

Essex United Soccer Club
October 10, 2006
Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Carolyn Rushford, Garry Malle, Michelle Hetling, Nina Warren, Randy Darden, Scott Earisman, Ed Demulder, Cindy Jones, Justin Janaro, Cheryl Bowers and Mike Lampron.

The meeting was held at Essex High School, rm C102 and called to order by Garry Malle at 7:13 pm.

The September 2006 Meeting Minutes were reviewed and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Michelle, seconded by Mike and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report : A Balance Sheet and Income/Expense Report was provided by Michelle.

Per Michelle, the Balance Sheet does not reflect the registration fees for 2007. The checks are not deposited as of this meeting and the amounts will show up under the Bank Accounts on November's Balance sheet.

She also provided the first draft of the 2007 Budget and requested careful review by all department heads.

Ed suggested moving the Tree Farm donation out of the "actual expenses" for 2006 (\$10,000) and list it as a separate line item, after expenses, to more accurately reflect expense dollars.

Michelle reminded everyone that the budget needs to be finalized at the November meeting so it can be presented at the December annual meeting.

Registrar's Report: Mike provided a handout showing the registration numbers. Ed questioned the need for U10 coed numbers since EU does not have a coed team. Carolyn said there may be a requirement with VSL and will follow up with Meg on a need for this count.

Ed also noted that there are some 16 year olds not shown on the list due to the age count only showing up to age 15. Mike will review the numbers again and rerun the list based on division instead of age to provide a more accurate count.

(Mike provided this report via email on 10/11/06 with the following numbers:

U8 Coed – 20
U10 Girls – 33
U10 Boys – 31
U12 Girls – 30
U12 Boys – 33
U14 Girls – 29
U14 Boys – 19
U16 Girls – 39
U16 Boys – 19

Total = 253)

Mike made the suggestion that online registration software be reviewed to ease the burden of registration.

Carolyn provided Ed a list of people that signed up to be assistant coaches. She also provided Garry the name of a volunteer to do a PowerPoint presentation at the annual meeting.

Garry raised the question of whether to use the Tree Farm for U8 and U6 levels due to the expense of the Tree Farm and the lower registration fees charged at these levels. Mike suggested an analysis be done for U8 and U6 costs and possibly cutting expenses by using school fields instead of the Tree Farm.

Coach Coordinator Report: Ed Demulder provided a handout detailing the current coaching and assistant coaching line up.

As of this meeting, U10/U12 tryouts are complete; U14 girls are ½ complete; tryouts not required for U14 boys (19/20 players); U16 boys tryouts will be held after the high school season (22-23 players); U16 girls will probably not be required (2 teams for 40 players).

No waitlists at this time on any age group. (U16 boys have not been decided yet).

Ed requested the earliest possible deadline for roster registration to prevent “poaching” of players during indoor play. Carolyn will verify the earliest possible date.

Ed noted that he did not realize the EUSC by-laws roster maximums until after teams were picked. He made a motion for the following waivers:

U10 girls A - 15 vs 14 maximum;

U10 girls B - 18 vs 15 maximum

U14 B - 20 vs 18 maximum

Michelle raised a concern for the 18 players at U10 girls B level and the possibility that some players may not play much. Ed responded that there will be 2 assistant coaches to help with the higher number of players. Cheryl seconded the motion and the motion carried with a unanimous vote.

The U16 girls A coaching slot will be filled by Ed due to the need for an additional coach at that level. Ed and Kevin Dawson will coach but will not have try-outs and will most likely divide the players into two teams by age group – 15 year olds on one team, 16 year olds on the other. There will be joint training sessions in the winter and the spring. To help with the players busy schedules in the spring, there will be 3 scheduled practices per week with the players only having to make 2 of the 3. One practice a week will be held

by both coaches; the other two practices will be held by one or the other coach with the same training agenda.

Ed made a motion to accept the head coaches presented for the 2007 season (with the exception of TBD's which will be determined by the next board meeting). Cheryl seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

There will be a head coaches meeting in October. Information will be provided to the coaches for Indoor Futsal and 7v7 at the Vermont Soccer Center (Fairgrounds).

Training time slots are still being pursued for indoor training through the Vermont Soccer Center. The Shelburne facility may also have to be used to obtain enough slots.

Equipment Coordinator Report: No report.

VSL Report: Scott provided the following:

Notes from the VSL Fall meeting, 9-21-06

1. Discussed Jamboree scheduling. Most teams favored moving it 3-4 weeks into season. Did not want to schedule games over Memorial Day weekend to compensate. Ref. coordinator (Del) pointed out that jamboree has been used to train and mentor new refs, in ways that are not possible without the jamboree. The board decided to vote at the Div. 2 meeting, late this fall. (To be scheduled)
2. League has refund checks for the past two years for teams. S.E. picked up the check for EUSC. (\$1,690.) Ken Torino tracks all no-shows through ref reports, and clubs, through VSL rep, can confirm through their notification. He is working with USOfficials to make their site more user friendly. Club concerns centered on info disappearing immediately after games, and lack of contact info for refs.
3. All players U-10 and up will need player passes this year, and refs will be instructed to check rosters and passes before each game. Up to 3 players (div 2 and 3) in eligible age group can be added to roster per game. This allows understaffed teams to have enough players each game.
4. Registrar needs to send in a signed "zero tolerance" form, available on VSA website, in to the association with registration material. The VSA would also like a copy of each team's board make-up.
5. Poaching Div. 1 policy is that kids are "open game" July through fall registration. Once registered, they're off limits for recruiting. There is no protection for Div 2/3 players, since they can be dual rostered with Div. 1, and have territorial protection through the town system.
6. Ken Torino spoke about reschedules/cancellation. He needs 24 hour notice to cancel/reschedule games. Acknowledges that this puts pressure on clubs/venues to anticipate weather and field conditions, but describes the confusion and impossible expectations of trying to communicate cancellations on a "day of" basis. He also needs clear communication, from coordinators only, about moving games **from** (with teams, game #, date and venue) **to** (with same info, already cleared with both teams and with venue.) He suggests cut/paste from website.

7. Ken Torino is the assignor for Div 2/3, with Joe Delaney the scheduler and coordinator. Jerry Frank is filling all three positions for Div 1.

8. By-laws changes.

A. VSL can now hold votes by e-mail, thereby speeding up the ability of the league to make decisions.

B. By-laws are fully updated to accommodate the integration of the two leagues into (Div 1, and Div2/3) into one league.

C. An additional vice president position was added, so that Div. 1 has a VP, and Div 2/3 has VP. Rik Dayvie is the new Div. 1 VP. Jack Myers is Div 2/3 vp.

9. All U-12 teams in all divisions will play 8 v 8 on smaller fields, beginning this (2007) season. Goals can be either recommended 8 v 8 goals, or the full-sized goals, for the next year. Roster sizes are not limited. Specifics will be discussed at a Div. meetings later this fall.

Cheryl requested the following be suggested at the next VSL meeting: Schedule the Jamboree on different weekends for different levels to allow more referees to be available. Scott agreed to raise the suggestion at the next meeting.

Electronic voting was discussed by the board and it was agreed that EU will not vote electronically. Enough time will be requested to allow the board to discuss at a meeting before casting the club vote.

Scott announced that he will be stepping down as VSL rep by the end of this 2006 year. He will continue to help with 2007 season schedules and will contact a few possible replacements. Randy will post the opening on the web.

Tree Farm Representative Report: Cheryl stated that for 2007, the Tree Farm will be asking all clubs to reserve fields in advance. The reservations will be based on the club requests and not the VSL scheduler. A deposit (% TBD) will be required in advance with the remaining amount charged on the scheduled dates. Refunds will only be issued when the Tree Farm closes fields – not for cancellations based on inclement weather.

The Tree Farm will provide 3 sets of goals for 8v8 U12 play.

There will be a users meeting scheduled for November 1st. Four committees have been formed to address issues.

New Business: Garry suggested the possibility of the board creating a Nominations Committee to review board openings and recruit replacements.

Old Business: U6 update: There were 16 people that signed up as interested in having a U6 level. The board needs to continue discussing the needs and costs.

The next board meeting will be held at the Essex High School, rm C102 on November 14th at 7:00 pm.

A motion was made by Michelle to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mike and the motion carried at 10:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Jones, Secretary
Subsequently approved by the board on November 14, 2006