

# REGION 41 AYSO

## MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**June 13, 2017**

The monthly Region 41 AYSO Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Regional Commissioner Chris Connelly at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Laguna Niguel IHOP, located at 23810 Aliso Creek Road, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677-3930.

In absence of objection, Chris Connelly served as Chairman and Secretary of the meeting. Chris Connelly noted that seven (7) of ten (10) Directors were present, constituting a quorum so that business could be transacted.

### **AYSO NATIONAL & AREA ITEMS:**

The Board reviewed and discussed national AYSO news, including the agenda for the upcoming NAGM on June 23-25. Chairman Connelly reviewed the proposed amendments to be voted upon at NAGM and indicated his intentions to vote on behalf of the Region. No objection was made.

The Board also reviewed and discussed the new US Soccer mandated rule changes for the upcoming fall season as follows:

- 12U will play 9 v. 9, no heading, and goalies not allowed to punt;
- 10U will play 7 v. 7, no heading, goalies not allowed to punt, and build out line will be utilized; and,
- 8U, no heading, build out line utilized, no throw-ins, and goalies not allowed to punt.

The Board then discussed the number of players for 8U games. Chairman Connelly indicated that US Soccer has mandated 4 v. 4, but that all other Area 11L regions are planning to play 7 v. 7. Chairman Connelly indicated that given the smaller number of players in Region 41, the Region may be better served by playing 4 v 4 or 5 v 5. Board members indicated that Parents may complain about smaller sided games for because it is not “real soccer.” Having to recruit and train additional coaches was also identified as a challenge. Other Board members indicated that the change would be better received if Region 41 publishes its reasons for playing smaller sided games. After prolonged debate, the board agreed to table the issue for further discussion and vote at future Board meetings.

### **AYSO REGION 41 ITEMS:**

Chairman Connelly reminded the Board members that UK Soccer camps are scheduled to take place in Laguna Niguel during the upcoming summer and that all Board member children who attend the camp(s) will receive a 50% discount.

Chairman Connelly notified the Board that Assistant Regional Commissioner, Dave Selecky, had completed Region 41's Regional Assessment Program (“RAP”) and that Region 41 will receive the Gold Award for 2016-2017, which is an improvement on the Silver Award received in 2015-2016.

A status report of current Board member positions was provided and Chairman Connelly encouraged current Board members to take on additional responsibilities. Derek Bartolome indicated he would be the Division Coordinator for 10U, and that Lissette Bartolome would agree to be the Region Social Media Chair. Chairman Connelly stated that absent Board member, Chris Bunge, had indicated his desire to be named Division Coordinator for 6U and 8U prior to the Board meeting. In addition to the foregoing positions, Chairman Connelly indicated that the Region desperately needs a new Coach Administrator, Volunteer Coordinator, and Marketing Chair. Chairman Connelly also indicated that he would prefer that someone from Laguna Niguel volunteer for the Region Treasurer position. Chairman Connelly requested that these positions be filled by the next Board meeting.

The Board then discussed the viability of holding Extra play tryouts. After a short discussion, it was agreed that Region 41 does not presently have enough players to constitute an Extra play team, but would consider forming Extra play teams in 2018.

Board member, Rod Robinson, then provided a summation of his U8 girls' team experience playing at halftime of the Orange County Soccer Club game on June 3, 2017. He indicated that the girls and their families enjoyed a fantastic experience.

## **REGION 41 GOALS:**

Following a presentation showing that player numbers in Region 41 are declining, the Board discussed ways to increase enrollment, as well as improve the Region's soccer program(s). Items discussed included the following:

- Advertise Region 41's 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018;
- Special throwback jersey's for 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018;
- Major registration discount for 2018;
- Friend, family, alumni, military (active and veteran) discounts;
- Focusing on AYSO's six (6) philosophies and vision – particularly positive coaching;
- Donating funds to local elementary schools for marketing purposes;
- Cross-marketing with other sports programs in Laguna Niguel;
- New banners and posters throughout the City;
- Flash e-mail sales advertisements and countdown clocks;
- Game day improvements – synthetic turf field access, Kona Ice and food trucks, DJ, announcer, balloons;
- Opening and Closing Day events;
- Action team photos on opening day;
- Referee classes for Coaches;
- Utilize UK trainers all year for practice and skill nights;
- Participation in LA Galaxy and OC Soccer Club game day activities;
- Institute a VIP program; and,
- Institute a Schoolyard program for 3-4 year olds through UK Soccer in order to get kids into the AYSO program earlier.

Chairman Connelly indicated he will ask all board members to indicate their top three preferences from the foregoing list prior to the next Board meeting, so the Region can set goals.

Chairman Connelly asked if there was any other business. None was raised. Chairman Connelly adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

*Chris Connelly*

**Chris Connelly, Regional Commissioner**

June14, 2017

**Date**