

Region 18 Board Meeting, August 8, 2017

Hennessey's Manhattan Beach
7:30 pm

0. Attendance:

Andrew Lelchuk, Shaun Adderholt, Byron Eguchi, Allyson Estess, Bill Fournell, Wolf Heim, Michael Hinz, Mark Hodson, Stan Ibara, Eric Knudsen, Bill Power, Karl Primm, Marco Rico, Mark Sprague, Chris Wong (non-voting), Nedra Yost. Taylor Boudreaux, Charlie Vincent, Megan Schultz.

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 7:45 PM with a quorum (19/30).

2. Review of Prior Minutes

- ✓ MOTION: Approve Minutes of the July 2017 meeting.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

3. Regional Commissioner's Report

Andrew thanked the Board for their participation and volunteerism; reminded us we're the 3rd biggest AYSO region in the US!

Introduced and welcomed new Region 18 Board members:

- Taylor Boudreaux – GU5 DC
- Charlie Vincent – BU6 DC
- Megan Schultz – GU6 DC

Area Updates: Andrew confirmed key Fall 2017 (and playoff 2018) season dates:

- Coaches' Meeting: August 24
- Returning Referees' Meeting(s): August 26 (9:00 am) and/or September 5 (7:30 pm).
- Parents' Meeting: August 29 (to be confirmed).

- Practice start: as of August 28
- Season games start: September 8/9
- Playoffs start: November 11
- Championship Day: December 9 or 16 (TBD)
- Section 1 League Championships: February 24/25
- Section 1 All-Star Championships: March 10/11.

Andrew confirmed that Player Development Initiatives (PDIs) will ONLY be in force on the Section level, not Area or in Region 18. That means Region 18 teams advancing to Section playoffs (or Region 18 referees participating) will have to accommodate these rules in February. To be confirmed as we approach the playoff dates.

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Notes on use of "Online Education Fees" for Region 18:

- Use of a voucher required to 'pay' for these online classes (e.g. Basic Coach Class)
- Andrew confirmed we have a Region 18 'bulk voucher' – to cover 100 classes.
- Steve Hershkowitz sent voucher #s out to coaches.
- Andrew ordering a further bulk voucher to cover up an additional 100 classes (also for Referee educational use).

Blue Sombrero Transition:

- Continues to be a slow process: Everyone should reach out directly to either Andrew or Bryon if you have 'BS' issues or need a special report;
- Action: Chris Wong asked Andrew for a more detailed Referee Volunteer list showing level of certification.
- Byron noted that a volunteer's (or player's) eAYSO detail must EXACTLY match the input given to Blue Sombrero or registration will be incomplete.

Selected Key Meeting Dates:

- Mark Hodson: U6 & U10 Coaches Instruction meeting on Saturday, August 19.
- New Intermediate Coaches Classes: Tuesday, August 15, Thursday, August 17, and Tuesday, August 22.
- Returning Referee's Meeting: Proposed Saturday, August 26 (9:00 am) and Tuesday, September 5.
- Coaches Meeting on Thursday, August 24.
- Action: Talk to Andrew or Russ about reserving rooms needed for Coaches/Referee meetings.

Parents' Meeting:

- Andrew outlined vision of doing something different and more motivating this year, potentially in collaboration with the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA). With more relevance to parents beyond just U5/U6 parents.
- Looking for a headline 'celebrity' speaker like a Luke Walton/Eric Karros. If not possible, then we will revert to the more traditional Parents' Meeting format of past years. TBD.
- Action: Andrew to confirm date. Target: August 29. Coaches will be invited.

Region 18 Website:

- Still under construction for Fall Season.
- Action: Steve Hershkowitz (Coach) and Charlie Abbott (Referee) to review their respective tabs and what they would like added. Andrew to share screen shots from previous website.
- Just send Andrew the documents and links wanted in the website tabs; Andrew will drop it in.
- "Safety" info (e.g. docs like the Incident Report) will fall under the Coaches' Tab.

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4. Finance Report

Overall, no issues or surprises.

Negotiations for re-turfing Village Field yielded an agreement to contribute \$350,000 (not \$500,000) for the project. For the time being, we'll hold \$500,000 in the line Budget item.

Confirmation that MB city will pay on-going expenses for Field Equipment (e.g. goals, flags, etc.) at the city fields of Marine and Village. For all school fields, AYSO pays.

Andrew requested that we seek a more equitable cost sharing for AYSO's coming use of the new Mira Costa High Meadows Fields. The School Board is asking for a fee of \$150/hour for using these new turf fields. Wouldn't non-profit, volunteer, local AYSO deserve a better price?

- Action: Bill Fournell will speak to Donna, the Board's Chief Business Officer.

Chris Wong noted that Charlie Abbott (not present) would request some \$7,500 to fund 2017 Referee incentives. Although specific budgeted numbers from prior years were not readily available, that sum was thought "high" and needs further discussion.

- Action: Charlie to discuss/agree Ref incentives budget with Andrew/Byron.

5. Registrar's Report

Byron Eguchi reported that there are currently about 2,790 verified players for the Fall season (3,031 in total). He expects some 3,200 players for this season, probably slightly down vs. last year. U5 sign-up numbers are, as expected, still low but expected to rise sharply once school starts. Expecting 200+ total players.

- Action: U5 DC's noted to anticipate the late sign-ups and recruit their coaches now.

Byron asked that any late season sign-ups be directed to go directly to the Region 18 website (ayso18.org). Overall sign-ups have slowed to 1 - 2 per day.

6. Field Report

Action: Russ Allen to supply the AYSO insurance certifications to MB city (Andrew follow-up).

7. Safety Report

Wolf Heim reported that safety field prep (mostly anchored goal structures) will be complete before September 8 season start once Russ' Field set-up is complete:

- New sand bag anchors (MAP, Village) and any other turf fields.
- Steel spike anchors for all other fields.

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Wolf to support the Safety Agenda (mostly what to do in case of game/practice injuries and concussion training) at both the Coaches and Referee meetings.

8. Uniforms and Pictures

Nedra Yost updated on Uniform status for the upcoming season:

- Uniforms, Balls, and ice packs will be available during the week of August 14.
- Action: DCs should email Nedra directly if they have special delivery instructions for their uniform/ball equipment.
- Action: For any teams added in the coming weeks – uniform needs made known to Nedra by the Tuesday of any given week can have their uniforms by that same week Friday.

If a parent has complaints about an ill-fitting uniform for their child, they should contact Nedra directly.

Photo Day Update - Nedra has identified 2 Saturday main dates and 1 make-up (all Saturdays). Andrew will put these on the Region calendar:

- Main dates: September 16 and October 7
- Make up date: October 27.
- Action: Nedra to confirm specific Field locations for Photo Day together with Russ Allen.

9. Referee Committee Report

Chris Wong reported on behalf of Charlie Abbott:

- The Returning Referee meeting will be Saturday, August 26 (9:00 am) and/or Tuesday, September 5. Charlie to confirm location and dates.
- Coaches will be invited.
- Michael Hinz advised it's an ambitious agenda for 60 minutes. We'll go longer if necessary.

Concussion Training:

- For new and existing referees, Chris and Wolf will link RSS access to concussion-training completion. Weekly email reminders have been going out via Chris.
- Before giving RSS access to new and existing refs, Chris will verify that they have completed concussion training, safe haven and their referee certification.
- For referees who haven't completed concussion training by the time the season begins, Chris will send Wolf a list of these with their email addresses.
- Wolf will follow up with reminder emails through early October. Referees who complete concussion training will be asked to email/confirm with Wolf.
- Wolf will confirm with Chris (who will then give them RSS access).
- Under this system, Karl doesn't have to withhold badges if a newly certified referee hasn't completed concussion training.

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- Field recommendations: if there is a disagreement between coach/referee about player (which, in the interest of shared accountability for player safety, we expect to be rare)
- Referee has unilateral authority to order a player off the pitch who the referee considers to be concussed.

Action: DCs to finish/submit game schedules ASAP -- We want new referees sign up for 3 games after Karl's classes (see below).

Referee Incentives and Appreciation Gifts: Charlie's plan budget (about \$7,500) was deemed "high"; Charlie to follow-up with Andrew/Byron to finalize.

Mentoring:

- Krista Skinner will work with Charlie and Chris on preseason mentoring.
- Advanced/National referees will be asked to pick up a U10 game every week

Karl Primm reported on Introductory Referee Classes occurring before and just after season start:

Regional / Basic Referee Class for those intending to Referee **10U and younger games**

Saturday, September 2nd from 8:00 to 2:00 at the Joslyn Center Auditorium (1601 North Valley Drive, Manhattan Beach) – please note, this class is for Youth Referees only.

Saturday, September 2nd from 8:30 to 12:30 at the Joslyn Center Auditorium (1601 North Valley Drive, Manhattan Beach) – please note this course requires completion of an on-line companion module in advance of the classroom module.

Wednesday, September 6th from 6:15 to 10:00 at the Joslyn Center Auditorium (1601 North Valley Drive, Manhattan Beach) – please note this course requires completion of an on-line companion module in advance of the classroom module.

Wednesday, September 13th from 6:15 to 10:00 at the Joslyn Center Auditorium (1601 North Valley Drive, Manhattan Beach) – please note this course requires completion of an on-line companion module in advance of the classroom module.

8U Referee Class for those intending to Referee **8U and younger games**

Tuesday, September 5th from 6:00 to 10:00 at the Joslyn Center Auditorium (1601 North Valley Drive, Manhattan Beach).

Thursday, September 7th from 6:00 to 10:00 at the Manhattan Heights Auditorium (1600 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach).

Action: DCs to finish game schedules ASAP -- We want new referees to sign up for 3 games after Karl's classes (above).

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Action: All please alert Karl if you know any potential candidates for 2018 Referee Instructors.

Chris stated that it's key to get game schedules to him before the weekend prior to the start of the season (September 2/3) to ensure enough time to set up game schedule with RSS.

- Action: Chris to send a message to all DCs requesting each division to deliver their schedule to him by Friday, September 1. Otherwise, he cannot guarantee getting ref/game schedule up in time for season start. Nedra Yost offered her personal help to Chris to input schedule data if needed over September 5 - 7.

10. Division Commissioner Updates

- BU7: Todd Collins and Allyson Estess reported that there are 190 players registered and that the draft will take place on August 13.
- GU6: 169 players registered to date with 19 volunteer coaches.
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11. Summary of Motions Approved

- ✓ MOTION: Approve Minutes of July 2017 Board meeting.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

12. Summary of Motions Rejected

None.

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12.