

AYSO Board Meeting

September 2, 2021

Participants

X	Taj Chiu	X	Caroline Amicone
	Neil Weinberger	X	Steve Hawkins
	James Sheehy		Dana Bradley
	Mimi Goldstein		Bill Owen
X	Shanti Rao		George Hervey
	Dan Jeffries		Ivonne Penichet
X	Terry Takahashi	X	Marco Quezada
	Joanie Paik	X	Samir Singh
X	Stas Petropoulos	X	Steve Haegelin
X	Patrick Shopbell		Tara Mastro
	Susan Lee		Scott Davis
	Louise Hamlin	X	Monika Wehbe
	DeWayne McMullin	X	Oscar Alvarez
	Sam Shaker		Azeem Khaja
	Ryan Holmes		Monica Pimentel
	Michael Bartlett		Susan Streets
X	Tony d'Angelo	X	Brandi Lane
X	Toni Maddison		

Call to Order

Taj Chiu called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Approval of previous meeting minutes (July)

Shanti motioned to approve the July minutes. Dan seconded. Minutes were approved with all in favor.

Reports

RC report

Everyone is encouraged to join Slack to manage the region business.

Referee report

Referees are signing up. 10U is still a bit rough, but we people are signing up now. More emails are coming from brand-new referees. Steve has rewritten the instructions to make it easier to use.

Steve: National has rolled out an online 8U class. People who take that will be invited to a live Zoom class to go over the mechanics, after which they'll be able to receive their uniforms. For Regional Referees, there will be evening classes entirely outside. Extra air filtration devices are being brought to the clubhouse. Still need more signups for the class on Saturday. Please encourage people to sign up as soon as possible! The indoor briefings are capped at 30 students so we can limit how many people are in the clubhouse at once.

The referee staff previewed the referee scheduling app. We think this will be really helpful, especially in 10U and the at-large referees, such as the PROs. It will also allow referees to request mentors, and make those requests visible to the referee staff.

DCAs - to add an unassigned referee to a team, just hardcode their AYSO ID and contact info into the division volunteers list.

Bill Owen has been asked to schedule a week of friendly games so the referee staff can do on-field demonstrations. Everyone who shows up will get a chance to blow the whistle!

We have about 30 PRO referees signed up.

The web site, region public calendar, and email notices will be updated with the instructions for in-person classes, zoom classes, and training requirements.

There are special PRO referee bags!

Registrar report

2399 players! The prediction was around 2400 players, and a surprising number showed up at the end. The wait list is down from 400 players to about 60 now.

About 150 players have dropped. Of these, a third made other plans, the rest cited the pandemic (half afraid of covid, other half afraid of masks).

Ordinarily (in MY18), the region would award around \$3500 in scholarships. For MY19, we introduced the pay-what-you-can, and awarded about \$9,000 in scholarships, which was offset by around \$6000 in donations, so it was about a wash. So far this year (and it's hard to say for sure until we know which of the waitlisted players will pay), the scholarships are around \$28,000, offset by \$7,000 in donations. Seemingly around 200 of the 2000 families received some assistance. We think that's partially a pandemic issue, but it's also possible that the pay-what-you can policy brought in more people. Once soccer gets going, let's look closer at the data. Many in the community can probably be persuaded to give a little more to support play equity. An analysis of who was allowed to play because of pay-what-you-can may also justify asking for grants from foundations that are focusing on play equity.

Treasurer report

Mimi is unavailable. Budget coming soon

Safety - Pandemic report

Upper division is still going! There was a game tonight, and everyone (referees, players, coaches) had their vaccination or test status reported. Region 13 will report whether a player or referee is cleared or not cleared, so the area doesn't need to receive any health information. This also led to wonderful collaboration among the regions as we figured this out together.

Stas and Shanti are working on a reporting system that's not email for the 14U players who are already 12, and keep track of those who will turn 12 during the season (needing 6 weeks of testing before being fully vaccinated). That's about 1/3 of 14U, and there are 16 teams total in the age range. Each of those players will need a weekly cleared/uncleared determination.

The area board meeting decided that if a coach plays an uncleared player, the game is forfeit and the coach will be suspended for one game.

Taj moved that in the 14U division, where the county has ordered that players be cleared to play, the consequence for playing an uncleared player is that the coach will be suspended for one game, and the game in which that player participated will be forfeit. Patrick seconded the motion. The executive board members present unanimously agreed.

There is a reporting system so players can upload vaccination records or test reports, and the coaches can see who has and hasn't reported.

The EXTRA team will be tracked by hand by the CVPA.

Coach report

We seem to have a problem retaining coaches from year to year. B10U and G10U are both short coaches. Many returning coaches report being overwhelmed and unable to coach. The DCAs are still plugging away at that.

Uniforms will be picked up next week. We will soon figure out how the DCAs will clear teams to pick up.

We have a list of experienced coaches whose children have graduated, and the coach staff will reach out to them. Taj wants to coach a 10U team. Steve Haegelin would be happy to coach an older kids' team.

The average rating in B10U ranges from 2.5 to 9.2, and we don't have data for many kids. Unbalanced games are possible.

Some of the uniform kits have 11 jerseys, and some have 9, so the colors have to be given to the team with that many players.

There will be more in-person safe haven classes. 7:30 on Monday. If you register for one class, and then you take another.

There will be a new coach

4U5U

Parents are emailing with a lot of questions, and those parents are finding the online instructions. It's moving along, but Oscar needs some help.

VIP

Tony is getting up to speed. Temple City and Arcadia are being approached. Upper division games end at 3pm in La Canada at the LCHS JV field. The easiest parking would be on the Oak Grove lot, and families can walk to the field, since other users tend to crowd the driveway off Foothill.

Tony will provide uniform orders and Marco will reserve a field.

Fields

More users want to be on fewer fields. Nothing new.

Muir South was given to FC Golden State. Meeting with the principal next week.

Discussion

Consider grad series for 5U to get people trained for the following season, and then do an on-field refresher next fall.

Board members will get baseball hats that say Safe, Fair, Fun on the back.

There will be more zoom safe havens.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next Board Meeting is October 7, 2021 at 7:15 pm.