



Rockaway Township Soccer Association <http://www.rtsa.org>

Minutes of the Meeting for November - 2015

Meeting held on December 2, 2015

At the Municipal Building, Rockaway Township



ATTENDANCE/ REPRESENTATION

RTSA President: Tom Nolan
RTSA Vice-President: Jill Wilson
RTSA Treasurer: Mary Pace
RTSA Secretary: Shelly Errante
RTSA Registrar: Jim Haag
Booster President:
Booster Vice-President:

Director Soccer Op: Colin Browne
Director Field Op: Joe McMahon
Travel Director: Rick Suntag
Head Coach: Rich Gill
Head Referee:
Recreation Director:

Booster Treasurer:
Booster Secretary:

RV Director:
RT Soccer Liason: Doug Brookes

RTSA TRAVEL Teams Represented

U08B United: Pau Nekich
U09B Xtreme:
U10B Rage: Tom Nolan/C.Browne
U11B Vipers: Jose Vadillo
U12B Warriors: Jason Epstein
U13B Thistle: Terry Ferguson
U14B Wolverines: Rich Gill
U19B Eagles:

U08G:
U09G Tornadoes:
U10G Crossfire: Kim Brookes
U11G Herricanes:
U12G Riptide: Shelly Errante/Jim Haag
U13G Revolution:
U14G Freedom: Dave Gavito
U19G Lady Knights:

In-Town Directors/Committees

Massie Mundi:
Communications: Dave Gavito

Uniforms:

General Attendees:

Samantha Martin

*** When you attend a meeting, please make sure you sign in. Always review the information by your name and make corrections or additions where necessary. If you are representing a team or committee, please confirm that it is listed next to your name on the sign in sheet so that proper representation is given in the minutes.*

Meeting brought to order at 7:37 p.m. by President Tom Nolan

Secretary's Report (secretary@rtsa.org) – Shelly Errante

- **Board Members please email me your reports that you read for the monthly meetings. Thank you**
- Motion to approve the minutes October Meeting: Motion/S Martin Second/D Gavito

Treasurer's Report (Treasurer@rtsa.org) – Mary Pace

Balance on hand as of	\$4,577.34
Receivables	\$.00
Disbursements	\$2,325.00
Balance on hand as of December 2, 2015	\$2,252.34

Vice President's Report (VicePresident@rtsa.org) – Jill Wilson

- No Report

Registrar's Report (Registrar@rtsa.org) – Jim Haag

- Moving all going forward registrations to new system, Blue Sombrero, beginning with HS Travel registration; will be a learning curve for all. Already created HS Travel registration (it is technically open now) just waiting to validate fee (currently set at \$150 with \$20 up front, not including uniform). Does not seem to be a way to move information from old system so people will have to create accounts as they log in
- Ideally will open Spring Rec & Valley registration in soon. Will include comment in Rec Registration for 3/4 grade that depending on numbers teams may participate in the Rockaway Valley League, which would have away games in nearby towns such as Parsippany, Dover, Jefferson, Roxbury. Ideally will have rec & valley registration go to wait list in early February and open Travel registration for 2016-17 the day Rec/Valley closes
- Looking for details on the Class 9 Referee registration if we are running thru the system
- Only 5 accounts (8 players) still with balances from Travel (3 accounts, 5 players) / Rockaway Valley (2 accounts, 3 players) from the fall. Continue to send notes. Emailed travel coaches requesting cards be turned in as extensions were to be completed prior to 12/1
- Submitted request to Morris County for use of Central park for 2 days / week last 2 weeks of March & first week of April; awaiting confirmation

Boosters' Report (Boosters@rtsa.org) – Brett Miller

- No Report

President's Report (President@rtsa.org) – Tom Nolan

- The Fall Season is finished.
- Travel had 2 Flight winners. Congratulations to the Crossfire U10 Girls winning Flight 1 and to the Riptide U12 Girls winning flight 2.
- We had a successful year in Rec and Valley. The kids played all their games and we had no major issues to report. Feedback from parents and coaches was mostly positive.
- We will be holding elections later tonight. If I am re-elected, I will be asking all committee heads to take charge of their positions and see how they can make the club better. I will also be sending out a volunteer request for specific needs in January.
- Rick will review the specifics of the changes coming from NJYS during his report. These changes are happening and will start with the 2016/17 season. We as a club will need to decide how to adapt to them in the best interest of the players. Questions such as “Do we keep the teams together?”, “What age do we start the calendar year changeover?”, etc.
- I will be sitting down with Rich and Rick to hash out an outline of what needs to be addressed. Then, the Exec board will meet to put together an action plan to address the changes. We'll then present it to the club at the January meeting for feedback. We will all need to part of this. In March or April, we will hold an informational meeting for the entire club. Parents will be able to ask questions and make a better decision on what they feel will be best for their child
- On a lighter note, winter practices will start on either Jan 3rd or 10th.

Travel Director's Report (TravelDirector@rtsa.org) – Rick Suntag

US Youth Soccer will be introducing massive changes for next season. Here's what we know so far:

NJYS, working off the USYS mandate is trying to quantify the rules our state will play under. Hopefully we will have an outline from the state by January. MCYSA will still need to figure out how they will handle some things in the future as not everything will be national / state mandated. This may not happen until Feb or Mar.

Guaranteed changes:

- Birth year teams instead of the current Aug-Jul cutoff. This will affect *all* RTSA teams. Our board needs to decide how best to handle this. Most existing teams will find that about 1/3 of the players on their roster (those born before Jan 1) will move up 2 age groups instead of 1 for 2016-2017. RTSA will have the option of keeping teams "together" but with 2/3 of their players now playing up. This will put the teams at an age disadvantage with the majority of the players in a younger age group and might cause problems with new players trying out - forcing many of them to try out up a year. The alternative is to re-form all or most of our teams. Based on our current U8 through U13 teams (U9-U14

next year) # of travel players - 161 # of travel players too old to stay on their existing team without the team playing up - 62 (39%)

- Number of players on a team / field size. U13 and older will remain 11v11 on a full sided field. U11-U12 will become 9v9. U9-U10 will be 7v7. U6-U8 will be 4v4 on a micro-field with small nets and no goalies. Field sizes are still TBD by NJYS. Whether or not MCYSA offers U6, U7 (both new), or U8 next year remains to be seen. I've heard from a few clubs that they will not sign their kids up for a 4v4 travel soccer league.
- Heading - Per a national class action lawsuit resolution, heading will be banned for U10 and younger and limited for U11-U12. Implementation is still open. I am guessing this will be resolved by the end of December since that's when referee re-certification courses will be given.

There are other changes coming also - Most likely punting will be banned for small sided goalies and a "build out" line will be added to all 7v7 and 9v9 games. The build out line will be a line across the entire field 5 years ahead of the penalty area. When a goalie has the ball, all attackers must back away beyond the build out line giving the team with the ball the opportunity to play it out of the back unpressured.

Full chart of our existing team rosters (U8-U13) and the age of players under the new age year rules:

Team	2016-2017 Birth Year	current	too old	Age	Appropriate	Up	Exact	United	U9B	2008	12	4	7														
1 Xtreme	U10B	2007	12	5	7	11	Rage	U11B	2006	12	6	6	13														
Vipers	U11B	2006	10	2	6	2	12	Rebels	U12B	2005	12	4	8	10													
Warriors	U13B	2004	16	9	7	13	Thistle	U14B	2003	16	4	10	2	19													
Tornadoes	U10G	2007	13	1	11	1	12	Crossfire	U11G	2006	13	8	4	1	5												
Herricanes	U12G	2005	14	6	8	8	Riptide	U13G	2004	16	8	8	14	Revolution	U14G	2003	15	5	10	18	161	62	92	7	39%	57%	4%

Key:

current - # of players on current roster too old - too old for existing team in 2016-2017 Up - Will be "playing up" to stay on existing team in 2016-2017 Exact - Exact number of current players age appropriate for team next year - counts "too old" from below plus "Up" from above

Director Of Coaching (DOC@rtsa.org) – Rich Gill

- Any special requests for winter trainers, email me at the above email address
- Any feedback from past season with your trainers, email me please

Director of Field Operations & Development (FieldOperations@rtsa.org) – Joe McMahon

- I would like to take all of the Nets down this Saturday. If we could get a handful of volunteers we could hit all of the fields separately and take the nets down and meet back at Norway to drop them off and store them in the well house
- Even if it turns out to be 2 people at each field we can knock it out in no time. I would

like to store the nets in contractor bags and then label each bag with what field the nets came from. This was come spring it will be easier to know what nets belong at what field.

Head Referee's Report (HeadReferee@rtsa.org) – John Olsen

- Season is concluded, I have provided the RTSA Treasurer with all of the referee fees. Assume checks were mailed or at tonight's meeting.
- Rick Suntag brought up the matter of moving ALL RTSA Refs to Grade 9 Certification. Many pros to this:
 - 1. Forces referee to be properly and officially trained as a ref
 - 2. Forces referee to be a bit more invested in the endeavor as there will be personal outlays - investment required. No more fee riders.
 - a. Those who are not committed will likely not pay to become a Grade 9 Ref. so elimination of ineffective referees.
 - 3. Insurance matters, but Rick is more versed in this area - seek more information from him
- Couple of cons associated with this
 - 1. Several of our better refs are actual players and therefore have limited availability during season thus only able to work the "off-season", with the forced expenditure they might not re-coupe their investment therefore be unwilling to participate.
 - 2. Reduction of referees may cause issues in fielding referees, may have to use more seasoned folks i.e. adults
- Requested confirmation from current referees and those who have inquired about being a RTSA ref about taking the March 13, 2016 Grade 9 course. Within 24 hours have received – confirmations already.

Director of Soccer Operations' Report (SoccerOperations@rtsa.org) Colin Browne

- I want to thank Samantha, Dave, Jason & Rich for helping out with equipment return. Received most of it back. Just about 6 or 7 teams still need to return. That's it for this month...thanks

Rec Director Report: (recdirector@rtsa.org) Anthony Polito

- No Report

RVSL Director (RockawayValley@rtsa.org) Joe Gajda

- Coaches have been asked to return the player passes and any non used referee fees
- A Boys 2 coach refused to distribute end of season metals due to his view on participation trophies (held for future date distribution)

- I turned in a \$20 check to Mary for a uniform
- RVSL meeting is Tuesday 12/8
- I will need volunteers to help with uniform distribution and carding paperwork prior to Open House Dates for the Spring Season
- Uniforms have been inventoried and returned to the Norway shed

Committee Reports

Communications / website (webmaster@rtsa.org) – David Gavito

- **No Report**

MVP Program – Rich Gordon

- No Report

Uniform Committee & Light Committee- Matt Bianchi

- Some people owe money for uniforms still

Massie Mondri Memorial Scholarship (MassieMondiScholarship@rtsa.org) – Rick Suntag

- No Report

Dave Wilson Scholarship – (Boosters@rtsa.org)

- No Report

Old Business

Elections

New Business

Nominations:

Rockaway Valley Director
 Head Referee
 Recreation Director
 Webmaster
 Uniform Committee
 Boosters President
 Soccer Operations
 Field Operations
 Director of Coaching
 Travel Director
 Treasurer
 Secretary
 Registrar
 Vice President

Secretary Cast 1 Vote:

Joe Gajda
 John Olsen
 Anthony Polito
 Dave Gavito
 Samantha Martin
 Brett Miller
 Colin Browne
 Joe McMahon
 Rich Gill
 Rick Suntag
 Mary Pace
 Shelly Errante
 Jim Haag
 Jill Wilson

President

Tom Nolan

Motion to adjourn – 8:43 PM Jill W – Second/Rich G