

AYSO Board Meeting: August 28, 2001

In Attendance: Jack Coyne, Michele Bronstein, Dan Nelson, Ross Weir, Rand Potter, Blair Brown, Brian Kersten, Doug Brown, Mark Hoffmann, Mike Crompton, Bill Hastings, Gene Batter, Eric Haas, Karin Wolfsohn, Dave Bustamante, Vance Checketts, Keith Jobe, Kelly Winterbottom, Robert B. Ames, Mark Anderson

Handouts: Agenda, Budget Report, 2001 Regional Guidelines, Proposal for Participation in the 2002 National Games, Picture Day Schedule 2001– If you need a copy of these handouts you can contact Michele Bronstein (342-9430)

Meeting Notes:

?? WELCOME

Mark Hoffmann, a new board member (Division U14 Asst. Administrator), and Vance Checketts (Team Parent Coordinator) were welcomed to the meeting.

?? MINUTES FROM JULY MEETING

Minutes were approved.

?? TREASURER REPORT

Rand Potter distributed and reviewed the treasurer's report. Currently, we have approximately \$50,000 in the bank after taking care of a few expenses (uniforms, etc.). Treasurer's report was approved.

?? LEAGUE COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Ross Weir reported on the status of **U16/U19**. All coaches have received teams, and the first U16 Girls game is on 8/29/01. There is a waiting list of kids hoping for spots. A cutoff date for adding new players was discussed. Current regulations dictate that no player is to be added after the 3rd game of the season. Whereas some interpret the 3rd game of the season as the 3rd week, others interpret this in a more literal fashion. Jack Coyne indicated this issue needs to be clarified.

Gene Batter reported on the status of the **Boys League**. Except for U10/U12, every division is full with a waiting list. There have not as of yet been the large player drops that have been experienced in prior years. Gene mentioned that there has been some difficulty in tracking non-English speaking children who are paid registrants, but who have moved without passing on a forwarding address and or phone number. Jack Coyne indicated that if all listed numbers have been contacted with no success, these kids need to be pulled off teams and placed first on the waiting list – given the imminent start of the season.

Eric Haas reported on the status of the **Girls League**. There are no major problems to report. Wait list status is as follows:

U6-> Need 1 additional player (Karin Wolfsohn indicated that she may have one)

U8-> 2 on wait list

U10-> 4-5 on wait list (lots of movement here)

U12-> Couple on wait list

U14-> 8-9 on wait list – with almost no movement (these 8-9 players are from the original registration)

?? COACH & REFEREE ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Referee Report: Brian Kersten reported on the status of the remaining ref training classes. U6/U8 folks will need to contact him if another Team Parent Class is needed. Alternatively, additional parents needing training can possibly attend neighboring town's classes. The Refresher Course was well received. Brian Kersten acknowledged the efforts of Keith Jobe in getting the Referee portion of the web site up and running (looks great!). Currently, (not including team parent referees) there are 105 AR and above referees. About half of these represent new recruits.

Coaching Report: Doug Brown noted that he still is receiving some calls from late registrants. He is referring these calls to the web site.

?? **REGISTRAR REPORT**

Jack Coyne reported that we are in good shape. The database still needs a little cleaning up – but a copy is ready to be sent to the photographer for use at Picture Day.

Mike Crompton is to be commended for doing a great job finding and assigning practice fields to all teams. Due to the shortage of fields this year – this was no easy task! Mike did note that there has been some difficulty with people switching around days.

Old Business:

?? **National Games**

Jack Coyne reviewed with board members our current opportunity to participate in the 2002 AYSO National Games (see June/July minutes for review). Following up on our discussion from last meeting, Jack distributed a Proposal for Participation in the 2002 Games.

The three criteria for participation (listed in order of decreasing priority) are:

- ☞☞ Commitment to the team
- ☞☞ Good sportsmanship
- ☞☞ Soccer skills

The estimated cost per player for participation in the games will be \$1,200. This projected cost covers the cost of coaches/chaperones. The goal would be to raise these funds through fund raising. Jack Coyne noted that a regional committee in Half Moon Bay recently took an AYSO team to Europe and that it would be worthwhile finding out how they went about raising the funds for the trip. In addition, Lou Pappan, the politician, recently contacted Jack Coyne wanting to know if he might be able to help AYSO out – in particular he is interested in sponsoring a tournament. Pappan's daughter is interested in running for his seat.

At the board meeting the following discussion/suggestions ensued from the proposal distributed:

- ☞☞ Suggested that at least 2/3 of the players selected reside in San Mateo.
- ☞☞ Many board members expressed concern that this particular age group presents commitment difficulties. The National AYSO organization wants a decision by mid-September regarding participation and a \$350 non-refundable deposit. Thus, there is the potential that we can lose \$350. Jack noted however that we realistically have a window until January/February to see if we can field a team. We wouldn't want to back out of the National Games after that point.
- ☞☞ Try-outs for the team would happen around late September/early October. The maximum number of players is 18 and the minimum number is 15-16. You wouldn't want to go with less, as these kids will be playing a lot of soccer – approximately 10 games. It will be important to start the recruitment process early as fund-raising activities need to start ASAP, and participation in the National Games could be used as an incentive for players to give their full effort this fall season. A variety of suggestions were made to enhance the selection of committed players. Ross Weir suggested that players make a deposit upfront as a form of commitment. This money would be refundable if the player fulfills her commitment, but would be lost if the player drops.

Based on the above discussion the following motion was made:

A motion was made that Region 36 accept the invitation to participate in the 2002 National Games and submit the deposit of \$350. It was further proposed that players wanting to participate in the 2002 National Games would need to make a \$200 deposit upfront. This deposit would be refundable if the player fulfilled her commitment, but would be lost if the player dropped from participation. It was also proposed that a minimum number of 16 players would be needed for participation, and of this number 10 of the players would need to reside in San Mateo. The maximum number of players participating would be 18.

The motion was passed.

The board also discussed coach selection for the National Games. Two coaches will be needed. Jack Coyne indicated that he was willing to serve as the primary coach. His expectation was that this position would entail generating the funds (i.e., spearheading the fundraising) and coaching – these activities would largely be performed in the postseason. In the past the AYSO board had a position called AYSO Post-Season Coordinator, but no one is currently in this position. It was suggested, and agreed upon, that the opportunity to coach the National Games should be offered to a larger pool of individuals. Keith Jobe suggested that a committee of a few key people from the board (Girls and Boys League Commissioners, U16/U19 League Commissioner, Regional Referee Administrator, Regional Coach Administrator) meet to discuss and gauge who else might be interested in these coaching positions. In addition, qualification criteria, roles and responsibilities would need to be established. Based on this suggestion, a motion was made to create a mini-board to assist with the selection of staffing for the Summer National Games 2002 and to develop qualification criteria for these roles. **The motion was passed.** It was agreed this committee would meet prior to our next AYSO board meeting, and bring their recommendations for discussion to our next meeting.

?? ***Regional Guidelines***

2001 Regional Guidelines were distributed to all individuals who had not yet received a copy.

?? ***T-Shirt Update***

The T-Shirts are in! They will be distributed to coaches, assistant coaches and board members at Picture Day.

?? ***Picture Day/Vendor Schedule***

Life Touch Sports (Yes – the folks who did it last year) will be doing Picture Day again – with the promise of new equipment and plenty of film. Dave Bustamante has secured a performance contract from Life Touch. They will need to have the pictures back by a certain date or they will lose 35% of their fee. Action Shooters will also be taking pictures again this year.

As of now, there are 25 confirmed volunteers for Picture Day. Picture Day is on September 9th and a schedule for the day was distributed. The Make-Up Day is September 16th. Dave put out a request for all board members to come out and help – they will be starting at 7:30 AM.

New Business:

?? ***Opening Day***

The fields and goals are being readied in preparation for opening day – we are in pretty good shape. Jack Coyne is meeting with San Mateo Parks and Recreation tomorrow to go over final details. Lock Boxes will also be set up at the two new game fields – Laurie Meadows and Aragon. Eric Haas raised the issue that additional shirts are needed for those individuals working at the game fields.

Open Discussion

- ?? Eric Haas announced that Stanford University has an AYSO Soccer Play Day. This day will include a 4 v. 4 competition, pizza lunch and water, t-shirt, photo opportunities with Stanford Players/Coaches, and viewing a Stanford match. Boys U10/U12 is scheduled for October 7th and Girls U10/U12 is scheduled for October 21st. The cost per player is \$20 and the only requirement is that the child is a registered U10/U12 player. Eric polled interest in this opportunity. The board felt this was a wonderful opportunity. To disseminate information on the Play Day – fliers will be distributed to Division Coordinators who can then distribute to their coaching staff. The coaches can then pass along the information to their teams. It was also suggested that fliers be distributed at Picture Day and that the information be placed on the web site (it already is!). While teams can bring groups of children to participate in the 4 v. 4 competitions, one can also register a single child.

- ?? The refresher referee-training course was a great success. It was suggested that in the future coaches should be encouraged to also take this course – as coaches in attendance found it valuable. It was also suggested that it might be a good idea to have coach refresher courses.

- ?? Safe Haven needs to be scheduled. The schedule for this class should be in place by Picture Day. Doug Brown will take of the scheduling.

Respectfully submitted by Michele Bronstein