

MINUTES FROM AREA 8C MEETING 2-28-2016

Introduction of new Area 8c Director, Bob Saelens, to all members present.

Introduction of all RC's, area board members, and guests present. Introduction of new Area Board positions and members

NAP ONLINE GET ON BOARD WITH PROGRAM LINKED WITH BLUE SOMBRARO

If not using NAP Online, you need to be sending in codes and statements to National and when that is not done, Bob gets notification for regions in non-compliance.

Training for referees/coaches is available any time your region is in need. We have all the trained instructors you would need right here in Area and they are always available to find a class for your volunteers or to come to your region and put on a training course.

If you reach out for training assistance and do not receive a reply, please contact Bob for help in making the right connections

Remember, certification is mandatory and we need to make sure all our volunteers are properly trained and meet certification requirements.

A referee course is currently scheduled for March 12th, in Shelby

A U12 course will be held in Richmond, end of March, first of April, date and location to be announced. Shelby will host an intermediate course for referees If there is enough interest and need.

Several regions acknowledged a need for coach instruction. New Baltimore, Clinton, Shelby, S.C.S., Richmond. Ron stated he previously sent out an email, and got no response. Please make sure you are reading AYSO emails, and respond regarding training issues. Contact Ron Thinel for your coach training.

Referee training needs and issues should be addressed to Brian Elms. It is important regions have trained referees able to do their games, especially when inter-region play is involved and as your players move up into the higher age divisions.

Management courses, Larry Barnes, will set up courses for those who have new management members. Courses are available for all your board member positions.

NAGM, Memorial weekend in Chicago, Marriott Magnificent Mile, Bob reminded all RC's of importance in attending and this should be a regional budgeted expense.

This is the one time members have a chance to have their voices heard and vote on proposed changes within the organization.

If not planning to attend, it is important to send in your voting proxy. Information regarding proxies will be provided online and with your NAGM information packets.

Larry Barnes added the importance of everyone attending the NAGM, the meetings and information received, and the opportunity to vote on proposed changes is your right and the chance to make changes within the organization.

Rick, Section Director, stated there are no known proposed changes as of this date.

Region Budgets Due June 1st. Must be submitted to Bob, he needs to sign and submit to National.

Bob asked who has conducted an audit in their region within last year? Determined not one region has had an audit in past three years.

After budgets are turned in June, Proposed that every region have an audit completed by August 1st.

There is a form that gets sent out from auditor and they go through and check everything.

Points are awarded on RAP for completing the audit.

If your region has adopted the standard policy and procedures from National, then you just need to sign and adopt and you are good. The refund policy is that players are eligible for full refund if they drop from the program. If your region has a different refund policy, then you have to make these changes, you cannot go by the standard procedures.

The policy and procedures can be found at AYSO.org.

RAP is due July 1st, about six regions failed to complete. This form is a Great tool to see where region stands and way to judge your region. Also used as a tool to see where your region is lacking in training and region procedures.

You can also check on the current certifications of your region volunteers and if updated safe haven and concussion training requirements have been met. New Safe Haven has to have been completed since 2012 to be current. Remember, these trainings are mandatory and make for better volunteers that we trust our children with.

Section tournament, in Warren, June 24th, 25th, 26th, Area website, will have updated invitation letter and Section Tournament Rules within the next two weeks. All regions are encouraged to attend this Area Tournament. When passing on information to your regional coach adm, please make sure they let their coaches know to read all information available. Rules have changed, and there is a new heading policy in effect. Coaches will be acknowledging they have read the new heading policy when they sign the tournament application.

A question was asked from Trenton, can co-ed teams be combined to create one boy and one girl team. The answer was only if the teams meet the 50% of their home team rule and they are limited to the number of guest players that can be added to each team.

Hartsig and Halmich are the sites to be used based on the number of teams entered. It is the intent of the host region to have field marshal tents set up within the fields for assistance during the tournament.

A U8 soccerfest will be offered during the weekend for all U8 interested coaches and players. A VIP event will also be offered.

SuperCamp will be held August 13th and 14th, Memphis, Flyer information will be on website. A roster number will be added to the flyer that you will need to list when you register for this camp online.

Management courses will also be offered, along with the referee and coach courses volunteers are used to. The fee is \$20 per participant, to cover costs of materials, lunch, and the fees charged by the school for use of the building. This is a region expense. Many regions have the volunteer pay themselves and then reimburse them. It makes them less likely to fail to show. It is a great opportunity to get volunteers trained prior to the start of the fall season and to make them eligible to participate with the team in the 2016 Area C Fallfest.

Area C has 1078 adult volunteers. These volunteers have three requirements, register on-line, take a safe haven course, and take concussion training. These requirements are for all coaches, referees and board members.

At this time, 723 of these volunteers have completed concussion training. 750 have completed the safe haven requirement since 2012.

It is important for all RC's to go online and check the certification status of all their region volunteers and make sure everyone is up to date on their volunteer requirements.

If you are allowing volunteers to participate without proper training you know they need and don't have, you could open your region, our Area, Section, and National, to a lawsuit, should an injury or situation occur.

Most of this can be completed on-line. If interested, these courses should be offered at the SuperCamp in August.

Some of the changes this year, testing and assessment for Intermediate certification.. There is a pre-course online that needs to be completed prior to attending the intermediate coach courses . If unable to locate online, contact your coach admin. The roll out date is still undetermined.

Fallfest 2016 will be held the 2nd weekend of October. Any region interested in submitting a proposal to host this year should do so ASAP. The field requirement is, 2 U8 fields, 3 U10, 5-6 U12, U14 fields. It is preferable these are located at one site.

Joe from Clinton Twp stated they may be interested in hosting again this year. Clinton Twp hosted 2015 and the site worked very well for parking and play of all teams.

2016 EXPO, 52 Attendees from Area C, Thank you for sending so many participants. Several people appreciated the courses offered, but were looking for more how to do, not so many what to do courses.

Jim Abei, Section Staff questioned those that attended for the good and the bad. Most stated their members split up and attended all courses in one track, to get as much information as possible. A few people floated throughout the courses.

Terry Barash, felt the information was beneficial, but wanted less of what to do and more of how to do it and make it work in your region Jim asked what courses that would be, marketing and finance were thrown out from the RC's.

Terry also would of liked to have had the opportunity to sit down with members from National, to ask and get information from them.

Bob was very proud of all the regions that received awards at the EXPO, Region 190, 161, 459, 125, 919, 448, 195, 205, and 708.

Area C was awarded a Silver Certificate, Bob's goal is for gold next year.

Mike Ricci, previous AD for C, and current tournament director. was awarded his 35 year volunteer award. Way to go Mike, Congratulations. You have worn many hats and Area C is very fortunate to have you.

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Brian Elms asked about referee training. Several responded. Brian stated it is important to make sure coaches and referees are trained in the concussion policy and now the new heading policy.

We need to get a push on regional referees, get them trained and encourage advancing in training and certification. It is important to have trained referees during games, especially inter-regional games. If

your region is interested in joining the EXTRA program, having certified referees, one level up for the age of the play age is required.

It is also important to encourage participation at the Section Tournament and 2016 Fallfest. If referees are not able to commit to the entire weekend and feel they are only available as a walk on referee, please have them complete the referee form and list that information on the form.

U19 Boys age group will be playing in the spring, and these game are challenging. Qualified referees are a must.

Our Area has many referee instructors who are qualified to get your referees certified. These courses can be offered at the SuperCamp if. there is enough interest. Please make sure your regional referee admins are aware of this.

.Sue Saunders and Larry Barnes spoke on the RC mandatory training. Although not excited about the requirement, both felt it was a positive experience and encourage all RC's to attend. Sue went to California and felt the training, although long and intense was beneficial. She felt information was presented that she knew but from a different point of view. The lodging and food was good and the opportunity to meet National personnel and speak directly to them was good. There is a financial allowance to help with incurred costs.

Larry felt there was a good balance of leadership training and the nuts and bolts of what is required by you as the region RC. He agreed it was not a fun time, with intense training from 7am to 6pm. You are only required to take the RC course once, and it is a helpful learning resource. If you are willing to take on the position of RC, you should be properly trained for the benefit of all players and volunteers of your region.

If the cost of attending is a problem for your region, Section might be able to assist with the cost.

Concussion Law, Should of received a letter with new policy, lawsuit based that we should of done something sooner, settlement requires us to change the way we play. Heading at U12 and below is banned. All experts have said it is not safe for them to be heading the ball. Also restrictions for U14 for training, 30 min max per week for training none in the game. Indirect kick if done during the game and the referee feels it was deliberate.

An information flyer was passed out to all present, it is important everyone is made aware of these changes. It will be enforced for the spring season and Section Tournament in June. they have seen and acknowledge the new rule.

Mike LaForest, extra program, looking for more regions to get involved, U10 u12, can start with one team, will help any region to get teams together to join the extra program. There are specific rules for tryouts for these teams, Who chooses the players, and who coaches the teams, as well as requirements that have to be met with the AYSO house team to qualify to play on an EXTRA team.

EXTRA only plays on Sundays. If you have questions or would like assistance in forming a team, please contact Mike.

Harrison is hoping to add a U10 boys team in the upcoming spring season. Games start the beginning of May. Port Huron may have an interested team. She was reminded of tryout rules and will discuss this with Mike.

Coaches and referees are required to be certified one level above the age level they will be coaching. Referees are required for all home games. Players pay a higher fee to play in the EXTRA program and these rules must be followed.

Current participating regions, feel this is a great program that keeps their players involved in AYSO, rather than leaving for travel teams. The EXTRA program gives them a higher skill level of play and they enjoy the competition.

This is a self-funded program with fees set by the region. There is a \$45 minimum fee. The program has been in existence for five years now.

Dee, has questions regarding the playground program. possibly pool resources and run as an area program. There are camps to help with these programs and the program can be run year round.

Bob wanted RC's to know ,if their current term is expiring, he will be in touch with you regarding needed paperwork.

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Some general info learned at EXPO

If National owes your region money, from camps, and you have any debt owed, they are going to deduct what is owed to them prior to sending remaining balance to you.

They have stated this is current policy. Bob has requested a copy of the policy.

Bob is also looking for a few changes within the Area and inter-region play.

IF you are playing in upper-division games and you have no referees for home games, what do you do.

What to do with habitual offenders, players and coaches, of AYSO rules and philosophies. Some complaints have been received and some of the same names and regions are mentioned. Proposal is currently if a player or coach is sent off the field for two yellows or a red, they have to serve that game and the next game suspension. If it happens a second time for same player or coach, in their AYSO career, it would be a three game suspension. It would need to be determined where the penalty would go for a third offense.

There were questions, no two referees call the game/offenses the same way, how and who would keep track of number of suspensions.

After much discussion, it was decided Larry Barnes will write up a proposal that will be available for review and discussion at the next area meeting scheduled for July 24th, 2016

Nancy completed the inter-region play schedule with information provided from all regions present. For those completing the schedules, all final drafts should be sent to Nancy and Bob. All schedules are to be completed and emailed out by April 1st.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Schoof

