

Region 18 Board Meeting, March 13, 2018

Hennessey's, Manhattan Beach, 7:30 PM

0. Attendance:

Andrew Lelchuk, Charlie Abbott, Ed Danskin, Byron Eguchi, Jana Goodstadt, Woody Hauck, Michael Hinz, Steve Hershkowitz, Mark Hodson, Karl Primm, Rose Rocchio, Megan Schultz, Krista Skinner, Ron Tani, Chris Wong (non-voting) Nedra Yost

Guests: Dan Ingress, Steve Abrams

1. Call to Order:

The meeting began at 7:44 PM with the necessary quorum to approve minutes(15/31)

2. Review of Prior Minutes

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

3. Regional Commissioner's Report

Andrew Lelchuk introduced two guests to the meeting: Dan Angress, a long time Region 18 Advanced Coach and National Referee, and Steve Abrams, who may be working with Blue Sombrero for the Region.

Andrew reported that none of the League teams playing in the Section Tournament unfortunately advanced out of pool play.

For All-Stars, there were six teams from Region 18 in the Section Tournament and all six finished in first place at the end of the first day. On the second day, four teams (BU10, BU12, GU14, and BU14) advanced to the Western States Championships in Bakersfield while two teams (GU10 and GU12) were eliminated. Andrew congratulated Coaches Ed Danskin, Krista Skinner, Jeff Serota, and Billy Crader for coaching their teams to the Western States Championships.

Andrew reported that there will be National Player Fee increase of \$2.50 per player and he anticipates a more extensive and expensive Volunteer Background Check that will be charged back to the Region. The background check will cost \$25 per volunteer and will be required every year. Andrew noted that Region 18 has about 700 volunteers including Coaches, Referees, and Team Parents. In addition, Andrew anticipates that there will be fee increases by the City of Manhattan Beach for field usage, though they may not take effect until 2019.

Russ Allen, Andrew, and Krista Skinner are having ongoing discussions with the Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Department to discuss field usage costs.

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With Registration opening soon for the Fall season, the Board will need to consider whether or not to raise player registration fees, and if so, by how much. Andrew stated that we need to look at the budget carefully due to all of the increases.

It was noted that our early-bird fee has generally been lower than surrounding regions (\$135 vs. \$150 at Redondo) while our regular fee has been higher (\$215 versus \$190). Other Regions do seem to do more scholarships.

The Manhattan Village Re-turf project is moving forward as we are awaiting comments from the City Attorney on the redline document. Region 18 will be paying \$350,000 of the \$600,000 cost of the project.

4. Finance Report

Andrew Lelchuk stated that Region 18 has assets of approximately \$682,000 with \$500,000 of that amount set aside for Field Improvements and Maintenance. Nedra Yost noted that Stan Ibara has the majority of the bills for uniforms.

5. Uniforms

Nedra Yost reported that two of the three sets of uniforms for BU12 were stolen and she is working with UPS to resolve. SCORE is replacing the uniforms. Everything else has been smooth.

6. Registrar's Report

Byron Eguchi reported that 1,485 players were signed up for Spring Soccer following a large number of drops. Registration for the Fall season will begin in April so Byron reiterated that a Budget Analysis should be done to determine the Registration Fee.

Andrew Lelchuk noted that field cost increases will probably not take effect until 2019 and Byron suggested that we should anticipate such increases.

Krista Skinner stated that the fees need to be discussed at the April Board Meeting and requested that everyone be in attendance for that discussion.

Andrew noted that the residency rate (percentage residing in Manhattan Beach and Hermosa Beach) has been dropping slightly each year. Krista suggested considering raising the non-resident fee by something like \$15 per player.

7. Field Report

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Andrew Lelchuk noted that even though Division Commissioners haven't been able to see the game schedules for Spring Soccer, Russ Allen has posted them all properly. The issue seems to be in the level of access provided to Division Commissioners on Blue Sombrero. Krista Skinner asked that anyone having issues try to send her a screen shot of the message as she has higher access and is not receiving the same messages.

Russ is still tweaking some of the schedules.

8. Spring Soccer

Andrew Lelchuk noted that rosters for U14, U16, and U19 need to be submitted to him by Thursday so he can send them to Area.

Krista Skinner asked that any Division Commissioners that want to do medals for teams not playing in Area let her know so she could order them.

Rose noted that due to the AYSO birthday change, BU12 (Boys under 12), is really B12U (Boys 12 and under). Andrew noted that the Spring season is considered a continuation of the Fall season so the age categories are not changed.

9. Safety Report

There were no issues to report.

10.. Referee Committee Report

Charlie Abbott reported that the Referee Scheduling System (RSS) will be up tomorrow. He will e-mail all Referees this weekend.

Byron Eguchi noted that all Referees need to re-volunteer for the Spring Season under Blue Sombrero, even if they do not have to re-volunteer for the RSS.

Chris Wong noted that for the Spring season, he verifies background checks for only new Referees.

Charlie asked whether Area would be holding any Referee classes. Andrew Lelchuk replied that Basic referee classes would be held on the 17th or 24th and will check with Scott Jarus.

Krista Skinner stated that she will discuss Player Development Initiatives (PDI's) at the next meeting since there are likely some changes that will be made.

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11. Coaches' Committee Reports

Steve Hershkowitz reported that a U10 Coaches' class will be held at Marine Avenue Park at 6:30 PM on Thursday. Ten Coaches from Region 18 have signed up and Steve asked Division Commissioners to reach out to let their Coaches know about the class.

Steve reported a problem with Volunteer Certifications disappearing in Blue Sombrero. National is fixing these problems on case-by-case basis.

12. Division Commissioners' Reports

Jana Goodstadt reported that BU5 has 73 players signed up for ten teams and all is good.

Megan Schultz reported that GU6 has 117 players and 14 teams so all is good. She reported that Coaches are concerned about the lack of open restrooms at Meadows Elementary.

Rose Rocchio reported that BU12 will have seven teams with 16 players per team. She noted that Bill Crader has committed to be the BU14 Commissioner.

Ed Danskin noted that BU14 has four teams of 18 players but has no Assistant Coaches. Andrew Lelchuk will be submitting a "pool" of eligible Assistant Coaches to Area so that they can help in case any Coach is absent during the season.

Woody Hauck reported that GU10 has 15 teams of 12 and a total of 177 players. Gu12 has nine teams of 14 players. Woody will be implementing a "silent" quarter where no Coaching is allowed and will implement this around the fourth game. Krista Skinner noted that another Region give blow-pops to those that don't observe a silent weekend.

Krista reported that GU14 has 90 players including 10 new players who all played club soccer.

13. Other Business

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Krista Skinner is working with Nedra Yost on new goals for younger players. Region 18 is still searching for a new GU5 Commissioner, but Mark Hodson will be a liaison for the younger Divisions. The goal is to make the experience for younger players more memorable, with more official-looking fields, better goals, and other perks. Krista noted that we would need to vote on additional expenditures for these Divisions.

Andrew Lelchuk acknowledged the Board for their support and volunteerism during his tenure as Regional Commissioner. Andrew congratulated Krista Skinner for succeeding him and expressed his confidence that she will do a great job.

14 Summary of Motions Approved

- MOTION: Approve Minutes of the February 2018 Board meeting.
APPROVED, with no opposition.

14. Summary of Motions Rejected

None.