

Minutes of the January 4, 2010 Meeting of the SYS Board

Present: Scott B., Ron W., Dick B., Bob P., Natasha C., Mike R., Ken W., Jimmie R., Isaac N., Jorge D., Roy P., Lisa M., Heston C., Ann C., Chris S., Louise G., David L., David R., Kevin R., Keith L., Bob R., Lisa m., Chris W., Bob G.

The meeting began promptly at 7:00 PM.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved.

Scott asked each board member present if he or she were planning on staying on the board. Ron is resigning as president and is taking Scott's place as the U-6 coordinator. Natasha is resigning as the equipment manager and Kim O. is taking her place. Scott is willing to take on the duties of president. Scott B. was unanimously voted in as the new SYS president. The board offers a sincere "thank you" to Ron W. for his more than two years of dedicated service and quality leadership and the board also thanks Scott for taking on the president's duties. Also, Ron W. was voted in as the new U-6 coordinator.

There was an issue of a parent who wanted the parent's child to be able to play as a U-5 even though the child was born after the deadline for U-5 players playing in the spring of 2010. After some discussion, the board voted to stand by the by-laws and not let the child sign up prematurely.

Registration Report (Bob P.)—There have been only about 20 late registrations so far. The total number registered so far for the spring is about 150 less than last year's total. **Ron said he would send out an email to those players who played in the fall but have not signed up for the spring.**

Scott asked if there should be a committee formed to "identify what is the best way for SSYS to hold and conduct try-outs for each age group." This committee should review which current processes work well and which do not. The committee should provide guidelines for the contractor's scope, participation, and deliverables in tryouts. There was some discussion about whether or not such a committee was needed. By and large, most board members who were involved in tryouts felt that they are about as good as we can hope for with one day of tryouts per age group. The main problem with last year's tryouts was that PlaySoccer held only small-sided games. Those on the board involved in tryouts believe that there need to be several stations where various skills are tested. PlaySoccer had done this the previous year. Also, it would be good to have the contractor provide rankings on a spreadsheet as PlaySoccer had done the previous year. Roy said that the director at PlaySoccer had told Roy that they had given SYS a deluxe treatment the previous year but would not continue providing such niceties without increasing the cost of conducting the try-outs. Perhaps we need to let Challenger Sports handle the tryouts for the U-10s to see how they do. Scott said that we need to consider if we have different expectations for the try-outs for different age groups.

Roy P., Louise G., and the AGCs will meet at a future time and date to discuss these issues and to come up with a plan.

Player/Coach Development Report (Roy P. and Ken W.)—Ken said that coaches' clinics need to have an indoor facility ready as a back up for early spring clinics. Roy said that coaches need to be more specific in what they want the PlaySoccer coach to do when he runs a practice for them.

Twelve coaches (11 from Shrewsbury) showed up for the F-license course. Roy said he would look into scheduling an E-license course, which can be held in four 4-hour sessions. It

seems that MYSA wants a mandatory six-month gap between someone's getting the F-license and starting an E-license course.

Referee Report (Ann C.)—Ann is going to use mentors more regularly early in the season to help younger refs. She is going to try to recruit more mentors. Any refs who are interested in acting as mentors should contact her.

Fund Raising Report (Ron W. and Keith L.)—We have checks from 8 sponsors so far with two more waiting in the wings. Seven of the eight are full-year sponsors. **Isaac needs to order a few extra shirts for each mini team.** We need to coordinate the sponsor names and the shirt colors. Since there will be no minis at Municipal, we are closing the snack shack.

Field Maintenance Report (David L.)—David is thinking about getting some bids for the mowing contract. Roy said that whoever gets the bid must be flexible about what day in the week they will cut the fields. **David said he would talk with Keith B. about the previous bid process.**

Since we are moving two large goals and two U-12 goals to Municipal, we need to get a flat-bed truck to facilitate the move from Glavin early in the spring.

Scott said we need to determine exactly what our commitment is concerning the walking path and then live up to it. Right now the path is badly overrun with weeds and grass. **We need to ask Keith if clearing the path is a job that can be done by volunteers with rakes & wheelbarrows or if heavier equipment is needed.**

Also, the large Glavin parking lot needs lines painted on it and needs serious repair work done on large cracks that have appeared. The lines need to be done before the start of the season since the minis' parents will be using Glavin this season. David said that the grass lot needs some gravel put on top of it. We need to clear this with the Glavin administration first.

Scott said that we need to form a committee to develop a backup plan in case Glavin is shut down by the state in 2013. This committee needs to identify all current fields in Shrewsbury and to scout for potential sites for field development. The committee also needs to look into the possibility of developing a long-term lease of the Glavin fields. The key players for SYS to look to for field support also need to be identified. After some discussion Ron W. and Dick B. said they would be willing to serve on but not lead such a committee. The secretary believes that Scott also volunteered to be on this comm. Lisa M. said she is prepared to continue working on keeping the Glavin center open. Dick said that we should ask MYSA for advice about looking for new fields or for seeking a long-term lease from the state. Mindy H. might also be a good source of info. We also need to keep in contact with Karen Polito about these matters. **Lisa said she would email Ms. Polito.**

Equipment Report (Natasha C.)—Natasha asked for advice about the team medical kits. It would be good to be able to customize the kits. For the older kids, the consensus was that the kits should have a large roll of tape, some band aids, several ice packs (several large and several small), and a pair or two of rubber gloves. Ron said Natasha needs to stay within the budget. The smaller kids don't need any large ice bags and they can get by with a smaller roll of tape.

MAYS Report (Bob R.)—**January 10 is the deadline of team numbers, team profiles.** Feb. 21, MAYS needs three official rosters for each traveling team. The coaches' meeting will be held on March 21. All AGCs need to fill out the forms they receive from Scott for their teams. The initial field assignments will be done by Bob G. and then finalized by Scott. In addition, we need to send in field requests to the town by Feb. 1.

There was some discussion about how the U10 teams were being assigned to Div 3 and Div 4.

Uniforms—**Isaac needs to have the new uniforms we need ordered by February 1. He needs to take an inventory of what we have on hand and to determine what we need for the spring.**

The Shrewsbury coaches' meetings will be held on 3/24 for the mini coaches and on 3/25 for the coaches of traveling teams. Both meetings will be held at Sherwood M.S. from 7-9 PM. Ann said she would reserve the rooms.

Treasurer's Report (Mike R.)—We have \$222,000 cash, which is comparable with what we had at this time last year. Added expenses this year were new uniforms and Glavin field care.

We want to keep Revolution tickets but want a flex plan rather than any season tickets. Also want a flex plan for Breaker tickets.

The meeting ended at 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Garvey