

Topton Soccer Club
August 18, 2009
www.toptonsoccerclub.org

Board Members Present: Steve Unis, Blane Musser, Heather Miller, Lori Yocco, Ken Weidner, Guy M., Bruce Bortz
Members Present: Jason Miller, Mike Freeby, Tim Sexton, Elmer (Woody) Moyer, Dave Bieber, Scott Harpel, Derek Strunk, Brian Keeney, Jen Musser, Sandy Tremblay, Ty Rissmiller, Dan Wetzal, Rob Kohler, Mike Tomaine, Jeff Hoffman, Stephanie Kohler, Donnie Bieber, Jim Wood, Heather Wood, Danielle Santos, Stacey Gambler
Meeting Opened: 7:31 PM by Steve (time change for the meeting due to fall soccer practices)

Topic: Secretary's Report

- Agenda – No additions or deletions - Approved, 1st Guy, 2nd Dave; there was no one who opposed
- Secretary's Report – Approved, 1st Dave, 2nd Rob; the secretary's report was approved by all those in attendance

Topic: Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer's Report – Refer to Attachment A
- Current Total as of July 31, 2009 - \$ 45,680.98
- Treasurer's Report – No additions or deletions - Approved, 1st Dave, 2nd Jeff; there was no one opposed
- Blane reminded membership that the amount will decrease once the ref fee check's are written; Bruce commented that our next meeting is not until after the official start of the season, therefore, we will need to address how to get the coaches the money for the ref fee's
- Lori explained to membership again the benefits of pursuing a 5013C tax exempt status, as well as the costs involved (paperwork and accountant fee's); there was discussion amongst the membership as to whether or not to approve moving forward
 - Steve then opened the vote up to membership; there was no one opposed, all members present approved. Motion passed to move forward; Steve asked Lori to take care of the arrangements
- Lori reminded membership about the discussion from last month regarding the grounds and equipment volunteer's having a visa check card to purchase equipment; would still need 2 officers to sign in order to transfer money into the account, receipts would still need to be provided in order to support the purchases
 - Steve then proposed the vote to membership – to have 1 account for grounds and equipment purchases with 2 Visa check cards, starting with a balance of \$1000.00; there was no one opposed, all members present approved. Motion passed to move forward; Steve asked Lori to take care of the arrangements

Topic: Registrar's Report

- Ken reported that all teams have been approved except for one and he only had to make 5 round trips to RBJSL with the passes. As a reminder for next year, make sure all player's sign on the top line of the player pass
- If someone from your team quits, let him know ASAP because we do not need to pay insurance for that player
- Don't forget the mandatory coach's meeting: each coach must attend one of the meeting's, either 08/27 or 08/31. Continue to check RBJSL's website for a possible change to the location of the meeting
- Ken reported that 100% of the candy money has been paid; he gave the last of the money to Lori tonight
- Ken reported that there are 9 player's who asked about registering late & they are on the waiting list – 5 travel player's and 4 rec player's

Topic: Ways & Means

- Jenny was not present at the meeting, but Donnie asked on her behalf who would be responsible for the money on Opening Day
- Lori reported that she will make runs to each stand throughout the day; if she needs to remove any excess cash, she will count it and sign off on the amount removed and she will ask the head of the stand to do the same

Topic: Grounds & Equipment

- Land Update:
 - Guy reported that a letter was sent to the school district regarding the property at Rockland Elementary; however, the school didn't understand what our request was. Bobby asked that we draft another letter

requesting a meeting with school officials to discuss drafting an agreement about conditional use and the ability to spend money to make changes to the facility

- Guy reported that Norm Buck did not get back to him yet regarding costs for the Borough land, so at this point, that land is on hold
 - Jen asked that we update Tony from the Topton Borough as to what our plans are for the land either way
- Equipment update:
 - Guy explained to the coaches present, that if they have old equipment that needs to be replaced, bring it to him and he'll replace it; he's been making purchases to replace the old items
 - Guy asked the coaches to ask their player's about old uniform's to see if any of them may still have some at home; there will be no repercussions, as a club we're just looking for them to be returned
 - Guy reminded the coaches to inform their player's that the shirts that are handed out are game jerseys – they are not to be worn to picnics, wrestling practice, school, etc.; at this time, the club has only 1 gray shirt left and a few maroon shirt's
 - Bruce asked the coaches to let him or Guy know ASAP if the boxes are out of supplies, that way one of them can get them to where they need to go
 - Steve asked membership to vote on purchasing replacement Rubbermaid boxes and locks for the wooden one's at DT and Rockland; Motion to vote – Approved, 1st Dave, 2nd Bruce; there was no one opposed, all members present approved the purchase of replacement boxes and locks
 - Stephanie asked if bee spray could be bought and put up @ Rockland
- Opening Day will be held on August 22, 2009
 - We are still in need of volunteer's for the duck pond, ring toss, and food stand
 - Jason informed Bruce that Kutztown is not able to play his team on Saturday; his team will need a game
 - Bruce asked Blane to see if Jeff Boyer's team will still want a game since they're not doing pictures
 - Blane reported that each team should head down to the skill's challenge as soon as they are done with pictures; the skill's challenge is for all age groups
 - Reminder to all coaches, please remind your kid's NO CLEATS in the school!
 - Rob stated that no one from his team wants to volunteer for the food stand, what happens then?
 - Jen commented that it was discussed at last month's meeting – if there is no one to volunteer during a timeslot, then the head of the event/stand should be there to run it

Topic: Old Business

- Heather reported that at last month's meeting there was a vote regarding Hunsicker's Grove and Longswamp Township. A letter was drafted and mailed to Longswamp stating that the club no longer wishes for them to pursue the land on our behalf; so far there has been no response from Longswamp. Heather also mentioned that she had a copy of the letter with her should anyone want to read it
- Ken reported that Jack Kruger felt the camp @ Rockland went well

Topic: New Business

- RBJSJ Meeting:
 - Blane asked for volunteer's to attend the RBJSJ meeting's; he reminded everyone there is a sign-up sheet on the table; the meeting's have been going a lot quicker and volunteer's would be appreciated
 - There is a mandatory coaches' meeting for all coaches of U9 and above on Thursday, August 27th or Monday, August 31st @ 7:00 PM; check the website for any updates or changes; coaches will receive their passes at the meeting and schedules should be on-line August 31st
 - There will be a first year coaches question and answer session afterwards should anyone want to attend
 - There is also a field commissioners meeting on those same nights after the main meeting; Bruce is our club's Field Commissioner
 - Blane reminded U11 coaches and above that they can carry 22 player's on their roster, but can only take 18 player's to a game
- Fall trophies:
 - Blane asked membership if we wanted to allow each coach to go to Crown Trophy to select their own trophies or did we still want it to be the responsibility of one person; it seemed to be the consensus to continue having one person in charge of ordering the trophies

- Blane told membership that there is also a cash option for a party for each team instead of a trophy
- Blane and Jen presented 3 different trophy styles to membership and the costs of each; membership agreed on one style of trophy and the estimated cost was \$6.25 for each trophy
- Steve asked membership to vote on purchasing trophies for U6 and above; the motion was to purchase a 12" trophy with a soccer "spinning thing" and to allow an increase of \$.50 above the presented cost to cover the soccer "spinning thing" – Approved, 1st Sandy, 2nd Bruce; there was no one opposed, all members present approved the purchase of the trophies
- Under the Lights:
 - Blane said that October 3rd has been set up as a tentative date with the school for Under the Lights for the U6 & U8 teams; there is no rain date due to the week before is the school's homecoming and the week after is the Topton Halloween parade
 - Blane mentioned that the school will be charging the club \$50.00 to cover the cost of the lights this year; he proposed possibly running a food stand that night to cover the cost – U6 parent's could work while U8 kids are playing and vice versus
 - Steve asked membership to vote on authorizing the club to spend the \$50.00 to cover the cost of the lights, if there is no food stand; Motion to vote – Approved, 1st Dave, 2nd Mike; there was no one opposed, all members present approved the \$50.00 expense for the lights should the food stand not pan out
- Indoor Sessions:
 - Blane said that if any coaches are interested in a timeslot for indoor sessions at the Middle School, then they need to send him an e-mail by the end of the month, so that paperwork can be turned into the school
 - Coaches if you sign-up for a timeslot, make sure that you will be there to run it for the player's
 - If there's enough interest, the coaches/adult's can use the 8:00 to 9:00 timeslot again
- Blane asked if there was anyone interested in running an indoor tournament; there was no volunteer's, therefore, TSC is not going to pursue it
- Fall Tournaments:
 - Currently, there is no money budgeted for tournaments, it was discussed at last month's meeting to look at dollar amounts in the budget and discuss the situation again this month
 - After much discussion by all, Steve proposed that membership vote on tournament money; the motion was to allow each team one tournament in the fall, regardless of the cost. If the team does not go into a tournament, than that team with their whole roster only can participate in an indoor session with a cap cost of \$400.00 per team; Motion to vote – Approved, 1st Jason, 2nd Dave; there was no one opposed, all members present approved the motion regarding fall tournaments and/or indoor sessions
 - In discussing tournament's, a concern over secondary player's was raised
 - Blane reminded coaches that you cannot secondary a player from your own age group
 - Guy commented that evaluation's were done for a reason and that if a secondary player is needed for a game, then the first person from each age group should be the one that is asked to secondary; if that person say's no, then you move on down the list until someone say's yes
 - There was a concern raised as to why one team was using secondary players to enter into a tournament; in addition, the coach was not contacted about his player's being used as secondary player's; Ken commented that was his fault, he thought the two coaches were working together
 - Bruce commented that secondary player's are for the season, not for tournaments
 - Blane commented that if a secondary player is needed for the A team, than what should be done is more player's should be added to the A team and then secondary player's can be used on the B team; the opportunity to move up to the A team should be given to the kid's in the same age group
 - Bruce had a concern over a swap that was made to his and Woody's team which was different from their coaches picks and left them with a player where there was personal issues between the parent and the coach
 - Ken announced that one player had quit; he also mentioned that any changes made now would require a parent's signature, but he does have a week yet to make changes, then the club can look to set up a policy for next year

Topic: Open Floor

- Steve explained to membership that because of business and personal obligations he's not planning to run again for the president position for next year, however, if no one else wants the position, he will remain on with membership's understanding that he may not always be available to put in the necessary hours a board position requires
- Guy suggested that the board members have access to a petty cash fund, should something arise in between meeting's (example: Alumni t-shirt sponsorship); membership agreed to allow up to \$500.00 to be spent in between meeting's as long as the majority of the board consent's
- Blane thanked everyone who helped out @ Rockland preparing the grounds
- Tim expressed a concern that his U8 team is down to only 8 player's; after some discussion, membership came up with possibly moving some U6 player's up or working it out with the other U8 coaches since it's still in-house to move over some of their U8 player's to Tim's team for the game
- Jim Wood addressed membership and he wanted the record to show that the last topic had more than 3 minutes of discussion allotted to it; he explained to membership that he missed TSC's registration and now his daughter, Heather, is being punished because of it; he knows that Dan & Sandy have room on the team for her & he's turning towards the community for help to correct this situation. He's come all prepared to tonight's meeting with all of her paperwork and a check and he's also willing to help out where needed
 - Ken explained that Heather is 1 of 9 on the waiting list; there's 2 U6, 2 U8's, 3 U10's, 1 U11, & 1 U14 (Heather); we should look @ the waiting list as a whole and not just one person; one concern is that there is only 1 spot available on the U10 team, but 3 player's on the waiting list
 - Guy explained to membership that there is only 1 gray shirt in inventory, if we open up registration to those on the waiting list, we will most likely need to purchase gray shirt's; an estimated price for purchasing shirt's is \$30.00 each
 - Derek, Jason, & Scott expressed concern's over opening up registration because they were approached by parent's regarding registration and they all turned player's away who accepted "no" for an answer
 - Approx. \$691.00 of bad debt was written off at the start of this year, therefore, as a group (club) we came up with a registration deadline of June 30th to try and make things better moving forward; this year, there were many more advertisements regarding registration and even a new way to register in-person
 - Jim expressed that he was the only one here pleading his case, not the other parent's; he wants the board to look outside the by-law's and be reasonable; the response from membership was "that's because the other parent's accepted that no meant no"
 - Guy felt that if registration was opened to those on the waiting list, then it would need to be opened back up to those turned away as well in order to be fair to all kids
 - Dan said that the by-law's say that if there's a spot on a team, than a late registered player can be added; Steve read from the by-law's, 10.9 Registration, "Late registrants will be placed on the waiting list and assigned to teams on an as needed basis"; Dan said that's up to the reader's interpretation
 - Steve said that since it was a club decision to close registration, then we as a club need to make the decision as to whether or not to open registration up again to the kids on the waiting list
 - There was a motion made to take a vote – 1st Mike, 2nd Tim; there was 7 membership votes to open registration back up & there was 12 votes to keep registration closed; the motion passed to not register the kids on the waiting list
 - Jim expressed his disgust with the club & said that's ok, "Oley will take Heather tomorrow"
- Stacey expressed that she was very upset because she was told that try-out's were not mandatory for her son's age group (U9), that the teams would be split evenly & she was wondering why she was never notified when the club realized there was going to be two teams, an A & a B team @ that age group; Stacey said that her son would finish out this year, but he will not return next year; she commented that no one @ the club cared
 - Sandy said that she didn't know there was going to be an A & B team either

Meeting Adjourned: 9:54 PM, 1st Mike, 2nd Guy

Next Meeting: **September 15th @ 7:30 PM** @ the Topton Legion ...**please note the time change for the start of the meeting due to Fall practices!**

Agenda to Include: Opening Day Re-Cap, Under the Lights, Officer Nominations