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MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
AYSO REGION 18

A meeting of the Board of Directors of AYSO REGION 18 (“AYSO18”), was held at Henessey’s Tavern located at 313 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach, California 90266 and via video conference, on March 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. after verbal and written Notice duly given.

Krista Skinner chaired the meeting and Jessica Waybright took the meeting minutes.

The following Directors participated in person:

Krista Skinner; Jackie Eanes; Scott Champagne; Jimmy Orland; Russ Allen; Andrew Werhane; Chris Wong; Christina Finlay; Ashley Choi; Steve Hershowitz; Michael Hinz; Mars Brownsen;

The following Directors participated via video conference:

Jessica Waybright; Jeff Stephens; Ben Davidson; Nedra Yost; Woody Hauck; Scott Lentz; Byron Eguchi; Steve Killman; Baldeep Sadhal; Jamie Chang; Mark Hodson; Iris Reckie

The following Directors did not participate:

Vince O’Hara; Damian Stevens; Michael Miles; Chris Otey; Kim Digillio; Lou Figueroa; Kelly Ankley; Scott Coopman; Karl Primm; Iris Shin; Wolf Heim; Dan Angress; Ken Garcia; Anthony Lombardo; Albert Chen; Dave Brantly; Amanda Walls Murphy; Pauline Loder; Sarah Lefton.

Chris Talbot joined the meeting as a guest. He will join the Board in the Fall.

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m.

Regional Commissioner’s Report

- Krista Skinner reported that the Marine Avenue Park re-turf project is still in limbo and efforts are being made to work with the City of Manhattan Beach. Depending on the City’s response, AYSO18 parents may be encouraged to attend the next City Council meeting to advocate for the City’s use of funds on Marine Avenue Park.
- Scott Champagne provided an update on the status of Begg field. The field will not be available for use in the Spring, but it is anticipated to be available for the Fall. Ideally the field would be left undisturbed during the Summer to allow the grass to mature.
- Krista reported that MBMS field is still a priority and greater efforts will be made to fix the field after the Marine Avenue Park field is re-turfed.
- No progress has been made on installing AED machines at fields, however, an Eagle Scout has been identified that may be interested in taking on the project.
- The Board discussed the Changing the Game Speaker Series and how insightful and impactful it is for those in attendance. One example of the cognitive impairment players experience when dealing with yelling spectators was particularly powerful. Krista will ask Wolf Heim to extract portions of the recorded presentation to be shared with AYSO18 parents.
- The Board discussed the Speaker Series in the context of the recent Western States games. The games were set up such that coaches were on one sideline with spectators of both teams on the other side line. It made for more contentious games as parents from both sides were right next to each other and were louder than the coaches on the other side of the field.

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- The new robot is in and 3-4 people need to be trained on how to use it. Andrew Werhane and Mars Brownsen volunteered and 1 or 2 more people need to be identified to help Russ Allen. Russ will order the necessary paint.
- Krista explained that she set up a BAND Channel for DCs to communicate with each other to share shed codes, field set-ups and questions. DCs could also set up their own BAND channel to communicate with their coaches.
- Next Krista Skinner presented a resolution for consideration by the Board regarding opening an investment account at Chase Bank for AYSO18 to invest idle cash. The Board confirmed a quorum was present with 17 voting members in attendance. The Board discussed the potential investment options and confirmed the amount invested would be in conformance with the budget previously approved by the AYSO18 Board of Directors. After discussion, upon motion duly made by Mars Brownsen and seconded by Byron Eguchi, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby approves the investment of funds currently held at Chase Bank for the benefit of American Youth Soccer Organization Region 18 Manhattan/Hermosa Beach in low risk, high liquidity financial instruments upon advice of J.P. Morgan Private Client Advisor.

- Krista Skinner then presented a resolution regarding who would have decision making power over the new investment account. Krista explained that currently she, Anthony Lombardo and Byron Eguchi have control over the AYSO18 accounts. However, to conform with AYSO National regulations, the AYSO National Director of Operations and Strategy, Paula Muesse, may need to be on the account as well. The Board discussed the decision-making authority of AYSO18 over the accounts and the limitations imposed on it by AYSO National. The Board again discussed the investment strategies for the funds. After discussion, upon motion duly made by Jackie Eanes and seconded by Scott Champagne, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby approves current AYSO Region 18 Regional Commissioner (Krista Skinner) and/or Treasurer (Anthony Lombardo) and/or AYSO National Director of Operations and Strategy (Paula Muesse) to make decisions on behalf of American Youth Soccer Organization Region 18 Manhattan/Hermosa Beach regarding funds currently held at Chase Bank for the Organization. Decision making power will pass to future holders of these positions without further notice needed.

- Krista explained, although the process of opening an investment account has been difficult the hope is that the return on investment will fund the college scholarship fund for years to come.
- Next Krista presented the current refund policy which allows for parents to receive a refund of the AYSO18 registration fee, but not transaction fees or the AYSO membership fee, up to 7 days before the start of the season. The refund process is difficult and time consuming during a time when the resources of the AYSO18 volunteers can be better spent preparing for the season. Also, the current language can be interpreted in different ways and parents spend lots of time arguing about the wording. To avoid future confusion and debate with parents over refunds Krista recommends

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inserting dates into the refund policy rather than the current language of at least 7 days before the start of the season. After discussion, upon motion duly made by Ashley Choi and seconded by Byron Eguchi, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts the new refund policy, as presented.

- Byron suggests sending an email blast to parents before the refund dates approach and DCs are encouraged to send one to their parents as well.
- Krista reported that Mike McKnight continues the process of finding the next Regional Commissioner. Several people have been in discussions with Mike and Krista encourages those individuals to continue those discussions.

League Play – 10/12/14U

- Section playoffs took place March 4 at Jurupa Valley and AYSO18 teams had the following results:
 - o League - 10UG Myers (1st), 12UB Wright (1st), 12UG Herbert, 14UG Talbott (1st), 14UG Jacobson (4th)
- Western States took place March 11 at Moorpark and AYSO18 teams had the following results:
 - o 10UG Meyers (1st), 12UB Wright (3rd), 14UG Talbott (1st)
- The Board discussed how the League playoffs are different and have different energy and excitement than All-Stars and club games as some of the kids may have never played at that level before and may never play at that level again. The kids and parents have also been together all season long.

All Stars – 10/12/14U

- All Star Section playoffs took place March 5 at Jurupa Valley and AYSO18 teams had the following results:
 - o 10UB Mosier (1st), 10UG Talbott (1st), 12UB Harris (1st), 12UG Mosier (4th), 14UB Orland (1st), 14UB Thompson, 14UG Jacobson
- All Star Western States took place March 11 at Moorpark and AYSO18 teams had the following results:
 - o 10UB Mosier (1st), 10UG Talbott (1st), 12UB Harris (1st), 14UB Orland (3rd)
- The All Star games were affected by the weather and the schedule was condensed. Some of the players played in both the League games and the All Star games and ended up playing up to 8 games in a weekend. The Board discussed the various games and how each of the teams performed and the challenges they overcame.
- Krista reported that AYSO18 has never had this many 1st place League and All Star teams. She is working with the City Council to have the players recognized and for a local paper to do a story.
- Chris Wong reported that AYSO18 had higher referee commitments due to having so many teams advance and AYSO18 fulfilled all those commitments. The following 11 people who did not have kids playing, drove to 3 hours and dealt with rainy and cold conditions to referee games: Dan Angress, Steve Hershowitz, Scott Lentz, Amanda Murphy, Vince O'Hara, Charlie Abbott, Eli Leber, Luis Torres, John Moraytis, Scott Janus, Chris Wong. 3 other people volunteered, but were not needed. There has never been this level of participation and the quality of referees was outstanding.

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Spring

- There are 1734 registered players with 56 players on the waitlist. The Board discussed the effort necessary to get the last few kids off the waitlist and the need for coaches to take a team and the players. Having parents register late is disruptive to the process of forming teams and getting the season started.
- Games that were canceled on Saturday may be rescheduled at the DCs discretion, but field space will be an issue.
- Ashley and Jackie, the DCs for 8UB, plan on holding a Sportsmanship Sunday, a one-day event to get players, coaches and parents involved. They are still working out the logistics and are open to suggestions. Other DCs may do something similar.

Referee

- Scott Lentz reported that the first regional referee class was held this past Wednesday. All AYSO18 attendees were youth referees. The adult attendees came from other Regions.
- A 1-day Intermediate Referee class will be held on Sunday. A Regional Referee class will be held on March 22. Region 21 posted a class on March 24 in Hawthorne. A Referee Assessor class will be held on April 15.
- Chris Wong reported that more referees are needed in 10U, including ARs. Chris encouraged DCs to have 8/10U coaches take the referee classes to provide coverage.
- Dan Angress sent out a survey to current and former referees to get feedback on retainment and recruitment.

Coach

- Steve Hershowitz reported that a 10U coach class will be held on March 21 and will likely be the last one this month.
- Coaches are still not compliant with their coach certifications so it is unlikely they will also take the referee classes. It is important that coaches get into compliance. Krista explained the background check process with Sterling and how that may be tripping some volunteers up. She explained the process so DCs can help their coaches, but if they continue to experience problems Nedra Yost could also assist them.

Coach Trainers

- Camp is scheduled for the week of Spring Break.
- EVO Trainers will be at 5/6U games for the first 4 weeks of the season.
- Spring clinics will be scheduled.

Fields

- Russ has lined the fields and has new nets for Marine Avenue Park.
- The Board discussed the status of the sheds. The shed at Marine Avenue Park was vandalized and the door ripped open and soccer balls stolen. Mars added longer screws to the hinges to prevent the issue in the future. The shed at Pennekamp is in disrepair.

Youth Volunteer Scholarship Program

- Nedra reported that she has not received any scholarship submissions yet, but she has been getting questions from kids, so they are working on them.
- Jackie volunteered to present at the Mira Costa Scholarship night provided the timing works for her schedule.

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Meeting concluded at 8:46pm

NEXT MEETING: April 11, 2023 at 7:00pm