

Minutes of May 29, 2018 CSC Board Meeting

Meeting Participants:

Jeff Capellini
Alan Moy
Kendal Barlow
Cindy Grotz

Andy Gantias
Dan Bales
Carlos Barona

Other Attendees:

Elizabeth Fry
Jennifer Gray

Meeting Minutes:

1) Public Comments:

- a. Elizabeth Fry asked whether U12 girls are playing 9v9 in the Classic and whether games will be full length? She also asked whether the Classic would be rescheduled if this weekend is a rainout?
 - i. Kendal replied that U12 games will be 9v9, not 8v8 as listed in the tournament rules currently posted on the website. Games will be full length and, if rain closes the fields this weekend, the Classic will be postponed until the following weekend.
- b. Elizabeth Fry asked whether we could please have a Rec tournament in the upcoming Fall season.
 - i. The Board stated that fall weather is the issue. The season ends Nov 3 and after that, weather is really unpredictable and Parks and Rec usually closes the fields the second weekend of November so we would have no make-up date. In 2017, we tried to have a fall tournament but were rained out.
 - ii. Also, tournaments are a substantial expense, with refs and medals. We have already opened registration and we did not raise prices, so tournament costs are not built in.
 1. If we could get a few sponsors, we could fund a tournament.
 2. Another option is to charge teams that want to participate or invite teams from other localities, but this is an issue if we have to cancel.
 3. It was suggested that we could hold the tournament on Columbus Day weekend since we have no games scheduled then. We were holding this date as a rain make-up, since Parks and Rec has previously prevented us from holding games that weekend because parking lots are needed for the Air Show.
- c. Elizabeth Fry also asked about Rec Uniform shirt colors. She would prefer that we not use gray as it can be see-through on some players. She would like to see us phase out the gray and replace it with red.
 - i. The Board agreed to consider this, but stated that we went to a two uniform system to save families money and prevent having to buy new uniforms each season. If we change colors, players would need to buy new shirts.
 - ii. Perhaps we can begin phasing in red shirts for the younger players and transition gradually, though it is the older players who are affected by the “see-through” problem.

- d. Jennifer Gray arrived late, so the Board extended the public discussion period to allow her comments. She is currently a coach of a U10 boys team and expressed her concern that she will not have enough players to field a team for the Classic. Her roster is small and several players have not shown up all season; also, several players will be away this weekend. She has only 6 players confirmed for this weekend and the team plays 7v7. She asked about the potential for guest players?
 - i. The Board stated that she could use guest players. A few names were discussed, of players who are currently U8 Academy or Academy practice players who do not play competitively at that level.
 - ii. **Action Item: Kendal Barlow will email the other U10 boys coaches to inform them of Coach Gray's dilemma and request their acceptance of guest players on her team for the Classic.**
 - iii. **Action Item: If the other coaches agree, Coach Gray will contact the guest players and request their participation with her team for the Classic.**

2) Board Discussion Topics

- a. Financial status is tight. We do have an agreement with the IRS to pay \$500/month on the back taxes. We need to push the marketing and get registrations in for Fall Rec. **Action Item: Cindy to send out a blast to encourage registrations for fall.**
- b. Academy: 44 invitations were sent out for U9 and U10. There are seven U8 players. A mini-skills camp will be held in August and this should bring in more players.
 - i. There are some difficulties recruiting U8 players because there are no games except against each other and the families don't like this.
 - ii. It was suggested that we could assign one Academy player to each U8 Rec team, to give them some play time. This idea was tabled for now.
- c. New Ideas for U6: The club is considering using older travel players as junior coaches for U6 teams in the fall. A parent volunteer would handle the administrative side and deal with parents but a youth coach would train the players and teach skills.
 - i. This would ensure that our younger players are gaining a good foundation and are learning the fundamentals of soccer before they get to U8.
 - ii. Currently, we have players in the older age groups who lack basic soccer skills. If we start all the U6 teams off on equal footing, with skilled coaches, hopefully, they will understand and play the game better as they grow. As they see older kids leading, they'll want to emulate those kids and follow in their footsteps.
 - iii. We need to grow and develop our club in new directions or we will stagnate. If we start to stagnate, we will actually falter and lose numbers because unhappy families will leave and go to other clubs. We need to keep innovating and improving our programs.
- d. U6 End-of-Season Games: U6 teams do not participate in the Classic but they still have one more make-up game due to rain out. Their games are scheduled from 9 am to 3 pm on Sat., June 2 but there is a problem with field space since the Classic is happening concurrently.
 - i. It was suggested that we cone off an area on fields 3-4 for two U6 fields rather than using the Practice field which is all dirt.

- e. Final Preparations for Classic Tournament:
 - i. U14 and U12 girls will have their first game Friday night.
 - ii. Kendal has runners set up to bring match reports from the referees to the main tent. She suggested letting runners hand out the gift cards to the coaches at the conclusion of the first game.
 - iii. Arrangements are finalized for the Classic; we just need the weather to hold!
- f. Travel Tryouts Recap: We had 237 players try out, with 21 no shows from registered players. It was mostly outside players who did not show up. As with the Academy, Dan will email the no-shows to inquire whether they are still interested in a tryout.
 - i. It looks like we will not have enough players to field an '06 girls team and perhaps not enough for '07 boys.
 - ii. We will take a bit of financial hit from CCL if we can't field all the teams.
 - iii. Dan is working to get all offers out as quickly as possible.
 - iv. Scholarship requests will be considered later, when all requests are in.
- g. Recreation Registration Marketing for Fall: We need to get back to the regular MailChimp biweekly blasts to encourage registration.
 - i. Dan and Marcia have updated the recipient list on MailChimp to make it current and include new families.
 - ii. We can also increase our posts on Facebook, including mentions of the World Cup games, etc., just to increase interest and interaction and keep people coming to our page. We can utilize Kathy's connection to UVA and link their posts to our Facebook page.
 - iii. We could have offer a raffle such that the first 100 people to register for Rec soccer get a chance for free registration.
- h. CCL II Update (things to be completed): Dan stated that there is a Google worksheet to enter the teams and this needs to be finalized by mid to late June.
 - i. When we have home games, we make the schedule.
 - ii. Carlos expressed concern that CCL play is too high a level for our Academy teams. It was agreed that we will try it for a year and see how it goes because it is more convenient for Academy and Travel families to have all their players in the same location on game day.
- i. Summer Camps:
 - i. Sheriff's Camp is June 26-28 with June 29 for a make-up day. It will be held in the mornings and Dan will help out with this.
 - ii. Strikers Camp was tentatively scheduled for the week of June 18 but will most likely be postponed to July.
 - iii. Tekkers Camp is scheduled for the week of July 16.
 - iv. It was suggested that we use some of the new coaches to help run camps and use this time to evaluate them and their skills.
- j. Staff Transition:
 - i. Kendal's last day is June 15. She is creating a notebook of all that she has learned and done and will pass this on to Fro.
 - ii. Fro will begin on June 15 and will work with Dan to train that first week.

- iii. Cindy requested permission to work off-site the week of June 18 as she has a chance to get away with a cousin. The Board approved this request.
- k. Scholarships: We need to try to offer fewer scholarships this season and to require families to prove need and also to perform volunteer hours, half each season.
- l. Picture Day: Cindy mentioned that Tod Cohen reached out to see if we had suggestions for improving picture day next season.
 - i. The Board suggested that we need more notice if registration is going to change. In the future, we should ask coaches to come earlier so we can hand them the packets to distribute to their teams.
 - ii. We would also like to see two photographers taking team shots to prevent that bottleneck.
 - iii. We also need more than one station that can handle Little Comets; now that the photographer is aware of the color of their shirts, hopefully he will have alternatives to the green screen.
 - iv. Overall, picture day went better than usual this year.