



## BETHEL PARK SOCCER ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING – November 10, 2009



**Bill Wolf**, President of the Bethel Park Soccer Association (BPSA) called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM in the Caucus Room of the Bethel Park Municipal Building. Also present were board members: Brian Gorges, Kathleen Tischler, JJ Zekany, Kelly Mehalko, Matt Yee, Don Snyder, and Jodi Galietta. Visitors at the meeting included: Matt Scott, Ken and Shelly Reed, and Brian Friday.

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

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Balance in the checking and savings accounts as of 10/31/09 was \$43,416.76.
- 2 CDs were opened, 4 month and 8 month, this past month.
- Of \$20,000 in checking account will be moved \$15,000 to money market.
- Payment for Hillcrest lining fee will be forthcoming.
- BPSA made a donation to ROPARD.
- Paid lining fees and Duda Painting for paint.
- IRS Form 990EZ was filed with the IRS.

### **President's Report:**

- In closure to the fall season, Bill Wolf was pleased to report that all went well this past season.
- Bill stated flights were run better than ever before and travel program comments were very complimentary. Bill expressed his appreciation to Don Snyder and JJ Zekany for their assistance with our u14 team.
- Bill thanked the coaches and assistants for their positive leadership. In addition, Bill thanked all of our referees, Bob Monte for his duties as ref assignor; Justin Fleishman for a fine job, and Mark Mazzeo for his assistance with ref assessments.
- Received positive comments from others on BP fields, a credit to the crew lining, Brian Gorges and Tony Bruno, all went very well with the exception of one paint issue.
- MLS was a positive experience this year with a much better utilization of time for MLS coaches vs. the past.
- Jen Kalogeris, HS goalkeeper coach, is willing to do goalkeeper coaching for us in the spring. Kelly Mehalko has contact info.
- Updates on board members: Michelle Friday and Tony Bruno have resigned and Jodi Galietta will be resigning. A thank you to both Michelle and Jodi Galietta for

their fine work with our flights program with was very professional and much appreciated.

- We are looking forward to our nominees coming out and balloting to be forthcoming.

## **Committees:**

## **Registration -**

- BPSA write up for Bethel Park Chronicles and new Soccer Registration Form to Mary Anne Kelton in Rec office (by e-mail October 19, 2009) ~ Home delivery of Chronicles scheduled for the week of December 7, 2009.
- Two-sided Soccer Program Description and new Soccer Registration Form for Rec News and distribution in the Rec Office to Mary Anne Kelton (by e-mail October 22, 2009) ~ Distribution of Rec News scheduled for December 2009 and January 2010.
- Soccer program description and new Soccer Registration Form for posting on the BPSA web site to JJ Zekany (by e-mail October 29, 2009).
- Rec Office will begin to accept registrations for the Spring 2010 soccer season the week of December 7, 2009 in conjunction with the Bethel Park Chronicles' home delivery.
- Open Registration for Spring 2010 soccer season ~ Wednesday, January 20, 2010; 7:00 - 8:30 pm; Bethel Park Municipal Building, Council Chambers.
- Flights registration deadline ~ Thursday, March 11, 2010.
  - Why do we accept registrations through the following weekend? ~ Mary Anne Kelton was at one time the only person available to process registrations in the Rec Office on Fridays, ergo, registration closed on a Thursday.
  - Should the registration deadline on the form be changed? ~ Registration forms for Spring 2010 Flights already instituted. Possible change for the Fall 2010 Flights registration deadline.
- Jodi Galletta to send a Spring soccer registration reminder to Flights Commissioners week of December 7, 2009.
  - Commissioners to send on to Fall Flights Coaches
  - Coaches to send on to their Fall Flights player rosters
- Jodi Galletta volunteered to continue to input registrations into the database for the Spring 2010 soccer season and generate player lists to Flights Commissioners and Flights Coordinator(s).

## **Communications -**

- Brian Gorges reported web site is up-to-date.

## **Risk Management –**

- Kathleen Tischler reported a much better job was done this year regarding the prompt recording and reporting of BP Rec Incident forms with no behavioral incidents and a minimal number of injury reports.
- A reminder was issued to complete the request for on line Kid Safe application which will be forthcoming after the first of the year to register all travel coaches and assistants.

## **Referees –**

- Bob Monte who was unable to attend asked the board to remind all of the dates for the upcoming ref recertifications:
- Grade 8 is set for November 11 from 6 pm – 10 pm.
- Grade 9 recertification is set for November 16 6 pm to 9 pm.
- Bridge course is set for November 14 from 9 am – 5 pm and needs 6 more spots to be filled in order to conduct the course.

## **Travel Commissioner & Registrar –**

- Bill Wolf expressed his appreciation for Don Snyder and JJ Zekany for their assistance in taking on the u14 travel team.

## **PR/Fundraising –**

- Matt Yee reported that Community Day went well. Food portion was difficult to handle and did not go over very well with a profit of \$179 vs. merchandise total of \$479.

## **Flights –**

- Last day of Flights for Fall 2009 season was October 17, 2009 for Flights 1, 3, 4 Girls, 4 Boys, and 5
- Flight 2 was cancelled October 17, 2009 by Commissioner Joe Reichard.
  - Make-up session held October 24, 2009
- Flights pictures ~ Redford Photography reprinted at least one Flight 3 team's photos to ensure customer satisfaction. Thank you, Michael Redford!
- Recommendation for new Flights Coordinator from Michele Friday and Jodi Galiotta ~ Bruce Thompson

- He hasn't missed a session in two years.
  - He is great with the kids, parents, coaches, and Board members ~ very neutral.
  - He understands the game.
  - He was on-board with the Flights changes instituted for Fall 2009.
  - He turned in all necessary items without repeated requests from Flights Co-Coordinator
- Need to fill Flights Commissioners' positions for Spring 2010 season at Flight 4 Boys and Flight 5 Boys
    - Consider suggestions for Flight 4 Boys
    - Would Nick DeRose be willing to assume responsibility for the boys and girls at Flight 5?
- Exceptional Player Form for Flights
    - Only received 2 for the whole Fall session (Flight 3 - Coach Julie Carter)
    - May want to rethink a way to identify players who 'stand out' at Flights for creating balanced teams or potentially 'playing up'
    - Option ~ Coaches' assessments of their own players at the end of the Flights seasons
- Flights Website breakdown of Flights update needed
    - Keeper at all Flights
    - Rules of play at all Flights ~ out of bounds, hand balls, throw ins, goal kicks, corner kicks
    - Add 'no slide-tackling' within the Flights training or match play sessions at any level
- Pugg Goals at Flight 1 ~ successful!
    - Lower scoring matches
    - Promoted increased skill
    - Easier set-up / break-down
- Goals at Village Green
    - Request Flight 2 Coaches receive instruction on how to set up the goals correctly ~ many times Flight 3 had to readjust prior to play.
- MLS ~ pleased overall with staggering of training and match play at Flights
    - Need to decide if to continue with same for Spring session
    - Need to decide if to start staggering with week 1 or hold off until week 2
- Larry Shaw
    - Although a contracted employee of BPSA, he over-stepped his responsibilities by "running the show" and deciding to end/alter Flights sessions w/out consulting the Commissioners.

- As a paid representative of BPSA, he needs to show more respect, both on and off the field, toward parents, players, coaches and BPSA Board members.
  - When he is working at a BPSA function, he needs to promote BPSA, not Soccercoach1966.
- Flight 5 Training
  - Good feedback from coaches, players and parents
- Coaches Training/Development
  - Well-received by volunteer coaches - recommend continue on a regular basis
  - Need for Flights Coaches to actively participate in training sessions provided by MLS or other Coach Consultants ~ problem at all levels of Flights with the majority of the teams.
- Flights Coaches' Training Manual
  - Good feedback from coaches, players and parents
  - Very varied skill level and understanding of the game of soccer on many teams throughout Flights 1-5
  - Need to incorporate more basics of the game, i.e.: positions, rules, etc, even as basic as with which part of the foot to strike the ball
  - Continue with established technical skill training in addition to the above
- Need to stress "development" and "fun" over "winning" at Flights
  - Coaching development
  - Effort to evenly balance teams
- Need to educate kids at Flights about the Travel Soccer program
  - More detailed description regarding Travel is included on the new Registration Form
  - Recommend chosen BPSA Board representative(s) have a scheduled, organized meeting with Flights 3, 4 Boys, 4 Girls and 5 in the Spring season to relay information about Travel
  - Announcement of said meeting to be posted on BPSA web site
  - Announcement of said meeting to players/parents via their Flights Coaches
- Jodi Galietta formally rescinded the date of 12/01/09 for her resignation from the Bethel Park Soccer Association Board and respectfully submitted a new date of resignation effective immediately following the election of the 2010 BPSA Board. (Hardcopy provided to BPSA President Elect, Bill Wolf, as follow up to October 21, 2009 e-mail notification of such to BPSA Executive Board members; cc to Gary Lafever, Director, Bethel Park Department of Recreation and Leisure Services.)

## **Fields –**

- Issue with both Park Avenue playing surface and Ben Franklin old sprinkler system issues were again discussed.

## **Equipment –**

- No additional purchases this month.
- Vandalism occurred again at Neil Armstrong where the large goals were thrown into the woods and the wheel on one of the goals was bent. For the off season, the goals have been locked to prevent further incidents.
- The 50/50 which allows us to purchase additional equipment items could potentially change its quantity of arm's length ticket purchase to fingertip-to-fingertip purchase.

## **Community Liaison –**

- No report

## **Coaching Development –**

- Kelly Mehalko suggested & received positive feedback in initiating some BPSA training over the winter to formulate a more cohesive club. A fun activity to engage different age groups of kids where the older kids can help the younger kids, build leadership skills, rent a space and bring in pizza. The travel teams would be invited to this event.

## **Old Business –**

- Brian Gorges asked for additional discussion in the future re: a summer league for players as a fundraiser.

## **New Business –**

- Shelly Reed spoke to the board and brought her concerns to the attention of the board regarding former board member, Tony Bruno, and his actions pertaining to her son, Matt Reed, a BPSA ref. She reiterated the situation and presented her concerns regarding his behavior, lack of ability to find an avenue to express concerns to BPSA board, and request for removal from refereeing and coaching.
  - Prior to the meeting as a result of discussions regarding Tony Bruno's actions, the board took the initiative when made aware of the circumstances by soliciting & receiving Tony Bruno's resignation from board.
  - A comment section will be added to the website in order to allow an avenue for parties to file concerns, issues, & complaints with the BPSA board.

- Previous documentation has not been provided and is not on file to support coaching or refereeing issues in regard to Mr. Bruno; thus, after discussion it was determined removal from these responsibilities is not warranted at the present time. Should an occurrence arise in the future and be brought to the attention of the board, the incident will be reviewed by the board at such time and appropriate action determined.
  
- Jodi Galletta suggested a Code of Conduct specific to the members of the BPSA Board and their behavior/& actions in light of past issues, and offering protective measure for integrity of BPSA Board. Discussion then took place regarding incorporating board members' code of conduct statement and a consequence statement into the existing BPSA code of conduct vs. separate code of conduct for board members.
- Shoot to Score with Joe Luxbacher asked to reserve dates for the upcoming summer camp for July 12-16. They will be sponsoring a team next year.
- On behalf of the Nomination Committee, Brian Gorges presented the ballot for the board members for the coming year. After discussion, it was determined that the manner of distribution would be via email to commissioners, coaches, and parents in addition to posting on the website for general access eliminating excess postage costs. Discussion and decision to receive ballots at the rec office, community center and at the December board meeting also took place. After discussion, motion was made by Bill Wolf to accept the ballot as presented, distribution and receipt as presented and was seconded by Brian Gorges. Vote was unanimous to accept.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

- December 8 - Board meeting
- Open Registration will take place on January 20.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Brian Gorges & Kelly Mehalko seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Kathleen Tischler, BPSA Secretary