



BETHEL PARK SOCCER ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING – October 21, 2008



Bill Wolf, President of the Bethel Park Soccer Association (BPSA) called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM in the meeting room at Al's Cafe. Also present were Jim Rhoades, Scott Bradley, Matt Scott, Tony Bruno, Bob Monte, Kathleen Tischler, Larry Shaw, Brian Gorges, Don Snyder, Matt Yee and Ron Kotkiewicz.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were distributed & reviewed at the meeting. Motion was made by Brian Gorges and seconded by Jim Rhoades to approve the amended minutes & post to the website. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- Jim Rhoades gave a balance in the checking and savings accounts of \$43,611.89.
- Borough check in the amount of \$31,958.00 was received.
- Outstanding invoices were presented for payment with Eurosport still outstanding at \$169.96.
- Jim will provide a financial analysis of this season's uniform sponsorship initiative.

President's Report: In his state of the Association report, Bill Wolf stated:

- Positive feedback was received on flight and travel shirts.
- Small goals for Flight 5 and additional nets for Flight 4 are working well for those groups.
- Concern raised that as an Association we need to work toward cohesiveness in order to flourish. Achieve through sharing resources, our collective experience, and being an asset to other teams in the association.
- Bill will draft a letter to the referees in the organization advising them of the board's support and provide a means by which a ref can report a difficult situation if one is encountered.
- Discussion regarding association ref situation included responsibility for player safety as a priority, placing refs in appropriate games and the development & feedback regarding ref abilities.

Committees:

Registration -

- Don Snyder reported the new form for spring registration is complete.

- Registration opens December 8 and will be publicized with forms available in the Chronicle, Recreation News, and on the website.
- Changes to the form discussed include level of learning (beginner, intermediate, advanced) for fall season.
- Possibility of player evaluations were discussed to allow appropriate placement within flight teams.

Communications -

- Website has been updated with all winter academies & leagues with the exception of Victory at this time.
- Feasibility of a bulletin board on the website was discussed & will be evaluated.
- Registration form needs to be posted on the website.

Risk Management –

- Flight 4, Flight 5 boys and Flight 5 girls still outstanding for forms.
- Injury reporting should take place immediately after incidents to Kathleen Tischler & Bill Wolf in order to provide necessary info to Rec Board.
- Don Snyder will provide accident form which will be provided to all coaches & utilized for the upcoming season.
- First aid kits & ice packs will be purchased by Tony Bruno and available to coaches for the upcoming season.
- Question regarding injury coverage to players hurt during sanctioned training or games was brought up. This Fall we had two players injured; one during a training session (broken collar bone) and the other during a game (goalie's broken finger). PAWest provides secondary injury insurance coverage which parents of injured players need to investigate.

Note – follow up after meeting determined the following:

PAWest has policy with Pullen Insurance Service. Policy has a \$100 deductible. In the event of an injury to a PAWest registered player that occurred on a sanctioned field during a sanctioned event, a Youth Soccer Claim Form can be filled out and sent to PAWest's office at 111 Whitehead Lane, Suite 200, Monroeville PA 15146 to start the claim action. Details regarding the accident, coach present, etc. must be collected. Initial coverage by the parent's primary insurance detailed. In the event of no insurance coverage, the PAWest policy becomes the primary insurance. The form with instructions can be downloaded from PAWest's web site:

<http://www.pawest-soccer.org/Assets/documents/InsuranceClaimForm.pdf>

If parents have questions, they should call PAWest at 412-856-8011.

Referees –

- Ref recertification courses are being held in a number of surrounding communities over the next few months. Bill Wolf will ask Justin to forward info to refs to check the website.
- List of refs on each field needs to be emailed to coaches.
- Grade 9 course scheduled for 1/6/09 in Peters Twp. Interest has been expressed for this course.
- Policy on coaches' and parents' behavior toward referees was reviewed and discussed. Draft of final language to be forthcoming; however, this issue was tabled for the remainder of the fall season.

Travel Commissioner & Registrar –

- No additional information to report

PR/Fundraising –

- Larry Shaw provided 50/50 earnings to Jim Rhoades.
- Bill Wolf estimated the earnings this season to be \$1800.
- Participation in 50/50 raffle is encouraged at all flights.
- Collection and reporting process in place currently is working well.
- Additional goal bags are needed to replace current bags in poor condition.
- Coaches' appreciation event was briefly discussed and it was determined that Brian Gorges would coordinate arrangements for this year's event.

Player/Coach Development –

- Larry Shaw will provide stats regarding this season to Brian Gorges for posting on the website.
- For the upcoming spring season Larry Shaw will be working with the younger teams for further development.
- Larry Shaw stated that feedback received regarding Steve Hagyard has been very good and he has been able to develop the rapport with teams he has worked with this season.
- PFC Academy was not well received. New academy opportunities within Bethel Park will be considered for spring.
- The Association received a thank you from MLS in appreciation for housing provided.

Flights –

- No additional information to report

Fields –

- Lining of fields was done well.

- Layout of Millennium fields has worked well and served to allow regrowth which has preserved playing surfaces for this whole fall season.
- Park Avenue is in very poor condition and concern raised regarding dangerous playing situation.

Equipment –

- Last remaining item from last meeting were uniform travel socks which were received and distributed to teams.

Community Liaison –

- No additional information to report

Old Business –

- None

New Business –

- Capital budget proposal presented by Jim Rhoades & Brian Gorges regarding Park Ave. field replacement to a turf field. Discussion followed and was centered around donation of set amount of funds on an annual basis and feasibility of the Association funding this amount on a regular, ongoing basis and associated risks.
- A motion was made by Bill Wolf and seconded by Brian Gorges to place seed money of \$5000 in establishment of a capital budget fund for Park Avenue field replacement. The motion was passed by the board unanimously.
- Matt Scott reported that there were issues with fall photos for two teams and it was brought to the attention of Redford Photography. Flight photos went according to plan.
- Discussion regarding inappropriate player behavior ensued. Reference was made to a recent incident in which one player's aggressive behavior resulted in injury to another teammate during a team training session. At question was what action should be taken by a coach to discipline inappropriate player behavior/ actions. Bill Wolf felt it was entirely up to coaches to control inter team issues. If actions are significant enough to merit possible suspension, the event should be reported to board, the form of discipline be discussed with board members (to determine if fair and appropriate), and a call should be made to the parents of said player and to parent of any child also involved. Follow up discussion focused on if player's negative actions continue. Recommendation was made to establish guidelines during winter break for a formal procedure regarding suspensions from the club. Counsel from BP Rec department will be sought on this item and follow up discussion will take place. Regarding the incident cited, actions were dealt with by the coach and matter was being monitored by Bill Wolf.
- Matt Scott stated that the soccer boosters have towels available for sale to support the teams.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Matt Scott and Larry Shaw seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 10:24 PM.

Upcoming Dates –

- Last flight team date is October 25, 2008.
- Registration opens December 8, 2008.
- Coaches appreciation event date to be determined.

Next Board meeting will be November 11, 2008 at 8:00 pm in Caucus Room.

Respectfully Submitted
Kathleen Tischler on behalf of
Dave Conely, Secretary