



Club Membership Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date: 11-19-18

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Worcester Community Hall

Executive Council in attendance: John Larcinese, President
 Cathy Alexander, Secretary
 Jeff Davis, VP Intramural Soccer
 Haven Hoilett, VP Travel
 Michelle Bauer, VP Communications

Others in attendance: Dan Callaghan (Liverpool U7), Colleen Wolf (Flash 2008 B), Ellen Frazer (Bulldogs 2008 G), Kevin Frey (2002 G), Greg Johnson (Victory 2006 B), Pete Maxwell (Heat, U10 G)

Minutes:

VP of Communications – We want to welcome Michelle Bauer to the Executive Council as our new VP of Communications.

Elections – John Larcinese and Jeff Davis ran unopposed for the positions of President and VP of Intramural Soccer. They have been elected to continue serving in their respective roles, with their new terms expiring in November 2020.

Winter Training – The winter academy schedule is posted on the website and has been sent out to all coaches.

2019 Calendar and Registration – The upcoming year's calendar has been posted on the website and includes club meetings, winter academy, ID clinics, spring academy, try outs, IM training, and summer camp dates. Registration for all of these items will be open by the end of the first week of December, or shortly thereafter.

Training – The winter and spring academy sessions are also available to non-travel players and players who come from outside of our club. EACH session (winter and spring) will cost \$100 per player.

Player ID Clinics - The ID clinics will take place March 4-8 and 11-15, 2019. There will be two clinics per age group. Non-travel players will need to register so we know how many players to expect. There will be a \$10 fee to register for the two clinics. It is very important that the coaches and the entire age group show up for the clinics so we can see if potential new players have good chemistry with the existing team(s). Also, low numbers on our part reflect badly on our club. We want players checking out our club to have a very positive experience.

The clinics will be a little different than the periodization curriculum that Andy follows during academy sessions. We will be advertising the Player ID clinics all winter in a direct marketing campaign and we will encourage IM players to attend too. We will also put out a social media blitz that individuals can share on their own pages.

Try Outs - Try out sessions will take place April 1-4 and 8-11, 2019. Each age group will have two try out dates and players are strongly encouraged to attend both dates. Coaches must be at both try out dates. Some of the coaches in attendance mentioned the importance of ensuring that try out dates do not conflict with other activities, such as Father-Daughter dances and Skyview's 5th grade Outdoor Ed overnight trips.

Skyview has Outdoor Ed trips scheduled for April 4-5 and 9-10. **If you have 2007 or 2008 players who are in 5th grade and will be away on these trips, or if there are other conflicts with scheduled school activities, please let Haven Hoilett know asap at travel@methactonunited.org. Haven will be making up the try out schedule and will only know about conflicts if you email him soon.**

Summer Camp Weeks - Summer camp for rising U12 and under will be June 24-28, 2019. Summer camp for rising U13 and older will be July 8-12, 2019. Each camp week will cost \$250 for non-travel players.

Fall Intramural Season – The IM season is over except for the Roger Erb tournament December 1st – 2nd. The U10 Girls and U12 Boys will play in this tournament.

Redtail Park – The Board has been discussing what improvements to make to this field. Redtail is the site of most of the fall training and it is the only field where we can have lights. Our five-year agreement with Lower Providence Township is almost over and we need to make the improvements we promised them.

Rather than just doing the minimum improvements required, the Board has decided to go further and make Redtail a much better site, with high quality topsoil, grading, grass, and restrooms. The goal is to make it a superior playing surface where we can have a place to train that won't turn to mush. If we can do more training at Redtail, then we can keep the other fields in better shape for games. We plan to make the improvements to Redtail this spring and summer and have it ready for play in the fall.

Questions –

One coach asked why we do not play on other fields when the Arcola fields are closed. It is because the other fields are closed, are not lined, or do not have goals.

A coach asked if his team could play all of its home games on the Methacton High School turf. If the turf is available then the answer is yes, but the team would need to build the fee into the team's costs. The MHS turf rents for \$80-\$90/hour and two hours need to be booked per game.

Snack Stand – The Board has committed to having the Heebner snack stand open for the entire spring and fall seasons. Since we have not had anyone volunteer to be the Snack Stand Coordinator, the Board is going to assign each travel team one weekend per year to be responsible for running the snack stand.

Worcester Township has given us permission to install a refrigerator and portable storage cabinet so we can store our refreshments, paper products, and equipment from week to week. We will have locks on these two items so



they are not utilized by other groups, such as during Worcester Community Day and Special Olympics. One coach recommended that we also get a beverage cooler refrigerator and a hotdog roller. We will be emailing the membership to see if there are members willing to donate these items to us. We will also contact retailers to see if they would donate “scratch and dent” models to our organization.

We plan to purchase a large vertical banner to hang from the pavilion that says “OPEN.” We will also regularly email the membership to let them know the snack stand is open.

Player Evaluations – Andy is working on a player evaluation form that he will distribute to all of the travel team coaches. Feedback from these forms will help Andy make try outs as fair as possible. During try outs, it is usually clear who the strongest players and weakest players are. Andy needs to concentrate his attention on the players in the middle so he can determine their best placement. Any extra information the coaches can provide to Andy would be highly appreciated. Andy will be emailing the coaches within the next few weeks.

Columbus Day Weekend Tournament – When we started looking into sponsoring a tournament two years ago, everyone we talked to said Columbus Day Weekend would be a good date. However, there is a lot of competition with other tournaments that weekend. Based on our fixed costs for the tournament, we need to determine how many teams would have to sign up for our club to break even.

Fall League Feedback –

APL and DELCO - The 2006 Boys A team played in both APL and DELCO. APL had two divisions and a good level of play. Our team came in last place because each opposing team had a couple of phenomenal players who did most of the scoring. DELCO only had one division and our boys won the championship game. The coach would like to do APL again, and possibly EDP too, so the boys can play more games.

EDP – In response to the 2006 boys participating in both APL and DELCO, Haven asked why sign up for two leagues when it is much less expensive to just play in one league and easier to manage. EDP allows a team to add as many games to the schedule as the coach wants. The team can play their extra games in multiple divisions. The coach schedules when he wants to play the games. This can be accomplished by scheduling “crossover games,” which are official friendlies so too speak. EDP has a spring league and a lot of tournaments. You are guaranteed to play teams from other states that you have never seen before. Depending on your division, you may travel further and pay more to be in this league. While APL offered two divisions, EDP had eight divisions for Haven’s U13 Girls to choose from. So, it is easier to align your team where it belongs in EDP.

This is the first year that EDP officially partnered with EPYSA. EDP has grown a lot in Pennsylvania. The U13 Girls played in a premier 4 flight, won more than half of their games, and tied for second place. The EDP league fee covers both the fall and the spring seasons. EDP is huge and caters to all levels; however, it is expensive.

Central League – The U11 Girls were in tier 3 and were properly slotted, winning half their games and losing half their games. Since the standings were not online, it was more difficult for the coach to check before each game how good the opposing team would be. The Central League is very easy to work with.

The 2007 Girls also played in the Central League. It was a rebuilding year for this team and they won 3, lost 5, and tied one game. There were some problems rescheduling games. There was a lack of communication when going through the league, so our coach got in direct contact with the other coaches to reschedule games. Overall,



the teams were well matched. There was one coach who was problematic and the game against this coach's team had to be stopped.

The U10 Girls won all of their games in the 3rd tier of the Central League. EDP was too rough for them the previous year. They moved up a division for their last tournament and only lost one game. They will be moving up to 9 v 9 and may do the Central League and PAGS this coming year.

The 2006 Boys B team played in the Central League and was undefeated. The league was easy to work with, especially in regards to rescheduling games. One downside to this league is that there are no play offs or awards at the end of the season.

