division, this would help us form more teams and possibly prevent as many kids from going to premier for better competition. Glen suggested that we get rid of the rule that if the player gets permission to play because their town didn't have a team, they shouldn't have to go back to play for their town when that town does have enough players for a team. Scott will have to give this some thought to see if he could track this in an efficient manner. Southbury and Brookfield mentioned that they have increased their registration fees and now they pay their coaches. Southbury has seen an increase in their registration numbers as a result. Dave suggested having the district subsidize some regional training that would be a benefit of being a member of a Northwest District club. We will talk about this more at the next meeting. Possible options are: 1. Look at enticing other towns to come and play A division, 2. Get rid of the residency rule, 3. Create regional developmental training, or 4. Leave things the way they are.

Premier: No new report

President's Dinner: The president's dinner will be January 27th, Dave asked how many are coming. Two presidents said that they are coming. If you plan to go, please let Karen know. Amy Famiglietti's Thomaston TOPS program is being honored for being such a successful start up program.

AGM: If you haven't already filled out your proxy form, please fill it out and email it to Karen. We will be voting for a new president. Joe, the creator of League Athletics is running and Maggie is on the ballot as well. There are a lot of great workshops. It's going to be a very educational day. If you can't attend, you can send someone from your club as your designate.

Training: No new report

Website/Publicity: No new report

Referees: CJSA opened the referee site through March. We are looking for more new referees.

Disciplinary: No new report

Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Carrie seconded the motion. Meeting ended at 8:50pm

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be March 8th at 7:30pm.