

Wakefield Soccer Association
Monthly Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2013 – 8:00pm

Board Members Present: President – Mike Boudreau; Treasurer – Jim Rollins; Travel Director – David Dube; Intramural Director – Chris Smith; Registrar / Director of Volunteerism / Referees – Anne Miller; Director of League Relations – Stephen de Garavilla; Director of Fields & Facilities (interim) – Jim McGovern; Director of Website / Equipment – Erik Domingo; Director of Coaching – Matt Colven; Director of Risk Management / Referees – Mike Kilkelly;

Absent: Brian Leishman – Secretary; Director of Fundraising – Matt Lane

13 WSA members in attendance

- **Secretary's Report** – Reviewed and accepted minutes from October 3 meeting
- **President's Comments – Mike Boudreau**
 - **Fall 2013**
 - Season went well considering all the field issues
 - The board appreciates everyone's patience as we worked through the season
 - **WSA Coach vs Coach Game on Sat, Nov 9**
 - Game starts at 11:00 am, but players should arrive at 10:30 to warm up
 - Raffle tickets will be available for kids to be a coach and to participate in the half-time penalty shot contest
 - Raffle tickets are all free
 - **Night at the Revs**
 - Big thanks to Nancy Hurley for organizing and Jim Grady for all the grilling and help
 - Nice night, lots of goals, and lots of fun for all the attendees
 - **Winter League/Facility Subsidization**
 - Board has decided to partially subsidize teams that are playing indoor soccer over the winter. Teams will receive \$250 per session with a max of \$500 per team for the winter. A copy of the roster and receipt must be submitted as proof of payment and that team is composed of Wakefield players. Coaches can submit for reimbursement using the Reimbursement request form found on the WSA web site under the Information tab. Mike Boudreau will send out an email to all coaches with the details and will also have it posted on the web site.
 - **Walton Field availability for Winter/Spring**
 - Walton field is available all winter for teams/players to use on the weekends. The temporary lights are gone, though. Permanent lights will not be available for a while yet.
 - Instead of using Galvin gyms for spring practices/training, we will use Walton field
 - In the spring, Walton should be available for early starts on Mon, Tues, Thurs
 - Temp U10/U12 turf goals might be obtained for Walton
 - Steve Pesce will look into getting good rates for teams to use Latitude Sports club in Danvers
 - Sports Park in Danvers also has turf fields
- **Treasurer's Report – Jim Rollins**
 - Reviewed reports for July, August and September 2013.

- **Director of Coaching Update – Matt Colven**
 - Well done and good luck to all.
 - Get some practices in before spring
 - Matt will leave on Nov 15 to go back home but will be back full-time in the spring
 - Stephen Hall had to leave earlier than expected due to visa issues
- **Intramural Program – Chris Smith**
 - Last weekend were the last U8 – U10 games
 - Sunday, the 10th, is the makeup and last day for U5 – U7, and U14 games
 - 42 kids had signed up for the U6/U7 Skills Academy in which the High School girls helped with the coaching and skills. It was a great session and hope to continue this in the spring.
 - The program is open to other ideas also
- **MYSL Report – Stephen de Garavilla**
 - No MYSL meeting this month yet therefore no report
 - Thanks to all the coaches for their efforts
 - Discussion of placement of teams in the fall. WSA teams getting sandbagged because we are following the rules and requesting placement appropriately. But, other towns are not following the rules and requesting to play down in their division resulting in our teams having to play against higher level teams and getting beaten badly.
 - Head coaches should submit feedback to Stephen with facts/ideas to help place their teams into competitive divisions. If other towns are playing in lower divisions, then maybe Wakefield has to start doing this also.
 - For fall seasons, towns put in their request to MYSL and usually the league does what the town requests (e.g. playing down)
 - In the spring, MYSL makes their placement decisions based on the fall season records
- **Travel Program – David Dube**
 - Great fall season
 - Training sessions had a rough start but picked up by the end
 - WSA had 30 divisions and 10 divisions placed
 - Many teams from other towns played down, making it unfair for our teams
 - Jim Grady asked why there were only 6 teams in 1A which led into the continued discussion of team placement
 - The A, B, C designation is only used to make scheduling easier. There is no meaning behind the A, B, C, etc. They are all in the same division. E.g. 1A, 1B, 1C are all in the same division
 - Only division 1 and 2's go to the commissioner's cup
 - This season, in the Boys 14-2, 8 of the 10 teams were actually the #1 teams for that town
 - Another example, our GU14-4 team played against Everett's GU14-1
 - Very unfair and Stephen and David are going to adjust their placement requests in the future
- U16/18 tryouts are taking place Nov 17, Girls: 12- 2, Boys: 2- 4
- Still ironing out the details
- Compared to the U10-14 tryouts, these will have full game assessments and only 2 skills stations
- Question was raised as to whether there would be any goalie tryouts.
- David has talked to Matt Colven for ideas on this but they are unsure of how to administer such tryouts

- Idea brought up about assessing more during the season, rather than (separate) tryouts, especially for goalies
- Remarks made about fall season goalie training: need Matt to work with the older kids
- There was a huge drop-off with the older kids as the season progressed
- Ryan and Mario were doing most of the goalie training
- Steve Pesce felt that kids were learning more in other towns one-hour sessions than in our weekly session and thinks that Matt's expertise would be better for the older goalies
- **Equipment Report – Erik Domingo**
 - Travel coaches can keep their equipment for use in spring
 - Intramural coaches are to return their equipment
 - Cage will be open for returns next week on Wed & Thursday
 - No regular hours until February
 - Thanks to the teams that have already returned their equipment
- **Other Items:**
 - Board Elections are coming up in February
 - Still have vacancies for: Field & Facilities, Equipment, Volunteerism
- **Next meeting:** December 5th
- **Adjourned at 8:50pm**