

# West Contra Costa Youth Soccer League

## February 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

[C]

February 08, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

WCCYSL Clubhouse, 4660 Appian Way, Building 2, El Sobrante, CA

### 1) INITIAL BUSINESS

Board Members Present: Aidon, Lori (partial), Reynaldo, Mark, George, Tyler, Raul, Brian, Joe, Arturo

Apologies: Kelly

General Members Present: None

Guests Present: Mr. Medina and son (both partial)

Call to order: 7:13 PM

The minutes of the previous Board Meeting, held on January 11, 2017, were distributed to Board Members prior to this meeting, and were taken as read.

**Motion** to approve minutes: Proposed by George. Seconded by Lori.

**Vote:** **Unanimous.**

### 2) REGULAR BUSINESS (DIRECTOR'S REPORTS)

#### a) Director - Events

The director has been obtaining quotes for apparel/novelties. As there is no formal budget yet, neither is there any implied budget, i.e. \$0 was budgeted for apparel/novelties in 2016, the director requested \$7000 (nominally \$3500 for Spring and \$3500 for fall.) The last time apparel was in the budget it was for \$6000. The director intends to purchase beanies, t-shirts, sweatshirts, hats and possibly some coffee tumblers, water bottles and car decals. She provided a break-down on margins, which varies from a little over 10% to 30% depending on the item.

**Motion** to allocate \$7000 to apparel/novelties for 2017:

Proposed by Aidon. Seconded by George.

**Vote:**

**Unanimous.**

Saturday, March 25 is the first day of Spring soccer; we will have an apparel/novelties table setup and we will have a raffle. The director has been soliciting donations.

For the fall the teams will sell raffle tickets. We will have a designated raffle drawing day and income from this is expected to be between \$6000 and \$7000.

Picture day is Saturday, April 8. Exact timing is to be worked out with Shooting Stars, but it is a normal soccer day. There will be no make-up days (it is Spring and therefore a short season) and photos are due to be back on May 5.

The Shooting Stars contract concludes at the end of this year (after the Fall 2017 picture cycle.) They are eager to have us sign a new contract by May 1, for one, three or five years, with increasing amounts of rebate for each. Lifetouch, a competing company, say they will match or exceed the Shooting Stars deal. Brian provided some background on Lifetouch and some of the advantages (individual pictures are taken and composed digitally to form a team picture, for example.) The cost of packages to members is roughly equivalent to Shooting Stars.

While there have been no significant issues with Shooting Stars (other than some minor communication problems) it was suggested that we table any decision at least until May, so that we get one more Shooting Stars cycle and provide the opportunity to consider Lifetouch.

## **b) President**

The President attended the NorCal AGM. He reported that other clubs are being very aggressive in recruiting and advertising in our catchment area. Some may also be obtaining permits for fields in our area. There was zero support at the AGM for establishing or respecting boundaries. It should be noted that many clubs in the NorCal area are business not non-profit organizations (like WCCYSL) and therefore are effectively in soccer for the money. They do not serve the community like WCCYSL does (the don't provide financial assistance for example.) They are also targeting younger players (eight years old) than they used to. The President was quite upset to learn of their general approach and the manner in which they operate.

It is our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, and we need to advertise the League in our community (not connected to sign-ups or any particular event.) The President suggested having WCCYSL banners at game days. Pinole Middle School has a large fence where banners facing the road could be mounted, for example. It was suggested that the banners both state the cities that we serve, as well as the fact that we have been doing so for 35 years. The President will work with Brian and other interested Board Members to devise a strategy to actively advertise the League.

Again, as there is no official budget for 2017 yet, and no implied budget (as none was allocated in 2016) a proposal to allocate \$2500 for advertising/banners was made (last time it was in the budget it was for \$1000.)

**Motion** to allocate \$2500 to advertising/banners for 2017:

Proposed by Joe. Seconded by Aidon.

**Vote:** **Unanimous.**

It was also proposed that we attempt to make use of “free” advertising opportunities, such as city open days, festivals, 4<sup>th</sup> July parades, etc.

Permit requests have been submitted and verbally accepted for Pinole Middle School and Hercules High School for Saturdays for the Spring season.

The tryout numbers are somewhat low. The President and DoC will work on the details and presentation of the idea that “future comp” players (in the '08 and '09 range) will play in house, have between one and three NorCal play dates, and competitive training in the Spring, and then play NorCal in the Fall. There was much discussion on this “hybrid” approach, and almost all of it was supportive. The President and Doc will need to talk to parents, and expectations on all sides will need to be realistic and informed.

The other detail they (President/Doc) will need to work out is how much the League will subsidize the hybrid approach – they’ll be getting Spring rec, NorCal play dates, and training, which will require registration with both CalNorth and US Club and we won’t expect parents to pay for all of that (as we’ll probably lose significant numbers if we do.) This way Spring in house soccer won’t be negatively impacted. When the amount of subsidy is known the President/DoC can bring it to the Board for a vote.

NorCal is going to a single seasonal calendar year, starting in August and running until May. Tryouts will only be at the end of the season (May/June.)

Also from NorCal, players transferring from one club to another will now need to sit out a number of games for their new team, depending on the new team’s age group:

U10	2 games
U12	2 or 3 games (TBC)
U14+	4 games

The DoCs of both teams are responsible for coordinating and implementing this.

### c) Treasurer

We don’t have the final registration income figures yet. This time last year we had budgeted \$27,500, and came in at \$26,700. The preliminary figures this year show that we came in slightly lower at about \$25,900 net income (accounting for credit card fees etc.) Awaiting final figures from George.

Unable to locate D4 registrar invoice so will talk to Kelly. We got grandfathered in to being charged for the “services.” The President has written an email declining further use of these “services” as Kelly can do everything now, so we won’t need to pay this “fee” in future, but we do have to pay for last year.

The Treasurer is putting the budget together for this year and will present it at the next Board Meeting. He needs the Referee budget to incorporate it. It is expected that the budget will look very similar to 2016, with the added expenses voted on above.

All outstanding payments were issued on February 1.

The Treasurer obtained quotes for more copies of the registration agreement and receipt books. Kinkos want \$0.69 a page for color copies, and everyone seemed to think that was rather high. The carbon receipts were quoted at \$1 each. Reynaldo will get alternative quotes.

Aidon and George are currently working on minor modifications to the registration agreement. Reynaldo/George to email Aidon the electronic version of the agreement for updating.

All accounts are current.

#### **d) Director – U10 Teams (Reporting on Recreational Program)**

Online recreational /in-house registration has closed, but Kelly is still taking walk-ins. Current numbers:

- U6: six teams of ten players each, 3v3, two concurrent games.
- U10G: four teams of eight, 6v6, keeper, referee(s).  
(May increase with hybrid “comp” above.)
- U10B: four teams of twelve, 7v7, keeper, referee(s).  
(May increase with hybrid “comp” above.)

There are 52 players for U7 and 53 players for U8. We could do four teams of twelve/thirteen players for each group or combine them and have ten teams of ten. Consensus was that combining is better so we will have:

- U8: ten teams of ten, 6v6, keeper, referee.

For U10s we only have three coaches for eight teams! May change due to some potential coaches having players doing the U10 “hybrid comp” program so we need to encourage them to do the hybrid program and coach a rec team. We are probably short on coaches for U8 as well.

For U7, of the 52 players, 40 are boys and 12 are girls. For U8, of the 53 players, 32 boys, 21 girls.

At the Executive Board meeting, we agreed that we should permit some practice fields. In March we have Hanna Upper on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Starting April 3, we have it for Mondays through Thursdays. Hanna Lower is unavailable during the week throughout the Spring season (probably soft/baseball.)

We asked for Pinole Valley West for Mondays through Thursdays but have not heard back yet.

Reynaldo will try to get Pinole Middle School for a couple of days a week (probably Monday and Tuesday) for practices.

Coaches may practice on other fields, but they will not be permitted.

The game day plan is U10 and U8 at Hercules High School and U6 at Pinole Middle School. Rec games should be done by about noon, leave both fields available for comp usage after that time.

Pinole City will not provide permits for Pinole Valley East, but they will allow us to use it. The corners appear OK but the center is bad and should be avoided.

For U12 and U14 we have 40 registered. We have most of the two U14 (one boys one girls) teams from fall, but for U12 we don't have enough to field either a boys or a girls team. We should invite them to tryouts – this month!

Our U14 Green teams did pretty well in the Fall (well done coaches!) Most are returning and want to play at that level.

#### e) Secretary

The door to the clubhouse has been left/found unlocked twice in the past week. **PLEASE ensure that you fully close the door and then try to open it after you have closed it to ensure it is locked!** There is a knob on the back (i.e. facing the clubhouse interior) of the lock that enables the door to be left unlocked. So if you can open the door after closing it, this is the knob you need to use so that it locks when closed.

There was a discussion, and it was thought that for general security reasons that both the door code and the alarm code should be changed. Reynaldo volunteered effect this change, and will distribute the new codes when he has done so.

As the meeting was getting rather elderly by this point, the Secretary decided to postpone his other items to the next meeting.

#### **f) Director – Referees**

Dates for the referee course have been confirmed by CNRA. The email to existing referees will go out shortly. There will be a referee clinic for all referees in March (22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> – TBD) and Harry Doherty (one of our most senior referees and a Grade 6) will be invited to present/speak for part of it. The President has secured Pinole Middle School for the referee course field session on the morning of March 4<sup>th</sup>.

The pens have been ordered by George, but the coins have not yet been ordered as Aidon has yet to dig up information from the last time we ordered them (many years ago!)

#### **g) Director - Equipment**

The director has washed all the pinnies, despite the impact to his marriage due to the smell! They will need another was and then will be counted. Between 20 and 25 balls were disposed of due to condition. The bags were washed too. The director doesn't have a full count of what's left yet. The first aid kits are a mess. We need to buy the ice packs separately as these are the most used items.

The equipment shed was cleaned out – some players photos were found. The U6 metal goals will not be needed anymore (everyone thinks the pop-up goals are superior!) and should be recycled/disposed of. For the popup goals we need new bags. U6-U8 size 3 ball, U9-U12 size 4 ball, U12+ size 5 ball.

Equipment bags needed by March 1<sup>st</sup> for the coaches meeting. We'll need the ice packs before then so need to be ordered.

#### **h) Director – Competitive**

More try-outs this month for '04, '05 and '06, on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at Hercules High School. Tryouts for '03 / U14 and above are later in the year for NorCal (May) by agreement.

#### **i) Webmaster**

The Webmaster has made significant updates to the website including the calendar.

#### **j) Director – U8 Teams**

Teams have not been made yet, but will be within one week.

### **3) FINAL BUSINESS**

Arturo asked if dates had been set for the summer soccer camps yet. The answer is no, not yet.

George asked that the Positive Coaching Alliance be added to the next meeting's agenda.

With all business concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

**--- Next Board meeting: Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at the Clubhouse. ---**

[End]