

# West Contra Costa Youth Soccer League

## October 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2017 @ 7:30 PM

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

### INITIAL BUSINESS

1) Board Members Present

Aidon, Reynaldo, Kelly G, Katie, Lori, Kelly W, Tyler, Raul, Ryan, George, Arturo, Brian, Mark.

Apologies

Julie.

General Members Present

None.

Guests Present

None.

Call to Order

7:33 PM.

- 2) The minutes of the previous Board Meeting, held on September 13, 2017, were distributed by the Secretary via email to all Board Members prior to this meeting, and were taken as read.

**Motion to approve minutes**

**Seconded**

**Vote**

**Ryan**

**Tyler**

**Unanimous**

### SPECIAL BUSINESS

- 3) Air Quality Impact to Games this Weekend

WCCYSL is canceling all games for the whole weekend that are to be played on WCCYSL fields. George will send out emails to coaches. FCA games may be played on the "away" fields subject to the "away" league, but not on WCCYSL fields. Raul will contact the NorCal "away" teams.

This is being done primarily for the safety of our players, and also for the safety of our members, coaches, referees, and their families and friends. The Board looked at real-time air quality data, weather, fire and smoke forecasts. Given all the information that was available at the time (Wednesday evening), Saturday and Sunday are expected to have at least generally unhealthy levels of particulates from smoke, and all physical activity is being discouraged by health care professionals. NorCal has issued a directive allowing leagues to cancel, reschedule or move games according to their own approaches to the Air quality issue. We expect other local leagues to cancel their games too before the weekend.

## PRIORITY BUSINESS

### 4) Committee Reports

#### a. 2018 Board Nomination Committee Report (George)

The election will be held at the AGM, on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. The AGM is immediately followed by the Board meeting. George presented a list of the nominees with only two empty director slots: U12 Teams and Field Marshals. All other positions have a candidate running or are not up for election as the incumbent will be starting the second year of their two year term. The 2018 Board Nomination Committee will attempt to fill those two empty positions before the end of the month.

#### b. 2018 Spring Season Committee Report (Tyler)

It was reported that the committee met last Sunday and the following items were discussed, with proposal decisions where appropriate for consideration by the Board.

##### Dates

- > Online registration starts on December 1, 2017 and closes on February 2, 2018.
- > If we have a 2017 Jamboree that will be the first (#0) walk-in registration session, at a field.
- > Next (#1) walk-in registration session will be Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Clubhouse.
- > Next (#2) walk-in registration session will be Saturday, January 20, 2018, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Clubhouse.
- > Last planned (#3) walk-in registration session will be Wednesday, January 24, 2018, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Clubhouse.
  
- > The Live Scan fingerprinting session is being scheduled for Friday, February 2, 2018. Time is TBD but will be during the evening at the Clubhouse.
  
- > Practices start March 1, 2018.
- > First games are March 24, 2018.
- > No games March 31, 2018 (Easter weekend.)
- > Last games May 19, 2018.
  
- > The date for the F license course should be arranged to be before the first (regular) walk-in registration date (#1.)
- > Dates for the referee course should be set soon.

##### Fields

- > Ideal fields are as follows:  
Game and practice: Hercules High School, De Anza High School, Pinole Middle School, Pinole Valley West. Practice only: Stewart Elementary School.  
Ideally we would not permit either field at Hanna Ranch, but teams could use them for practice if they are not permitted by others.

##### Registration Fees and Policies

- No raise in player fees was proposed, but several related decisions were made.
- > If there is space to register a player on a team after February 2, 2018, a \$25 late fee will be required if that player is registered.

- > The \$5 convenience fee for registering online should be removed/absorbed (i.e. built-in so that there is no difference in fees between registering via a walk-in session and doing it online.)
- > Head coaches (only) with an F license will receive a discount of 50% of the highest In-House player fee, from the player fee from one child only. They must be paying for that child and the child must be playing on the head coach's team; this must all be in the same/current season. This discount will be applied via refunds if necessary (where the F license is obtained after the full registration fee has been paid, for example.)
- > The Board member discount is \$75. This applies to all Board members at the time of registration for that season. It is a flat discount applying to one child only, irrespective of how many positions the member holds on the Board, or how many playing children they have.

#### PDI (Player Development Initiative)

The committee decided that we should adopt PDI for Spring 2018. We will need to be flexible (and not constrained) on goal sizes, the number of players on the field, and possibly other parameters specified by PDI, while still adhering to the spirit of PDI.

#### CalNorth vs US Club

The move to US Club for registration of In-House players was generally supported. George provided a brief report on US Club information after talking with Luis, and the move seemed to have no real down-sides while providing some positives. It was decided that we should hold off on the move until after the Spring 2018 season, as Spring is always considered a continuation of the previous Fall season, and we are currently "signed up" with CalNorth anyway. We would use US Club from July 1, 2018. US Club does not receive or store birth certificates, so we would need to handle (receive, store, destroy) those. US Club does not encourage player passes for In-House soccer, so that aligns well with our approach. The US Club positives are that it should be cheaper on a per-player basis, is seen as being generally less restrictive, and we could more easily move an In-House player to an FCA team (or vice versa) if necessary.

#### Registration Streamlining

This was not discussed, but as the committee will be meeting again, it will be discussed then. They should decide whether to streamline anything for Spring 2018, or wait for Fall 2018 and the move to US Club.

#### Treasurer Comments

The Treasurer commented that he suggests (at least) a 10% rise in fees across the board due to risings costs and reduced income. We had a projected income of \$163,790 and YTD income of only \$133,547 therefore \$30K short. The spend on Contra Costa County Unified School District fields is expected to be over \$30K by the end of the year, representing a \$5K to \$6K increase from last year, although we would still be within (the fields) budget.

The income figure (\$133,547) may not be accurate due to the way that FCA monies are collected. The process seems a little ill-defined, somewhat haphazard, and lacks traceability. The committee was tasked with including this in their scope, and that Raul should be invited to represent the FCA side of things.

#### Checks vs No Checks

There was a discussion on whether we should continue to accept checks or not, given the number of NSFs we encounter. The committee was tasked with proposing whether we should continue accepting checks, or if we decide discontinue, whether we should stop accepting them starting in Fall 2018 (warning period, switch to US Club) or in Spring 2018. Obviously this needs to be decided before the first walk-in session/Jamboree. If we keep receiving checks, we need

to be able to chase NSFs more efficiently. The decision doesn't necessarily have to be the same for FCA and In-House.

#### Other Discounts

The sibling discount is ill-defined and open to interpretation. The committee was tasked with determining exactly what this should be.

It was agreed that everyone who attended the PCA meeting should receive a \$5 discount for the Spring season.

It was agreed that everyone who attended the mid-season Coaches meeting (the night prior to this Board meeting) should receive a \$5 discount for either the Spring or Fall 2018 seasons.

**Motion to approve proposals/decisions above**

**Joe**

**Seconded**

**Lori**

**Vote**

**Unanimous**

The committee will meet again soon, and make proposals based on unfinished items (including fee raises) and other items they have been tasked with above.

c. **By-Laws / P&P / Board Structure Committee Report (Aidon)**

Aidon reported that the By-Laws rewrite has been done, but that the accompanying changes to the P&Ps are taking longer than expected. Rather than trying to rush the changes through for the AGM, the committee has decided to put forward an interim By-Laws change that will enable a Special General Meeting (SGM) to be called, and for that SGM to vote on new By-Laws. This interim change to the By-Laws was circulated to Board Members on October, 9, 2017. By doing this, we can do complete the work and due diligence on the full set of changes without the time pressure, and call an SGM (probably early 2018) for the membership to vote on the full change set. So in November, we will ask the membership to approve the small set of By-Laws (only) changes, that does the following:

- > Allows for a Special General Meeting to be called, defines how it is called, and provides for it to adopt new By-Laws and P&Ps, as well as be a membership election opportunity for open director positions
- > Allows for the Vice-President and the Secretary to introduce candidates at an election, in addition to the President
- > Adds an Article stating the League's operational transparency approach
- > Fixes a couple of minor typos

**Motion to approve By-Law changes and present for vote at AGM**

**Lori**

**Seconded**

**Reynaldo**

**Vote**

**Unanimous**

5) **New/Continued Business**

a. **Review of Fall Season so far**

George reported that the season has been going very well. There have been no reports of significant injuries and communication of field and schedule changes have improved and is

happening more efficiently. We responded quickly to complaints about the playability at Hanna Ranch (both fields) and were performing a field survey within two days and then moved quickly to obtain the permits to secure Hercules High School (which had become available, but wasn't originally) as a replacement field. It was noted that we responded very quickly to the comments of the membership in this case. The coaches have been very pleased and we have had great volunteer help to do field/goal setup and teardown.

Reynaldo reported that there had been some small amounts of litter found at Pinole Middle School, and we need to be ensuring that we do appropriate cleanup. George will send out the Turf Field Rules out to coaches again – with a garbage pickup reminder.

George reported that at the mid-season coaches meeting last night, we had 24 of 32 teams represented – very good level of involvement. Ben Vadi was our invited speaker, speaking on sideline behavior, role modelling as a coach and proper attitude towards, and respect for referees. Those present indicated that the meeting was valuable and we should hold a mid-season meeting in future seasons. There were no major complaints reported.

Raul stated that no FCA players have been sent off (red card) so far! It was stated by George that only one In-House coach has been cautioned (yellow card.)

b. Remaining Fall field schedule

Pinole Middle School and Hercules High School permits have been approved for October 21 and 28, as well as November 4 and 11. Changes need to be made to MySoccerLeague.com and RefScheduler.net in the next few days. We have Pinole Valley West for the U11s on those dates, as well as De Anza High School for FCA games on a couple of Sundays.

Reynaldo has submitted permits for Hercules High School extending our time on that field for Saturday, November 11 and Sunday, November 12.

Mark asked about the issue when we thought we had a permit but did not. We never received a permit rejection from WCCUSD, and Reynaldo stated that we did have the permit according to their public calendar. In future, if we think we have a permit we need to follow up if we haven't received formal approval.

c. Training

It was brought up that we document that specific player training for In-House players is something we provide, however we have not done so this season, thus far. Some coaches have asked about it. Over the last few years we have seen a fall to about 30% player participation in training and even less from coaches.

It was suggested that we ask for participation levels of at least 30 or 40% and then arrange some sessions if we meet that level. Reynaldo and Raul will brainstorm to arrange some training – probably some evenings at Pinole Middle School (practices for these evenings will need to be moved elsewhere, rescheduled or canceled.) We will probably only use informal/volunteer trainers as most trainers now have regularly scheduled, paid sessions.

d. Jamboree

At the mid-season coaches meeting, most seemed to want a Jamboree and November 11, 2017,

seemed to be acceptable to most as well. George will solicit expected attendance numbers from each team (U7/U8/U10) by Wednesday October 18, 2017, so we can see if the participation levels allow us to have enough games for each age group. If held, we expect it to be at Hercules High School and Pinole Middle School. There are FCA games scheduled that day, so those will need to be taken into account/adjusted as appropriate.

e. City of Hercules Holiday Tree Lighting (December 3, 2017)

We will have a table there and will have give-away advertising novelties such as pens, stress balls, bracelets, reusable bags, and candies.

f. City of Hercules Non Profit Groups Information and Participation

We will attend their meeting on Thursday, November 9, 2017. At least Reynaldo and George will be there, along with any other members of the "new" Board who wish to attend (as this is right after our AGM/November Board meeting.)

g. Board Dinner

The Board dinner will be held on Saturday, November 18, at Pear Street Bistro in Pinole (subject to confirmation from Lori.)

h. Next Board meeting Wed, Nov 8, starting at **7:00 PM** (yes, back to **7:00 PM!**) @ Clubhouse

The Secretary urged everyone to note the reversion back to starting at **7:00 PM**, commencing next month - November! This is also the **AGM**, and George will send out two notifications to the membership, one shortly and one the week before.

## ROUTINE BUSINESS

6) Board member reports/highlights (as provided and not covered in priority business)

a. Reynaldo

The President thanked everyone on the Board; those who have been here for years, and also to the newer Board members. He expressed his good feelings as we will have a fuller Board after the election in November.

He said he will probably attend the next two meetings for NorCal Region 3/4. His aim has always been to keep soccer fun, attractive and safe for every child. Since he has been involved with the Board, about eight years, we have only had one very serious injury and believes this is primarily due to the move to use predominantly turf fields, which he has strongly promoted.

NorCal Region 3/4 has money for referee programs, possibly for funding classes. Reynaldo will find out how much money and we are able to utilize it, and he will get Tyler hooked into the process.

b. Brian

Brian will put the cancellation of this weekend's home hosted games on the website.

c. Arturo

Medals will be ordered once all the information have been collected. George will provide the information (from the coaches confirmed rosters) shortly. There are racks in the shed now, but we still need better organization.

Goals that would have cost \$3000 to replace at Hercules High School were repaired by Llyr Griffith, who has been a great help not only with this item, but also with field setup etc. It was decided by the Board that he should be paid for his field setup work from the field setup budget although this may need to be forced upon him!

There was also a discussion about nets, and we need new nets on the goals, whether we already have new ones or they need to be ordered – it seems that we have some new ones.

d. Mark

Mark will send an email to the U7/U8 coaches concerning parent conduct at the field. Some parents have not been sitting behind the fence at Hercules High School and reportedly one used profanity when asked to move. The email should be passed on to parents and will remind them of the rules, and that profanity is not acceptable at any time on or around the field, especially when directed at referees or Board members. It will also state that parents can be asked to leave if they use profanity, and games will not start/resume until they have left.

It was confirmed that both referees and Board members have the power to suspend a game until all rules are complied with.

It was also reported that there are bees at Hercules High School on the bleachers. Unfortunately there is not much we can do; putting up traps will only bring more of them to the bleachers. However, Ryan said he would take a look to see if he can locate the nest and then have it removed if it is found. It was also pointed out that it is the school's responsibility.

e. Aidon

The Secretary thanked Reynaldo for his two years as President, his prior years on the Board, and his contributions to the League. The Board echoed the appreciation.

7) Any other business

None.

8) Adjournment

9:48 PM.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Wednesday, November 08, 2017 @ **7:00 PM**, WCCYSL Clubhouse. [END]