

Region 18 Board Meeting, June 12, 2018

Hennessey's, Manhattan Beach, :30 PM

0. Attendance:

Krista Skinner, Taylor Boudreaux, David Brantly, Scott Champagne, Ben Donahoe (non-voting), Byron Eguchi, Allison Estess, Sean Gauss, Jana Goodstadt, Steve Hershkowitz, Michael Hinz, Mark Hodson, Molly Jolls, Andrew Lelchuk, Jim Orland, Karl Primm, Rose Rocchio, Andrew Rogerson, Daniel Shabani, Ron Tani, Chris Wong (non-voting), Nedra Yost

Guests: Phil Ockelmann, Elissa Stevens, Garret Kelly

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 7:32 PM with a quorum (21/30)

2. Review of Prior Minutes

- MOTION: Approve Minutes of the May 2018 meeting with amendments.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

3. Regional Commissioner's Report

Krista Skinner introduced Phil Ockelmann, Area Director of Section 1D, to the meeting.

Krista also introduced Elissa Stevens of Fully Equipped and Garret Kelly of Zone Kids who provided a presentation on uses for donated equipment.

Elissa's organization collects lightly used uniforms and sports equipment for kids in inner cities and in Tijuana. Elissa has previously worked with Manhattan Beach Youth Basketball (MBYB) has and donated their used equipment to the Boys' and Girls' Clubs of Gardena and Harbor City. She is looking for more consistent donations and to expand her relationships with MBYB and AYSO.

Garret Kelly's organization is an offshoot of the Homes of Hope ministry located in Tijuana and Rosarita. Uniforms and trophies are found to promote the self esteem of kids in these areas and Garret is trying to get more donations related to soccer. Michael Miles of GU14 works with Zone Kids.

Krista Skinner noted that Region 18 is looking for an ongoing, year-round donation program.

Molly Jolls noted that she has a friend at Children's Orchard in Manhattan Beach and will see if they can provide a bin or storage facility for donations.

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Krista reported that there was no full Area 1D meeting this month, only a meeting of the Regional Commissioners.

The National Annual General Meeting starts this Friday and Andrew Lelchuk will be one of six candidates running for a Board position. Among the other proposals being voted on Saturday are:

- Increase the National Player Fee from \$17.50 to \$20.00 in 2019
- Restructuring how the Board of Directors is selected, including not requiring candidates running for President to be on the present Board of Directors, adding outside directors, and introducing term limits.
- Allowing open substitution in 14U
- Allowing throw-ins in 8U, thereby rolling back a previous change that Region 18 had not yet implemented.

Phil Ockelmann noted that there proposals regarding All Stars, including lots of discussion on the number of teams and requiring a minimum level of Referee coverage to be eligible. As a result, Area 1D would need more Referees to support the current level of teams.

Krista initiated a discussion on the difference between Divisions, including the player rankings used to formulate teams.

- For modified rankings, two to three questions are needed. Molly Jolls noted that one key criteria should be "does the player want to be out there?".
- Full rankings are needed from the end of 8U.
- 7U can work with a modified draft, meaning players are only drafted during the first four rounds. Megan Schultz reported that in her Division, 14 of 15 Coaches did not want a draft. Allyson Estess suggested that at least a partial draft is better since it will serve as a transition to the full draft in the following year.
- Nedra Yost suggested that it should be stressed that there will not be Assistant Referees (AR's) in 7U and 8U, otherwise random parents will take the positions and generally do a poor job.
- A Referee Points program will be implemented in 10U, 12U, and 14U. Chris Wong suggested that any program skew toward harsher requirements and penalties to ensure having enough Referees. It was generally agreed that a Referee Points program has a positive impact. Taylor Boudreaux suggested that Coaches at younger Divisions be required to take Referee classes. Michael Hinz noted that Coaches shouldn't be depended on to Referee as they need to focus on coaching. Jim Orland noted that Community Service credit works for getting younger Referees. Rose Rocchio also suggested Digital Badges for Youth Referees. Andrew Lelchuk will check with the Mira Costa soccer programs to see if they will help with Refereeing, as opposed to just coaching.

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Krista suggested a college scholarship program based on volunteerism within AYSO.

- Division Referee Coordinators are needed from U7 and onward to check Certifications and make sure there volunteers each week. Andrew noted that U16 and U19 do not require Referee Coordinators as the work can be done by the Division Commissioner.
- Allison requested training from the Referee Committee for Division Commissioners of 7U to 8U. Krista will set these up.
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Krista began a discussion on scheduling for the Fall season.

- Karl Primm stated that Referee classes are not set until the season start date is determined.
- Area 1D will conduct an Intermediate Coach class on August 11 in Hawthorne and an Advanced Coach class on August 12 at Marine Avenue Park.
- Early registration ends on June 24 while regular registration ends on July 3.
- Division Commissioners need to set player registration limits so that wait lists can be started. Krista advised that the limits should be set on anticipated number of Coaches.
- Uniforms will be delivered between August 5 and 10, while balls will be delivered on August 13 or 14.
- For 16U and 19U, Area play will begin on September 1 because the CIF Winter season starts on November 12 and AYSO play will need to end before then for AYSO players to remain eligible for CIF play. Area play will end on November 3 or 4. Since September 1 is during the Labor Day weekend, games will not be held on Sunday or Monday that weekend.
- Fields are available from August 27. Russ Allen will check whether they can be available from August 20.
- Krista stated that the Regular Season will start on September 8 with Division Commissioners given flexibility to adjust the start date.
- David Brantly will start G12U with a preseason scrimmage and start his season later so his Coaches will be able to evaluate their own players.
- Krista asked Division Commissioners to provide their draft dates. Rose Rochhio stated BU12 would hold a draft on August 9 or August 20. Molly Jolls will hold the BU10 draft on the week of August 13. David Brantly will hold the GU12 draft on the week of August 13.
- Steve Hershkowitz stated that a Coach class will be held on August 21 for 6U, 8U, and 10U while a Coach class for 12U will be held on August 11.
- Phil Ockelmann stated that the Coaches' Meeting for 16U and 19U will be held on August 23 and a schedule will be released on that day. Albert Chen asked when the number of teams for those Divisions are due and Phil replied that they are due on August 16, with rosters due on August 31.

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- Karl Primm plans to have 8U Referee classes and suggesting having them at 8AM prior to the first games of the day on September 8 and September 15.
- Krista noted that a dates also need to be set for a Region 18 Coaches' meeting and Parent's meeting. There was no Parent's meeting done last season.
- Nedra Yost stated that she would need to know if the team sizes will be larger by August 17th. Krista replied that drafts need to be finished prior to August 17th to accommodate Nedra.
- Mark Hodson will teach the Player Development Initiatives as part of the 10U drafts.
- Nedra stated that Photo Day is tentatively set for September 29 and 30, with make-ups on October 13.
- 5U through 8U will finish prior to Thanksgiving (November 22).
- Molly Jolls asked Russ Allen to consider continuing Friday night games.
- Nedra Yost has already ordered Playoff medals and asked that Division Commissioners let her know if they need additional medals.
- A Youth Referee class will be offered during Labor Day weekend.

4. Registrar's Report

Byron Eguchi reported that registration has started slowly, with 1,010 players registered now. Byron suggested boosting the level of e-mail blasts.

Early Bird registration will be ending on June 24.

Krista Skinner noted that there have been some issues with Blue Sombrero during the registration process and advised everyone to call Scott Champagne if they need help.

Krista is looking at putting together a World Cup viewing party with registration on June 23. Todd Collins is working with Second Half in Manhattan Beach to facilitate the party. Byron suggested that Birth Certificate verification also be done at the same time. Krista noted that many regions are hosting in-person registration events as an opportunity to recruit volunteers.

Andrew Lelchuk suggested that the Board of Directors come up with strategies and tactics to recruit volunteers.

5. Safety Director's Report

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Andrew Rogerson reported that he met with Wolf Heim to transition responsibilities. Andrew asked that Division Commissioners let him know if there are any concussion or other medical issues as they need to be reported to National.

6. Field Report

Russ Allen reported that school fields will be closed for the Summer for maintenance. Manhattan Village Field is on track to be re-turfed prior to Labor Day with lights. An Opening Day ceremony at Manhattan Village Field is being considered.

The Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Committee passed a field cost proposal but the City Council returned it to the Committee asking for more information regarding allocations, hours, and costs.

7. Technology Report

Scott Champagne reported that he is working on the website and asked for any requests for changes. He is also working on increasing the number of posts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Krista Skinner challenged the Board to referred five other people each to follow AYSO Region 18.

Scott will be using Google Suites more for AYSO functionality.

The Logo Contest resulted in only a handful of submissions. The log committee will still use submissions as inspiration but will reach out to a parent/designer who offered to help to move forward. The target to launch the new log is the beginning of the Fall Season.

A Beach Reporter ad has been placed for this Thursday.

8. Uniforms

Nedra Yost sent Division Commissioners an e-mail on May 15 detailing her uniform order. Nedra asked that all Commissioners check the order.

The Division Commissioners for 7U and 8U requested Goalie gloves so Nedra will order them.

Nedra asked that Coaches keep the equipment issued to them in the Fall until after the Spring Season since no new equipment will be issued in the Spring.

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9. Referee Committee

Two Referees are scheduled to take the Advanced Referee Class.

10.. Coach Committee Report

A Summer Nights program will be provided for six weeks on Wednesday nights, starting on July 11. The format will be jamboree-style and there is a need for Coaches and Referees.

11. Division Commissioners' Reports

There were no further reports from the Division Commissioners.

12. Other Business

Krista Skinner will hold Division Commissioners' meetings, one for U5, U6, U7, and U8, and another for 10U, 12U, and 14U.

Since July 1 is the end of the Fiscal Year, Krista asked the Board to turn in any expense reports from this year to either Andrew Lelchuk or Stan Ibara.

13. Summary of Motions Approved

- MOTION: Approve Minutes of the May 2018 meeting with amendments.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

14. Summary of Motions Rejected

None.