

Minutes of the November 3, 2008 Meeting of the SYS Board

Present: Ron W., Brian S., Mindy H., Ken W., Ken O., Mike R., David L., Brenda B., Kim MacD., John C., Ann C., Chris W., Kim O., Allan J., Roy P., Kevin R., Scott B., Bob R., Bob G., Rachel B., Andrea B., Bob P., Lisa M., Bob P.
The meeting began in the Shrewsbury library at 6:45 PM.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Ron said that Jim McKay is stepping down as U-8 coordinator. Rachel will take care of getting a gift to show the board's appreciation for the hard work and time that Jim gave for SYS. Brian Smith was then nominated to replace Jim. Brian was unanimously voted in as the new U-8 coordinator.

Player & Coach development—Roy P. said there were problems with Play Soccer this season with the coaching vouchers and with the number of instructors they could supply at the keeper clinics. Play Soccer is willing in the future to have one of their coaches dedicated to SYS. The deal would be that we would pick the day(s) of the week when the coach should be available and we set the coaching agenda on a week-by-week basis. No final decision was made on this possibility but the board's initial reaction to this proposal was positive.

Roy said he is thinking that a Thursday night from 6-10 PM might be better than a Saturday afternoon for a G-license course. It could be held at one of the middle schools or at TeamWorks.

Ron said that it looks as if we'll let Play Soccer hold its 3 v 3 tournament at Glavin in July of 2009. The Glavin people are ok with this. This tournament would be held in place of the one that has been held in Northboro the last several summers. Board members who have had teams involved in the past tournaments said this tournament is a very positive and fun experience.

Ron said the budget for next year will be out next week.

Kim MacD. then discussed and showed some possibilities for new uniforms for the mini's. The idea is to get shirts that look more like soccer uniforms but which would not cost more. Kim discussed several possibilities and passed around sample shirts. After some discussion, the board agreed to go with Kim's recommendations.

There were suggestions about what to do with left-over, old t-shirts such as donate them to a charity or to Shrewsbury parks and rec. or have older players give them to siblings but no final decision was made.

Ron suggested that the board give Kim the authority to make decisions on the uniforms for all in-town teams and there were no objections to this suggestions.

Roy P. then made a proposal that we make a time deadline for changing the uniforms of the traveling teams. There followed a discussion about how such a uniform change might be carried out and what it would cost the program. Ron thought it could be done without too much additional cost. It was decided to delay this decision but it was agreed that no such changes would happen this spring. John C. said he believes we could get better quality uniforms than those we now use at a cheaper price than we currently are paying. Ron said we need to do more research before the board has a definite proposal to consider.

Ron said that there is a possibility that we could get companies to serve as SYS sponsors. The idea is that for \$500 per team, we would put the sponsor's name on the back of the that team's uniform shirt. A given sponsor could have its name on the back of the shirts of more than one team if the sponsor put up multiples of \$500. Ron's idea is to start with a pilot program that would involve getting 10 sponsors. Roy P. warned that the uniform supplier might charge us a set-up fee for putting sponsors' names on shirts. Ron then proposed that we try to get 10 sponsors to contribute \$500 @ team for the spring. The vote was 14 for, 3 against, and 4 abstentions. This proposal will be reviewed at a later meeting. Kim MacD. will handle getting the sponsors. John C. said he will investigate to see if Price Chopper is interested in making such a donation.

Mike R. then gave the Treasurer's report. Our assets are up about \$48k to \$50k compared to last year's situation but some of this difference is related to when bills come in and when they are paid. This past year Keith cut down significantly on storage and field-maintenance expenses. Mike handed out a detailed budget report that indicated there were no significant changes in expenses in other areas compared to last year.

Bob P. then gave the registrar's report. Registration online has begun. Bob P. and John C. will coordinate an email blast about registration. There was some discussion that such email blasts should get to all board members.

Fliers about registration will go to the schools on Monday. There will be walk-in registration at Sherwood M S on 11/13 between 6:30 and 9 PM. We will need the cafeteria and the foyer.

Bob R. then gave the MAYS report. Several Shrewsbury teams were either placed in too strong a division or in too weak a division. We should work with MAYS to improve team assignments. There is always an additional problem in the spring when the GU-10 in-town players are assigned to traveling teams. There followed some discussion about which teams at some age levels should be playing in Div. 1 and which should be in Div. 2. The next MAYS meeting is scheduled for 11/16. Ron said he is planning on attending just as an observer. His major concerns are he'd like to see more regional scheduling for Div. 3 teams; he'd like far fewer unbalanced scores; and he'd like to learn more about how teams are placed in both the fall and spring.

Ann C.. and Mindy H. gave the Referee report. Overall things seemed to go well. Would like to have refs work the U-7 games in the spring. There was some discussion about who qualifies to take the bridge course. The student should be at least 16 years old or be 15 with one year of coaching experience or 14 with two years of coaching experience.

The meeting adjourned at 8: 40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Garvey